Do you Know Who Represents You on the WAFCS Council?

Happy August in a very strange year complicated by Covid-19! Generally the August e-newsletter has highlights from the June AAFCS Conference but with a virtual national conference, the August e-newsletter will introduce those who represent you on the Council. The response received for bios was amazing and you will see how well represented you are. WAFCS is fortunate to have a balance of years of experience and young professionals. Please, as you read through these, think how you, too, might find a place on the council. The elected members (the Board) meet four times a year - August, October, January and March. With Covid-19, all meetings are on Zoom and everyone, elected and appointed, may join these 1-2 hour meetings. I hope you enjoy reading about your leaders. Janet Powell

WAFCS Board of Directors 2020-2021 (Elected Positions)

Executive Committee
President - Charmaine Rimple, CFCS
President Elect - Emily Larson
Immediate Past President - Mary Kaye Merwin
Secretary - Charlene Kelley
Treasurer - Susan Turgeson Ed.D, CFCS

Ex-Officio
Executive Director - Janet Powell, CFCS

Vice Presidents
VP Membership - Stephanie Love
VP Awards and Recognition - Carolyn Barnhart, CFCS
VP Technology/Communication - Kristin Woulf
VP External Relations - Marilyn Swiontek, CFCS
VP Public Policy - Bethany Buenning
VP Professional Development - Delaine Stendahl
Foundation Designee - Karen Goebel, CFCS

In addition to elected positions, we have several appointed positions. These work specifically with the various Vice Presidents.

Membership:
Retirees - Carol Subera
Student Unit Advisor - Michael Westbrook
New Professionals - Miranda Stroik
Awards and Recognition:
Specific Awards - Mary Kennedy, CFCS, Cindy Quilling
WAFCS Foundation:
Foundation Members at Large - Jean Zeithaml, CFCS, Rita Houser
Professional Development:
IFHE Liaison - Carol Anderson, CFCS
Art and Design Coordinator - Terri Williams
Conference Coordinators - Jeanne Schwass-Long, CFCS, Cindy Quilling, Janet Powell, CFCS

President - Charmaine Rimple, CFCS
Sometime after I began my first year of high school, I changed from music class to home economics. I enjoyed singing with my freshman classmates. The idea for a course change involved the high school principal and the music teacher/choral director. One day in music class, I heard my name and taken aside. The principal and music teacher/choral director informed me that the costumes for the show have short-sleeved blouses for the freshmen choral group and my performing with my prosthesis exposed, would likely be offensive to the audience. Stunned, I left the music room. I walked the hallway to the art class and saw all seats filled. I proceeded to the home economics room and was warmly greeted by the home economics teacher, Mrs. Catherine Huppert. With her patience in helping me, I gained skills excelling in garment construction and fitting. The final project I designed and made was a suede jacket made out of deer skins including fringed sleeves and front and back yoke. Also, I joined the home economics club, participated with its style show committee, and presented “Charli Originals” my label, and each garment’s bodice had full-length sleeves!

Mrs. Huppert and her husband, Mr. Marlin Huppert, Vocational Rehabilitation Director for Northeast Wisconsin, guided me into a design school, Ray-Vogue Schools, Chicago, IL. I presented at two Young Designers Fashion Festivals, I was awarded two Fleur-de-lis pins for my designs - nightgown division and pantsuit division. After graduating on the honor roll with a Diploma in Dress Design, I entered the Make It with the Wool contest and was awarded District Winner for a full-length wool coat.

Following up on my achievements, Mrs. Huppert, contacted me, and she encouraged me to enroll in a four-year academic program. After general coursework at UW-Green Bay, I transferred to UW-Stout graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Home Economics Education in 1978. Before I left campus, my college advisor informed me that nearly all the teaching jobs were filled likely to stay that way for a long time. So, I took out my first loan, purchased a well-trained barrel racing horse, and went on the road taking along my sewing machine. While my horse “kept me in the money,” on the side, I designed and sewed western styled shirts and jackets. In the spring of 1980, I accepted a position, home living instructor, Greenco Industries, Monroe. I taught home living skills to adults who had various challenges, i.e., cognitive, physical, or emotional development, mental differences or illnesses, and some who lived in sheltered housing, until the agency lost its federal funding for vocational programming. In the mid-1980s, I taught wellness classes and home economics-related seminars and workshops at, now, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay.

