President’s Message

Are you familiar with the phrase “Those who can’t do, teach?” While I don’t agree with this philosophy, I often have to take a long, hard look at myself and reprioritize.

We teach people skills for improving their lives, such as stress management, portion control, positive communication, credit management, making healthy choices, conserving energy and the list goes on and on. However, do you work to incorporate these skills into your lifestyle? Do you continue to improve the quality of your own life just as you strive to do so for others? No, we’re not perfect...we’re human. As such, we need reminders just like our clientele.

While you are planning programs and meetings for your busy workdays, remember to schedule some time for yourself and for your loved ones. Set aside time to do something you enjoy. Maybe it’s reading a good book or riding your bicycle with a friend. Maybe you have a project that you’ve been putting off, like cleaning out those closets or organizing old photos. Oftentimes we get so involved with our ability to help others that we forget to take care of our own needs.

Have an enjoyable summer, and remember to take time to take care of you!

Danielle Gordon
President

Share Innovative Ideas for Addressing Current Issues

What are some of the current issues in your area of specialty? What are you doing through your Extension programs to address these issues? Your colleagues throughout our state and across the nation want to hear about the work you are doing.

The Journal of the National Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences is peer reviewed and published annually by NEAFCS. This journal focuses on Extension Family and Consumer Sciences research and program evaluation, including members’ research, applied research, program impacts and award winners’ reports.

Additionally, the Journal of Extension is the official refereed publication of
U.S. Cooperative Extension. The purpose of this journal is to expand and update the research and knowledge base for U.S. Extension professionals and other outreach educators to improve their effectiveness. It also serves as a forum for emerging and contemporary issues affecting U.S. Cooperative Extension education.

Write an article about your efforts and accomplishments and submit it today. Information and submission guidelines for the Journal of NEAFCS are available at the NEAFCS website at http://www.neafcs.org/resources.asp?P=404. The journal is published annually and articles are due July 1, 2006. The Journal of Extension is an electronic journal that is published bi-monthly. Submission guidelines are available at http://www.joe.org.

Register Now to Begin Reaching New Heights
The NEAFCS Annual Session is being held at the Hyatt Regency Denver at the Colorado Convention Center October 3 – 6, 2006. Registration materials and the conference schedule have been mailed and are also available at http://www.neafcs.org. If you plan to attend the conference, please email Danielle Gordon at gordond@leoncountyfl.gov and let her know. This is necessary for travel approval through the District Directors’ Offices and for planning state’s night out. The deadline for Early Bird Registration is July 7th and hotel reservations must be made prior to completing registration. Begin making your plans to attend today.

Showcase Unique Programs at EPAF
Would you like to showcase one of your Extension programs at the 2006 Extension Professional Associations of Florida Professional Improvement Meeting? The EPAF poster session provides an opportunity to highlight the unique and creative educational programs and/or technologies being used in your current programming efforts. More information can be found at http://epaf.ifas.ufl.edu (click on 2006 Annual Meeting and then Poster Session). Applications are due by August 4th. Selected presenters will be notified by August 11th.
Recognition for a Job Well Done

We had 36 award entries this year, with 21 submitted for national review. Nominations for Friend of Extension, Outstanding Specialist, 4-H Youth Development Award and Program of Excellence awards are currently being reviewed and winners will be announced soon.

We are also trying to verify our records of past Continued Excellence and New Professional award recipients. If you have received either of these awards, please send an e-mail indicating which award and the year you received it to Stephanie Toelle at stoelle@coj.net by Friday, June 30th. Thanks!

~Stephanie Toelle, FEAFCS Vice President Awards & Recognition

Cookbook Moves into Next Phase

Simply Florida has been sent to the publishing company and is well on its way to press. Many, many thanks to the numerous individuals who had a hand in this project by submitting recipes, testing or tasting recipes, serving as committee members, creating artwork and the list goes on. Each one of you is truly appreciated!

The Marketing Committee is hard at work on the many ways we will sell and distribute our cookbook. More information will be coming to the membership as we plan for pre-sales this fall.

An Update from the Department

The Human Development and Housing positions have been filled with .70 fte Extension appointments. Paperwork is currently being completed for Dr. Eunju Hwang (Housing) and Dr. Heidi Radunovich (Human Development) so that we can welcome them on board in July. Also, thanks to everyone’s commitment to the 4-H and Family Initiative that was funded at $1 million.

A New Look for FEAFCS

The FEAFCS website has a new look! Samantha Kennedy, webmistress, has been working hard to update our organization’s website. You will find reports from recent Board meetings to keep you up to date with the ongoings of the association. There’s a “What’s New” section, newsletters, professional development opportunities and copies of important documents. The forms section will be kept up to date with annual dues information and other necessary business forms. Check out the website and make sure to add it to your favorites. You’ll want to check back regularly for important information about our association. Thanks Sam!

Set your standards high
You deserve the best.
Try for what you want
And never settle for less

Believe in yourself
No matter what you choose.
Keep a winning attitude
And you can never lose.

Think about your destination
But don’t worry if you stray
Because the most important thing
Is what you’ve learned along the way.

Take all that you've become
To be all that you can be.
Soar above the clouds
And let your dreams set you free.

--Jillian K. Hunt, Chicken Soup for the Kid’s Soul