

Mark your  
calendars!

**Connecticut Affiliate / AAFCS  
Spring Conference at**

*The Spa at  
Norwich Inn*

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> 2019**

***RE-IMAGINE FCS***

***Trends, Innovations, Impacts***

The AAFCS/CT Affiliate has the place to learn and be involved in a networking event. Please join us May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Norwich Inn and Spa! Connect with educators, allied professionals and students to focus on advocacy, trends and impacts of critical issues that shape our world today. The one-day conference is a venue to exchange information, share best practices from multiple perspectives and re-imagine FCS!



***Recap of 2018 Annual Conference June 24-27, Atlanta, Georgia***

Submitted by Anita Ferron

The Annual Conference had great sessions and a key note speaker this year. In addition to the traditional format of sessions, they added a few new fun activities. Each morning you could join in a group walk or do yoga to get your day started. They had a city scavenger hunt where you needed to find different places in the city and do a selfie that you were there, giving you a great chance to see what Atlanta had to offer. I participated in the first sew in quilt competition. It was quite fun, there were two teams we worked on making a jellyroll quilt top. I am happy to say, that the team I was on won.

The key note that really made me think was Dr. Deana Simmons with her talk about *The Emotional, Intellectual and Culturally Responsive Practices* for thriving families and youth. She said, we must teach children to love themselves because of the media, a lot of people have “*Imposter Syndrome*”, in which people have a great fear of being exposed and a lot of anxiety of what will happen if this were discovered. They are often code switch talking one way here, but back home another way.

During the conference Dr. Jody Roubanis, CFCS proposed that we as a national organization for the family to take a stand to **Support Humane Policies & Treatment of Families Crossing Borders into the United States**. She wrote this resolution with several people from the Global Perspectives Committee. After revisions, this has been accepted by AAFCS. You can go to the [aafcs.org](http://aafcs.org) website and read.

## MEMBERSHIP MINUTES ..... Moving Forward .....

..... *A risky proposition for some while safety/security is a priority for all!*

Our National organization, AAFCS, has taken a stand on individuals and families involved in the USA border crossing issue. The Atlanta June Conference & Expo saw a revised position paper on "Keeping Families Together" brought forward by the Global Perspective Community." This rewrite of the 2018 resolution builds on the 2015 resolution concerning minors at the border. Jody Roubanis, CFCS, and a California resident spearheaded the resolution and paper. The writers involved with the paper include member leaders in the above community: Janie Leach, Shawnee Hendershot, Brownyn Fees, Chantelle Eggleton, and Lorn Wound. A clear definition resulted illustrating National's support for the cause to keep immigrant families together. **This is an exemplary issue of our mission statement:**

*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.*

Of course, many professional groups have made their case as well in the need to support the person regardless of nationality of origin. How many of us as professionals and community members have not been introduced to a person or family who has migrated within let us say the last ten years to this country? My guess would be none of us. We know that all of us got our start from an early generation of parents who came from another country to the United States. We need to applaud those who have come forward to support and aid refugees and the status they have in a free country.

In sum, the federal efforts made in the name of safety & security have failed and failed miserably. In effect, safety is now a risky proposition for those seeing crossing the border as their only option for a safe living environment. The family unit is not one to break apart but one to make secure, protect and support. Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs clearly puts safety at the wide base of the pyramid because it is what holds up the individual and makes a secure base on which to build the "total" person.

AAFCS connects and touches many lives! View the benefits that come with your membership! National supports advocacy efforts, provides publications, recognition, and learning. Services such as identity theft protection, insurances, and legal services are just a few of these additional perks. A noteworthy benefit is the networking one can do within the organization. Remember, the *communities* arrangement online offers conversation and contact with members everywhere. Of course, you can check out the full text of the position paper noted above on the Global Perspective Community page.

The web page for National is great. It is clear and so easy to navigate. One addition that I review often is the Open Forum. This is a weekly digest where a member can offer and comment on a wide variety of topics. Give it a look- see.

*Moving Forward .....? Keep up with the profession by staying connected! Take advantage of its many offerings.*

**NOTE:** ----- The 110<sup>th</sup> Convention & Expo will be held in St. Louis, Missouri

*Keep up with the profession by staying connected!* **Stephanie Fians**, Connecticut Membership Chair  
Membership: 89 Members [steph.fians@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steph.fians@sbcglobal.net)

## AN ANNIVERSARY YEAR FOR A CONNECTICUT MEMBER

One of our members has reached the 50 year mark in 2018! **Marjorie Porucznik** currently resides in Warner, New Hampshire and has graciously assigned her membership to the State of Connecticut for several years. Marjorie worked in a few of our eastern school districts during her teaching career. Montville HS was one school where she shared her FCS talents and creativity.