Since then, I achieved two Master of Science degrees: (a) Administrative Sciences, UW-Green Bay, and (b) Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Walden University. Currently, I hold a therapist position providing counseling at the Samaritan Counseling Center of the Fox Valley, Inc., Menasha, where I serve families, children, adolescents, individuals, and couples.

President Elect - Emily Larson
Mrs. Emily Larson has been a family and consumer sciences teacher at the Amery School District for the past 16 years. In 2015, she added on a health education teaching license and became an American Red Cross CPR instructor. In 2017 through the help of a school referendum and grants she was able to turn Amery high school’s 1970’s classroom into a new state of the art FCS classroom and culinary kitchen.

Mrs. Larson has served on many committees for the Amery school district and the Amery community. Some of these committees include being the school districts wellness coordinator, serving on the
community service day committee, prom committee, laude point committee, homecoming committee, helping create a CTE advisory board, being a youth apprenticeship coordinator, empty bowls chair, fall festival director, fall festival co-chair, Polk-County worksite wellness committee member, and FCCLA adviser. A few of Mrs. Larson's highlights during her career include being chosen to create lesson plans which were published by the National Pork Association, being the 2019 Wisconsin VFW teacher of the year, receiving the FCCLA Spirit of Advising Award, receiving the FCCLA master adviser award, being in the Who's Who Among American Teachers, creating a Family Consumer Sciences Academy for her students, receiving the Cambridge Who's Who Among Executives and Professionals and receiving the National Presidential service award. She also currently holds the president elect position for the Wisconsin Association of Family Consumer Sciences organization. Mrs. Larson has a fantastic husband who is a technology and engineering teacher and together they have three adorable children Evan (9), Nevaya (8) and Toby (6). Some of Mrs. Larson's favorite things to do include spending time with her family, reading, baking, and traveling.

Immediate Past President - Mary Kaye Merwin

Mary Kaye Merwin grew up on a farm in Walworth County, attending a rural two room grade school and the newly consolidated Big Foot High School before attending what was then Stout State College for a degree in Home Economics Education with a Biology minor. She spent her entire 37 year career with the Cooperative Extension Service and 4-H, starting as a 4-H Home Economist in Waukesha County, and then the first woman hired to serve as a full time Wisconsin 4-H Agent in Rock County. After completing a MS degree from the University of Wisconsin, she moved to Texas A&M University as a State 4-H Specialist and then a District Home Economics Supervisor. In 1978 she moved to Washington, DC in the Programs Division of National 4-H Council giving administrative leadership to national volunteer leadership training, Citizenship Washington Focus, national awards programs, National 4-H Congress, and International programming. In 1987 she returned to the county level as the Executive Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Nassau County New York, an urban county located on Long Island, one of the five largest counties in the USA. After retiring in 2001, she returned to Wisconsin and Walworth County in 2005. Mary Kaye is a 58 year member of AAFCS and has served as the New York affiliate president in addition to the same role here in Wisconsin. In retirement, her goal is to pay it forward. She serves as the Moderator of the Delavan United Church of Christ, has completed two terms on the Wisconsin 4-H Foundation, is on the board and treasurer of the Walworth County Arts Council, and the treasurer of her condo association. Her first recollections of her AHEA membership were as a student attending a regional student conference in Chicago via an overnight bus ride from Menomonie. In her first year as a professional, AHEA purchased a headquarters building on Massachusetts Avenue in Washington, DC and did a fund raising drive to buy bricks for that building. It was her intent to always support her profession and on a $6200 annual salary, pledged $500 for a brick.

Secretary - Charlene Kelley

I have taught for 21 years as a Family and Consumer Sciences and Health Teacher for both the Boyceville and Bloomer School District. During this time I have also coached Academic Decathlon, Cheerleading, Track and Field, and Cross Country. In my spare time I enjoy spending time with my family and competing in bodybuilding.

I was a breakout presenter on Standard Based Testing at the 2019 AAFCS Annual Conference, the 2019 UW Stout Fall Conference and was scheduled to present at the March 2020 WAFCS conference that was cancelled.
Treasurer - Susan Turgeson CFCS

A Bachelor of Science in Family and Consumer Sciences Education (1999) and a Master of Science in Home Economics -Concentration in Family and Consumer Education Services (2007) prepared Susan for one year as a middle school FCS instructor in Eau Claire and twelve years as a FCS instructor and FCCLA adviser at Menomonie High School. In 2015, Susan completed a doctoral program in Educational Leadership and is currently an associate professor in the School of Health Sciences and Wellness at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP). She is starting her ninth year at UWSP working with pre-professional and graduate level family and consumer sciences students.

