

WAFCS E-NEWSLETTER

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

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The mission of WAFCS is to provide leadership and support for professionals whose work assists individuals, families, and communities in making informed decisions about their well-being, relationships, and resources to achieve optimal quality of life.

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Bylaws Revision Accepted

Thank you to all who voted on the bylaws revision. One of the main reasons for this revision is to more align the WAFCS bylaws to those of AAFCS. We now will be operating with seven Board members. The responsibility of each will be determined after the election. Half will be elected each year and terms will be two years with the option of continuing for a second two year term.

While these seven are the voting members of WAFCS, they will be supported by ad hoc committees made up of you, our members. If and when you are asked to be a part of a committee, this will be a special opportunity to be an active part of WAFCS. Our hope is to involve many of you in the work of WAFCS in your area of special interest.

Your WAFCS Board for 2021-22 include:

President - Emily Larson

President-Elect - Charlene Kelley

Past President - Charmaine Rimple, CFCS, Ex Officio

Secretary - Stephanie Love

Treasurer - Susan Turgeson, Ed.D, CFCS

Awards and Recognition - Cindy Quilling

Professional Development - Michael Westbrook

Communication and Technology - Amber Miller

Greetings, WAFCS members!

Summertime seems to be flying by. I hope each of you has taken the time to rejuvenate this summer after the unusual school year. I encourage you to try a new recipe, spend time in your garden, sew a new project, complete a home improvement project, enjoy special moments with your friends and family, or do what makes you smile.



As your president, a personal goal that always brings a smile to my face is promoting FCS and WAFCS. A highlight of this goal was bringing FCS summer school classes to a nearby school district where my children attend. I taught a food, fitness, and fun class where students participated in scavenger hunts, obstacle courses and created fun, healthy snacks. The students learned about how food fuels their bodies, MyPlate, and sampled lots of new fresh fruits and vegetables. I also taught a pastry and desserts class where the class focused on food safety, measuring, reading recipes, and baking fun desserts. We also visited the technology and engineering classroom, where students designed an apron. For the food truck wars, students created a menu, a miniature 3D food truck version and used their creativity skills to market their food truck. Plus, two food trucks stopped by for tours to help inspire the students. These new classes brought numerous opportunities for learning and a new understanding of FCS in elementary students. Plus, it created special moments with my own children that I will cherish forever.

The WAFCS council has been meeting virtually this summer and is currently implementing the new set of bylaws approved in June. Also, the WAFCS conference is scheduled for March 3rd through 4th in Onalaska, Wisconsin, at the Stoney Creek Hotel. Save the date because the conference chairs, Julie Anderson, Michael Westbrook, and Miranda Stroik, have been busy planning an incredibly educational and fun conference. Also, “stay tuned” for an upcoming philanthropic project that WAFCS will kick off in September - An initiative that supports families and enables WAFCS members to make connections within their communities.

Your WAFCS President,

Emily Larson

Mark Your Calendar Now

March 3, 4, 2022

Stoney Creek Hotel and Conference Center, Onalaska, WI



As the next school year quickly approaches, we would like to announce that the 2022 WAFCS Annual Conference has big exciting news! Our conference will be centered around celebrating Wisconsin!

The annual conference will be held on March 3, 4 at the Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center in Onalaska, WI. It will have exciting and engaging pre-conference offerings for you to explore the FCS pathways within the state of Wisconsin. Then, on March 4th, we will have two dynamic keynote speakers and a variety of breakout sessions with a strong emphasis on what Wisconsin offers to the field of FCS. There will be additional conference information that will be released in the upcoming newsletters, so stay tuned. We are looking forward to seeing you there to celebrate Wisconsin and WAFCS!

Thank You..

This beautiful bouquet arrived the day I received the AAFCS National Leadership Award. Thank you to all my WAFCS members and friends!

Liz Mullens, AAFCS President, called me directly to indicate I had received the 2021 Leadership Award. We had a very nice conversation where I mentioned that I didn't think I was the average type leader, rather I was more of a volunteer type leader. Her response was that perhaps we could use more leaders of your style. It was encouraging to hear from her.

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I believe in our profession of helping families and have felt for years it is one of the best decisions I have ever made. There is not a day that goes by that I don't use information related to F/CS. Early on I became active in our local and state level and started attending national conferences in 1976. My first conference memory was as a collegiate member from Stout staying at the Palmer House in Chicago. The knowledge and opportunities presented were an inspiration to continue.

Wisconsin has a tradition of professionalism and leadership development in WAFCS. It was a rich environment for me to gain experience. When I agreed to run for president, I was unsure if I could do the job. Thank you to Mary Kay Merwin, Ginny Hall, Mary Kennedy, Gretchen Speerstra, Janet Powell, Karen Goebel and all the others who had confidence in me. When Carolyn Barnhart called to ask me to apply for the WI Leader Award, I felt I couldn't let her down. I thank Carolyn for her leadership and inspiration. I am humbled to represent Wisconsin as an AAFCS National Leader Award. Continue to "say yes to AAFCS".

Jeanne A. Schwass-Long, CFCS

To everyone beginning a new school year..

We wish you the best and hope this school year will be a little more normal than the last couple of years. You have all done wonders in situations that have been extremely difficult. Hopefully you are returning relaxed and rested. Know that you have grown tremendously in your teaching skills and understanding of what it takes to be a good teacher. You are all amazing!! Good luck in 2021-22!!

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