Congratulations to Marjorie on this anniversary and a huge thank you for the Connecticut membership assignment.

Stephanie Fians,  
Connecticut Membership Chair

## ***Chloe Kubin 2018 Student Scholarship Recipient***

It is always exciting to see young people interested in FCS careers. Our Connecticut AAFCS high school scholarship recipient for 2018, Chloe Kubin, is a very inspiring example. Chloe's high school career at Ridgefield High School included both FCS classes as well as challenging classes in math, sciences and the humanities. FCS teacher Lori Peck was excited to recommend her for the scholarship. Chloe has extensive experience working in local restaurants and has chosen restaurant management as her college major with a minor in agriculture and food sustainability. Her dream after college is to own and manage a local restaurant. I look forward to hearing from Chloe about her first semester of college as she works toward her lofty goal.

## ***AAFCS CT Teacher of the Year***

Lots of time, but keep your eyes open for innovative and creative units and coursework being taught by one of our own amazing FCS educators.

The deadline is **March 15th, 2019** for this honor with perks!

We want to share, especially for new teachers and administrators, about this distinguished award that folks might not be aware of.

You can **nominate yourself, yes yourself, or any other FCS teacher** you know who teaches an awesome unit or course, of any FCS topic. The nominee must be an AAFCS CT member. Principals and department heads can nominate. (share this blurb!)

This honor is for school year 2019-2020

Perks:

- an honor for yourself and your school district
- funding to attend the 2019 AAFCS National Conference
- nomination for a possible AAFCS National Teacher of the Year
- promote FCS folks and important FCS teaching & learning in CT

Watch this newsletter and your email (if we have it!) for the quick and easy application.

E-mail with any questions or to share your email address, especially if you are in a new district.

Sue Murphy, [semurphy@clintonpublic.net](mailto:semurphy@clintonpublic.net)



## ***IFHE (International Federation of Home Economics) News***

Submitted by Anita Ferron



We give disaster relief to under developed countries by sending them supplies that can get their classrooms up and running again. At this conference, we took a vote to make an exception and be able to send Puerto Rico supplies and support. I will be collecting items and will drive them down to Carolina in December or January. If you have any equipment, resource books or your school is, replacing books that that they would be willing to donate to the (DAP) Disaster Assistance Partnerships for Home Economists. Please contact me by e-mail [anita@ferron.com](mailto:anita@ferron.com)

Exciting news is that IFHE World Congress will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, August 2 – 8 2020. The theme is “*Soaring Toward Sustainable Development*”. Think about presenting or attending, the last time the US hosted the World Congress was in the 1970’s. I am putting together a NYC weeklong experience with a behind the scenes look at the Fashion and Textile industry. We will also have a bonus opportunity to construct a handbag during the week. I will be meeting people at the airports, bringing them into the city and after a week in NYC, there will be transportation to Atlanta and back to NY. All will be included in the cost of the excursion.

## ***Fall Policy & Legislation Submitted By Judy Hinman, chair***

### **Federal Level**

- Perkins Act now has \$1.2 billion until 2023. Trump officially signed H. R. 2353 on July 31. "Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21 century Act" states that FCS has local use of funds. For complete details of the bill go to <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/2353>. Keep contact with your local Perkins administrator.



### **State Level**

- Active teachers had an increase of 1% added to the pension contribution. The total 7% contribution is being used to help reduce the state's unfunded pension liability. ARTC {Assoc. of Retired Teachers} has a goal to repeal the unfair federal law called US Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision {GPO/WEP}. The health insurance fund for retired teachers has been temporarily fixed by switching coverage to Medicare Advantage. Retired teachers need to be enrolled in Medicare to participate in this supplemental plan. The state kept the 25% income tax exclusion on pensions; no indication when the postponed 50% exclusion will become effective. {This is termed "fair" because teachers do not have Social Security. If teachers contributed to SS by doing employment outside of public education and have 40 quarters or have a spouse of 10 years, you qualify for Medicare.}