Prior to teaching, Susan gained immeasurable experience having worked in various FCS-related positions including retail store manager, children's section librarian, bridal boutique fittings and alterations, small business and farm accountant, rental property manager, grocery store deli and customer service, vehicle sales, and home visitor supervisor.

Susan has been honored by the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) with the 2009 AAFCS National Teacher of the Year award. Additionally, Susan was honored to receive the AAFCS New Achiever award in 2005 and the AAFCS Leader award in 2017. She served a three-year term on the AAFCS Ethics committee, a three-year term on the AAFCS Council for Certification, and has served twice as a mentor for the AAFCS Leadership Academy. She is beginning a three-year term on the Council for Accreditation. She has been a member of the national standards revision committee and has been involved in the standard setting for the FCS Praxis test, the AAFCS Pre-Pac Food Science exam, and the AAFCS Certified Nutrition and Wellness Educator (CNWE) exam. Currently, Susan is the WAFCS Treasurer, serving in this leadership position since 2000. She was President for the National Association of Teacher Educators for Family and Consumer Sciences (NATEFACS) and is serving as the NATEFACS liasion on the FCS Alliance. She is in her fourth term as treasurer of the Elementary, Secondary, and Adult Education (ESAE) community for AAFCS.

Throughout the year, she conducts keynote addresses, breakout sessions, and trainings at conferences throughout the United States. Susan is the author of Successful Food Science Lesson Plans, Checking Out Food Science PowerPoint, and the MODE curriculum. She is the host of the Food Science Experiments Video and co-authored 5 Minute Activities for Future Educators all published and produced by Visualz (Learning ZoneXpress).

Susan spends time watching baseball and football, gardening, and enjoying the outdoors with her husband of 33 years. They love to visit their daughter and son-in-law in Oconomowoc and their son and 2 ½ yr. old grandson in Coon Rapids, MN. A fan of the tv show Friends, she will be there for you!

Vice President Membership - Stephanie Love

Stephanie Love is a graduate from the University of Wisconsin-Stout with Bachelor of Science degrees in Home Economics in Business-Interior Design and Family and Consumer Sciences Education and a Master’s degree in Training and Human Resource Development/Management along with a Certificate in “E-learning and On-line Education”. I have developed and participated in creating curriculum for Food Science Education, Work Base learning and Farm to Home initiatives for the Minnesota Department of Education, since I live in WI, but teach in MN. In the past 13 years, I have presented multiple times at State Conference with a focus on Personal Finance Curriculum that can be used in the classroom. I am a member of Wisconsin AFCS and Minnesota AFCS and have attended multiple National AAFCS Conferences and trainings sponsored by AAFCS throughout the last 14 years of my teaching career. In my spare time I belong to the “Over the Edge” Quilt Guild in Menomonie, WI along with DKG-Alpha Tau of Menomonie WI, which is a community of female educators with a mission to help women educators in our community and state. My free time is spend at my sewing machine quilting or sewing and watching TV with my “other”, who very much misses our movie date days.
Vice President Awards and Recognition - Carolyn Barnhart, CFCS
Dr. Carolyn Barnhart, CFCS is Emeritus-Administrative Officer and Former Food and Nutrition Department Chair at the University of Wisconsin-Stout, Menomonie, Wisconsin. She taught full-time 36 years and has been teaching online since 2012. She has served as an adjunct Instructor, Food & Nutrition Department and School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Stout since her retirement in 2011.

Carolyn has received numerous awards recognizing her contributions to higher education in Wisconsin and at the University of Wisconsin-Stout. She has also been recognized by professional associations including:
- HEIB of the Year Award- Twin Cities Home Economists in Business (2013)
- Phi Upsilon Omicron National Collegiate Advisor Award (2003)
- American Association of Family and Consumer -Sciences Leader Award (2003)
- Woman of Distinction: In the Category of Women Preparing Women for Responsible Adulthood, Girl Scouts of Indian Waters Council (2003)
- American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences National Advisor of the Year (2002)
- Wisconsin Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Leader Award (2002),

Carolyn is a life-time member of Phi Upsilon Omicron and served on multiple committees, plus provided leadership to the organization during her tenure as National President from 2006-2008. She served on the Institute of Child Nutrition National Advisory Committee and has been a member of the International Federation of Home Economics, and Food and FCS Professionals (formerly Twin Cities Home Economists in Business.). At the State level, Carolyn has served as a board member of the Wisconsin FCCLA Foundation since 2003.

