

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear Friends,

The Officers of Connecticut Affiliate of AAFCS have been working very hard this year. We are busy planning a daylong conference for all to attend. We are holding it at the Norwich Inn and Spa. Mark your calendars now for May 3, 2018. You will find more information about the conference in this newsletter.



At the national level, our Vice President, Kelly Zilly attended the AAFCS leadership conference in September. She had the opportunity to meet with amazing Family and Consumer Sciences Professionals from around the country. The other men and women in our profession are smart, dedicated, and caring. Professionally they are individually and collectively moving our profession forward. However, she reported that there is a growing shortage of professionals in our area. The national organization has started a new campaign to recruit highly qualified individuals into our profession. The campaign is called "Say Yes to FCS". For more information go to the national website, <https://www.aafcs.org>

Last spring young women who had worked for years in the dietetics department of hospitals shadowed me at my job. She was inspired by what she saw to take the steps forward to becoming a family and consumer sciences teacher. Now, she is working full time at a high school and in the ARC program. So I challenge you to help with this campaign. If you are a teacher, encourage your best students to pursue FCS as a career. Also, talk to other adults about your job. So many people are confused about who we are and what we do, that a conversation can be enlightening. You never know, you could influence a career change.

Thanks so much for being a valuable part of this important organization. I look forward to seeing you all on May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at our state conference.

Best Regards,

*Lori*

Lori Peck

President, AAFCS-CT

[loripeck@charter.net](mailto:loripeck@charter.net) or [lpeck@ridgefieldps.net](mailto:lpeck@ridgefieldps.net)

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## ***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, 2018** 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 the school year 2018-2019

Perks:

- an honor for yourself and your school district
- nomination for a possible AAFCS National Teacher of the Year
- funding to attend the 2019 AAFCS National Conference
- 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.

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

Sue Murphy, [smurp822@colchesterct.org](mailto:smurp822@colchesterct.org)

## MEMBERSHIP MINUTES . . . . . *Are You A Member Who Is Missing Out?*

A web site review is in order for you to maximize your benefits! Our National organization has completed a new format for the AAFCS web site. The 2017 – issue 4 of our Journal calls it “New Look, Same Mission” (P.5). What a difference it makes. A member can get current, find what is happening elsewhere and most importantly do some networking with like-minded members in AAFCS and related fields. Long time members will find the MyAAFCS link via the home page simply great. It is a site that is fine tuned for specifics and filled with resources for our members.

What I appreciate the most is the ease of navigating through the site. It invites you to read about events, discover signature initiatives and follow their developments. One can participate in discussions on pertinent topics. I found the blogs very interesting. Our membership friend Sophy Mott did a piece on Wellness Wednesday: Optimizing 168 hours of time. This space of time needs to be accounted for. At the close of the blog is an American Time Survey (2016) graph that you will find very interesting.

Not to be overlooked is the value in perusing the Connecticut site (ctaaafcs.org). It hones in on events that are happening right here in our state throughout the year. The links are easy to utilize and again provide good stuff for professionals. The Connecticut jewelry line is highlighted too.

Professionals will not want to miss the Connecticut Spring Conference on May 3, 2018 at the Norwich Inn & Spa- Norwich, CT. The theme will surround a wellness focus where there will be something for everyone. Information/registration will be available on the web site soon; members can see the spring newsletter for a print copy as well. Do mark this date! Just a note: Attendees at the 2017 meeting were hands-on with the speaker and found the technology focus of the meeting to be exceptional. The planning committee is once again working extremely hard to capture all the fine details that make the day superb!

Finally, keep in mind the 109<sup>th</sup> AAFCS Conference & Expo to be held in June 24-27, 2018 at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis-Atlanta, Georgia. The focus is *Cultivating Social & Emotional Competence for Healthy Relationships*. Complete information/registration will be available right after the first of the year. In the meantime see the Professional Development Center on the AAFCS web site for the latest information available.

Do keep potential members in mind, as we don’t want them to miss out! Professionals need to stay current and have resources available to do what they do and do it well. Encourage a possible member to give the web sites a look-see for what it offers to FCS professionals and those in related fields.

As the “New Look, Same Mission” title states the mission **IS** the same . . . . “to provide leadership and support to 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.”(2017 Journal-issue 4, p. 5).

*Keep up with the profession by staying connected! Membership: 82 Members*

*Stephanie Fians,*

Connecticut Membership Chair

[steph.fians@sbcglobal.net](mailto:steph.fians@sbcglobal.net)

### *2018 AAFCS/CT High School Scholarship*

**TEACHERS. PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR STUDENTS TO APPLY FOR THE AAFCS/CT SCHOLARSHIP.**

The scholarship is awarded to a graduating high school senior who plans to major in an FCS related area or FCS education in college.