### **National AAFCS**

- There is a demand for FCS educators in secondary schools, higher education and Extension. The "Say YES to FCS" project is to create resources to support FCS educator recruitment, promote FCS careers and to share resources at the national level. A total grant of \$936,572 was awarded from USDA that included matched funds from AAFCS, FCCLA and SUNY Oneonta. Each affiliate should have a State Action Team to help move "Say YES to FCS" forward. If you're interested in becoming more involved, email [adviser@fcclainc.org](mailto:adviser@fcclainc.org) or [sayyes@aafcs.org](mailto:sayyes@aafcs.org) for more information.
- "Financial Fitness" was year 2 goal of "FCSfit" and theme for the national conference and CT/AAFCS spring meeting at the Norwich Inn & Spa. Year 3 of the "FCSfit" Initiative is themed "Emotional Health & Relationship Well-being". Can your curricula be adapted somehow to include this theme?
- At the 109<sup>th</sup> conference & Expo in June there was a proposal "Support Human Policies & Treatment of Families Crossing Borders into the United States". It was initiated by the AAFCS Global Perspective Community and supported by the AAFCS Public Policy and the Family Relations & Human Development Communities. The Board of Directors approved it on July 9, 2018. Go to [aafcs.org](http://aafcs.org), resolution tab for details.
- The 110<sup>th</sup> AAFCS Conference & Expo will be held in St Louis, MO on June 23 to 26, 2019; too soon for details.
- AAFCS Fall Webinar schedule begins Sept. 27 with Creating Competent Global Classrooms. This is followed by 2 webinars each month in Oct., Nov. and Dec. A few of the other themes are Grief at School, Device-Free Dinners, FCS Framework & Career Clusters. These are FREE for members. For details and registration for the webinars, visit [aafcs.org](http://aafcs.org)



***We Are Still Searching for YOU!!!*** Your CT affiliate of AAFCS is still working on the new data base of Family and Consumer Sciences teachers and AAFCS members in the state of Connecticut. We are looking for **all** FCS teacher names, e-mail addresses and the schools addresses. The information gathered for the data base will be shared with the State Department of Education. Please email us at your earliest convenience, to obtain an accurate data base. Thank you for your help.

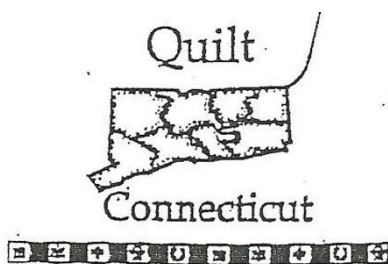
Becky Person

[becknp@aol.com](mailto:becknp@aol.com)

Janice Uerz

[janice.uerz@snet.net](mailto:janice.uerz@snet.net)





Come join your friends from the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences / Connecticut Affiliate at our **25<sup>th</sup> Quilt Connecticut Retreat**. Put stress on hold and join your friends for a creative adventure.

**Program:** Sue Michaels of Dragonfly Fiberart – “Caroline Bag”

We will have additional demos, show and tell, and shopping trips.

**Location:** Heritage Hotel  
522 Heritage Road  
Southbury, CT 06488

**Date:** March 22-24, 2019

**Time:** Friday, 10:00 AM – Sunday, 4:00 PM

**Complete weekend:** hotel room for 2 nights, 4 meals (2 hot breakfasts and 2 lunches), all events and workshops

**Prices:** \$285 for members / \$310 for non-members (based on double occupancy per person)  
\$390 for members / \$415 for non-members (based on single occupancy)

**Days ONLY:** 4 meals, all events and workshops

**Prices:** \$160 for members / \$190 for non-members

Registration is limited, so register early! No cancellations or refunds will be accepted after February 1, 2018. A supply list and other information will be sent to participants after February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Registration:** Please send \$100 deposit and form below by December 28, 2018.

Final payment **must be received by February 1, 2019.**

Make checks payable to AAFCS/CT Affiliate.

**Mail to:** Pat Ruhanen  
519B Iroquois Lane  
Stratford, CT 06614

For questions: Call Pat Ruhanen at (203) 385-3807  
OR Call Anita Ferron at (203) 500-9477  
e-mail: [pjquhanen@gmail.com](mailto:pjquhanen@gmail.com) [anita@ferron.com](mailto:anita@ferron.com)

Please register me for the following:

☐ \$285/\$310 Double Class      ☐ \$390/\$415 Single OR      ☐ 3 days \$160/\$185      ☐ Sue's

Name:	Membership #	Phone:	
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:
Name of preferred roommate:			
Special meal or handicapped needs:			
e-mail (optional):			
Emergency Contact Name:		Phone:	



44 George Drive  
Vernon, CT 06066

[www.ctaafcs.org](http://www.ctaafcs.org)

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➤ <b>Fall 2018 Newsletter</b> (Archived Spring 2018 Newsletter)	<b>Links Tab</b>	-
➤ <b>All Day Conference May 2, 2019</b>	<b>Conferences Tab</b>	April 25, 2019
➤ Student Scholarship Application	<b>Scholarship Tab</b>	March 15
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➤ Contact Information for Connecticut Affiliate Officers	<b>Contact Tab</b>	-