In addition, Carolyn contributes to UW-Stout, her church, and her community through volunteer service. In June, 2020 Carolyn received AAFCS's highest award, the AAFCS Distinguished Service Award

Vice President Technology/Communication - Kristin Woulf
My name is Kristen Woulf and it is my third year as a Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Shattuck Middle School in Neenah, Wisconsin. I teach various subjects including culinary arts, food science, housing and interior, child development, finances, personal development, and career readiness. I co-teach a career readiness class with the special education department and have helped implement a special olympics fitness program called SOFIT. Through this program, we promote inclusion between regular education and special education students as they participate in wellness activities and learn how to sustain a healthy lifestyle.

This summer I have been enjoying newly married life with my husband Cameron, and our two dogs in our fixer upper home. We enjoy taking boat rides, walking our dogs, and going up north to our family cabin in Eagle River. I enjoy cooking, running, yoga, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

Vice President External Relations - Marilyn Swiontek, CFCS
Family and Consumer Education and Spanish Teacher, South Division High School, Milwaukee, for 30+years; currently a substitute teacher and volunteer for MPS FCCLA Adviser and FCCLA volunteer
Past president of WFCE (The organization, originally WHEESE, was established by WAFCS to meet the specific needs of FCS teachers.) Treasurer, WI FCCLA Foundation
B.A. - Mount Mary University
Master's of Education - Carroll University

WAFCS Teacher of the Year; WAFCS Leader; AAFCS Leader 2018.
I believe in the values and core knowledge of Family and Consumer Sciences and am so glad that I am part of the FCS profession. FCS has helped to make me what I am today. I am grateful for the help and support of FCS colleagues over these many years!

My husband Tom and I recently celebrated our 50th anniversary. We have one daughter Kathleen, married to Eric, and two grandchildren, Lorelei and Adrian.

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Vice President Public Policy - Bethany Buenning

Hello! My name is Bethany Buenning and I teach at DeForest Area High School, in DeForest WI. I am the Public Policy Chair for WAFCS. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin Stevens Point with a major in Family and Consumer Sciences in 2018. I recently got a golden retriever, her name is Nala. This fall will be my second full year in the classroom. This year I will teach Child Development, Medical Occupations, and Techniques of Food Preparation. Our FCS department is in our second year of FCCLA. This last spring and this summer have been full of professional development and work in order to get a handle on teaching virtually. We may be separated from the classroom but we are never fully separated from our students.

Vice President Professional Development - Delaine Stendahl

Delaine Stendahl is a Family and Consumer Sciences Educator who has taught 41 years at Whitehall Memorial Schools. She teaches grades 7-12 FCS and Health Science Education. Whitehall Memorial Schools works with three other area districts to offer greater course offerings through pathways for junior and senior students with students traveling between districts to participate in shared courses. With a commercial baking and pastry lab and commercial savory lab she hosts the program in foodservice and hospitality. Delaine is the recipient of the HBA educator award for 2015 and 2018 with her lesson plans, The Power of Eggs and Ingredient SuperHeroes to the Rescue. Delaine serves as an FCCLA adviser and has a State FCCLA Officer this year. She serves as a HOSA adviser as well as Freshman and Senior class adviser. She plans to start an Educators Rising Chapter this year. Delaine received the 2018 WAFCS Teacher of the Year award. Delaine and her husband, Steve and are celebrating their 30th anniversary this August. They have two children, Adam and Aime. Adam works in the automotive industry and Aime is attending college at UW-Stout and majoring in Early Childhood Education and Middle Level Education.

WAFCS Foundation Designee -Karen Goebel, CFCS

During February-March I was in Morocco having a wonderful time until March 20 when I was escorted out on the last plane leaving the country. Since then I have been moving plants around in my garden and planning to go to the farm in Indiana. Due to the summer heat and no air conditioning there, I will go in August and expect the weeds will be taller than I am. Also, I am concerned about the hog CAFO which has been built right behind our farm. I’m hoping I can’t tell it’s there. I have huge concerns about the well water. Luckily I’m planning no garden parties!