The application may be found online at: <http://ctaaafcs.org/scholarship.php>

Send completed application by March 15<sup>th</sup> to:

Mrs. Anne Cremé  
8 Wood Fern Way  
Andover, CT 06232

If you have any questions, **please contact Anne Cremé at [annekpc53@gmail.com](mailto:annekpc53@gmail.com) or call 860-742-8002.**

The scholarship will be awarded at the AAFCS/CT Spring Meeting and Conference.



## SAVE the DATE for the 2018 Spring Conference

We are excited to announce that our 2018 AAFCS/CT Spring Meeting and Conference will be held at The Spa at Norwich Inn in Norwich, CT on **Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>** and will focus on wellness. **Michelle Jacobik, a local celebrity, is our keynote speaker** and one of the presenters that day. Michelle is a financial and personal growth expert and we are fortunate to have her in our program. She has coached thousands on how to gain financial freedom while preaching that true wealth is about relationships, good health and continuing self-improvement. Her expertise aligns perfectly with the June 2018 AAFCS National Conference theme: Cultivating Social and Emotional Competence for Healthy Relationships.

The registration fee is \$125.00 and will include a healthy breakfast and lunch, a full day of speakers and many different exhibitors and vendors. A reminder that the registration fee can be paid with Perkins funding. For those coming from out of town, rooms are offered at \$139.00 for double occupancy for Wednesday night. Call soon to reserve your room at this special rate. A variety of spa treatments are available by reservation for an additional cost and can be found on their website.

Donations for the silent auction are appreciated and all funds go directly to our student scholarship.

For additional information contact Karen Redanz at: [kredanz94@gmail.com](mailto:kredanz94@gmail.com)



### SILENT AUCTION

The Silent Auction at the May 3, 2018 spring conference is our main fund raiser for student scholarships and professional development awards. CT affiliate members, singularly or as a group, donate all the items. So please everyone, donate something. Items donated in the past have been:

- Local businesses and restaurants have been generous with gift cards. Use the CT affiliate letter when you approach businesses and restaurants.
- Themed baskets are bright and colorful. In the past we have had baskets for gardening, travel, sports, health and the beach. Not creative, go to Pinterest.
- House plants, flowering plants and bulbs are always popular.
- That birthday or holiday gift you received just isn't you. It's not re-gifting if you give it to the auction.
- FCS are the best chefs. Share your flair with folks that would really appreciate a homemade pie, cake, cookie tray, jelly, etc.
- Tickets to an event. Did you get season tickets to games or the theater and one date you can't attend?
- Share your talent of knitting, crocheting or embroidery.

The value of items range from \$10 to \$150. Come prepared to place your bids. We accept cash, checks and credit cards. **THANK YOU for making the silent auction successful.**

Any questions, contact Judy Hinman at [jplantman1@att.net](mailto:jplantman1@att.net).

### 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.

We are doing this so that pertinent information can be forwarded to you and your peers in a timely manner. Many changes continue to occur, however - if you have not received an email from us - 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)

### Quilt Connecticut 2018

Come join your friends from the *American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences / Connecticut Affiliate* at our **24<sup>th</sup> Quilt Connecticut Retreat**. Put stress on hold and join your friends for a creative adventure.

Program: **Ken Erdeman** – “*One Block Wonder*”

Location: Heritage Hotel  
522 Heritage Road  
Southbury, CT 06488



Date: March 16-18, 2018

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

Registration Form and information can be found at [www.ctaafcs.org](http://www.ctaafcs.org) under the Conferences Tab.



**CONNECTICUT AFFILIATE**

44 George Drive  
 Vernon, CT 06066

[www.ctaafcs.org](http://www.ctaafcs.org)  
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<b>Where do I find items on the website?</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Due Date</b>
➤ <b>Winter 2018 Newsletter</b> (Archived Fall 2017 Newsletter)	<b>Links Tab</b>	-
➤ <b>All Day Conference May 3, 2018</b>	<b>Conferences Tab</b>	TBD
➤ Student Scholarship Application	<b>Scholarship Tab</b>	March 15
➤ Teacher of the Year Application/Nomination	<b>Awards Tab</b>	March 15
➤ Professional of the Year Application/Nomination Form	<b>Awards Tab</b>	April 15
➤ Professional Development Application	<b>Awards Tab</b>	April 15
➤ Contact Information for Connecticut Affiliate Officers	<b>Contact Tab</b>	-