Professionally, I’m on the Development Committee for IFHE World Congress. (Rescheduled for Sept. 4-10, 2022 in Atlanta) and have been on various development committees for AAFCS. I am retired from UW-Extension, UW-Madison. I have been honored by AAFCS as a DSA recipient and as an AAFCS Legend. I’m currently reading Rascal by Sterling North (from Edgerton, WI) and watching Escape to the Chateau on PBS. I’m looking forward to Michelle Obama’s podcast.

Retirees - Carol Subera

Carol has been a life-long advocate and supporter of Family and Consumer Sciences, retiring from her position as the Colby High School FCS teacher after a 41-year career. She did not retire her commitment to her profession. Rather, she has assumed a wide variety of leadership roles to assist in “paying it forward” to be of help to other FCS professionals and promote the profession at local, regional, and state levels. After serving as a FCCLA Adviser, Carol has continued her commitment to FCCLA, sharing her leadership on the Wisconsin FCCLA Foundation Board. Carol has served the WAFCS board as its president and continues to serve. She is especially helpful with fund raising with the WAFCS Foundation. Carol works with WAFCS retirees in submitting snapshots of their professional lives for the WAFCS newsletter.
Student Unit Adviser - Michael Westbrook

My name is Michael Westbrook and I am the adviser to the student unit. I joined the WAFCS board after I graduated from UW Stevens Point in 2018 because I wanted to help support the field that I feel so passionately about. I am currently a family and consumer sciences teacher and youth apprenticeship coordinator at Appleton East high school, and I’m working on earning a Master’s degree in education. When I’m not working I enjoy traveling, teaching group exercise classes, and spending time outdoors.

New Professionals - Miranda Stroik

"Hello! I’m Miranda Stroik and I serve as the WAFCS New Professionals Chair. My position is to help recruit young, new professionals and welcome them into the professional organization. My aim is to help people get connected and reach their professional goals. Currently, I live in Sheboygan Wisconsin, and teach Family and Consumer Sciences and Health Sciences at Sheboygan North High School. I will be starting my third year of teaching this next school year. I graduated from UW-Stevens Point in the spring of 2018 and was interested in joining the council right away as continual growth to my expertise as a professional in the field. When I’m not teaching or advising our HOSA and FCCLA Chapters, I tend to spend most of my free time outdoors with family and friends as well as traveling across the globe. I love to try new things and share a laugh or two with the people around me. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns, I’m happy to help and get to know you all!"

Leader Award Chair - Cindy Quilling

Cindy Quilling has remained a leader in family and consumer sciences education following her retirement from the School District of the Menomonie Area for over 30 years. During that time, she was an active FCCLA Adviser at the local and state level. In her retirement she serves the profession as a student teacher supervisor for the University of Wisconsin-Stout. Additionally, as an alum she works with the Phi Upsilon Omicron chapter.

Cindy is committed to her community as her professional endeavors include Women’s Giving Circle, the Community Foundation of Dunn County, the Mabel Tainter Center for the Arts, Alpha Tau-Delta Kappa Gamma, and Mayo Clinic Health System-Red Cedar which have all seen Cindy serve as an executive officer on their Board of Directors.

Cindy is still involved in AAFCS at the local, state, and national levels where she has served on the AAFCS Leadership Council, attended AAFCS Annual Conferences and twice served as the Wisconsin Affiliate president. She has also been honored with the WAFCS Leader Award, AAFCS Leader Award and Wisconsin Teacher of the Year recipient.

New Achiever and Teacher of the Year Award Chair - Mary Kennedy, CFCS

Mary graduated from UW-Stout with both B.S. and M.S. degrees in Home Economics. Additional credits were awarded from UW-Madison for Educational Administration resulting in LVEC certification. She taught Middle and High School Family and Consumer Sciences for 34 years in the Elkhorn Area School District. The district FCS program was expanded from one and a half instructors to three full time teachers with 13 high school course offerings during her tenure. Mary advised the FCCLA and HOSA Chapters and implemented the Health Services Youth Apprenticeship for the five school Walworth County Educational Consortium serving as the Steering Committee co-chair and Coordinator for the Elkhorn Area School District.

Mary has held various positions on the WAFCS Council including serving two terms as President. Her professional influence at the state and national levels is evident with the development of curriculum and educational materials, workshops and trade shows throughout the United States with Reality Works and Learning Zone Express. With Goodheart-Willcox, Mary co-authored two editions of the textbook Goals for Living and most recently was a contributing author for the G-W Introduction to Health Science Pathways to Your Future. G-W has recognized Mary as a national presenter, educational consultant and STEM/STEAM trainer.

Mary has received several prestigious awards including WAFCS Teacher of the Year and Leader Awards AAFCS Teacher of the Year (Top Ten Finalist) and Leader Awards.
As a retiree, Mary has become involved in various volunteer opportunities and has multiple hobbies. Four grandkids (all out of state) keep online connections going as well as travel to visit several times a year.

Foundation Members at Large - Jean Zeithaml, Rita Houser

Jean (Crownhart) Zeithaml, CFCS-Retired
Jean taught FCS at the high school (Winneconne) and junior high school (Fond du Lac) levels, taught at Kent State University, served as Consumer Educator for a Consumer Credit Counseling Service in Akron, Ohio, and served as an Extension Educator with the University of Wisconsin and Ohio State University Cooperative Extension services. Jean holds degrees from UW—Stout and UW—Madison and has held the CFCS credential since its inception in 1986. Jean served as state president of the Ohio Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (1991-92) and has been a member of the WAFCS Foundation Board since 1997.

Rita Houser
I serve on the WAFCS Foundation Board and am in charge of the Silent Auction, which we, unfortunately, were unable to have in 2020. I worked as a Regional Program Manager for the Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin (formerly Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board), for 25 years. I retired five years ago, and like many others, I am enjoying retirement. While many activities have been curtailed because of Covid 19, I enjoy reading and going for walks. I thought the 2020 AAFCS virtual conference was outstanding. If we are forced to use that format again next year, I would encourage everyone to participate. It was the next best thing to being there!

IFHE Liaison - Carol Anderson
Carol L. Anderson, Ph.D., CFCS has two degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Ph.D. from Iowa State University. She grew up on a farm in Iowa County and was an active member of the farm operation as well as 4-H until going to college. Graduating in the first class from Iowa-Grant, Carol was the usual involved student. She was more into agriculture activities than home economics even though that was the career selected. She exhibited the Grand Champion steer at the Wisconsin State Fair in 1958 and continued showing cattle over the years. After college graduation, three years were spent as an Extension Educator in Trempealeau County and after an M.S. was off to Iowa State to serve as an extension Human Development Specialist. In 1980, she moved to New York serving as the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associate Director, Assistant Dean in the College of Human Ecology, and a professor in the Department of Human Development. She has always been active in AHEA/AAFCS chairing and serving on committees as well as AAFCS President 1999-2000. The opportunity to serve on three Farm Bill rewrites was an interesting experience. Throughout the years including before ever going off to college, public policy was part of the agenda. Upon retirement, Carol moved back to the community in which she grew up. Consulting, farming, traveling, and volunteering continue to be what she does. She served 10 years as a member of the Iowa County Board of Supervisors. She has been active in the International Federation for Home Economics-US and along with a partner, prepared the bid that brought the 2022 Congress to the US for only the 3rd time in 112 years.

Art and Design Chair - Terri Williams
Hi Everyone! I’m Terri, your Art and Design Show Coordinator. Life has been a whirlwind lately, and for those that were unaware, I left teaching FCS in June 2019, but I’m still supporting and looking for ways to share what we teach in areas other than the public school system. I’ve picked up teaching dance at the dance school I went to growing up and I’m working with little dancers from 2-6 generally. Through the studio I’ve done sewing work for our performance of The Nutcracker, and I’ve taught a couple of our dancers how to sew their elastic and ribbons onto their pointe shoes. I’ve had the struggle of trying to teach at a distance too. Little ones are tough to keep engaged when zooming! I also started a small business sewing last summer. I’ve done a little tailoring for individuals, and I’ve picked up doing long arm work and making quilts! Though, with Covid, I’ve been making masks primarily, and I’ve learned so much
in how to make them fit and finding what different people need in a mask. I love getting to long arm pieces too, and free motion quilting has been so much fun to learn!

Otherwise I’ve been home with my man and my dog, working on house projects. We spent 4 months redoing my sewing room, which is now a Hufflepuff common room design (if we haven’t talked, I’m a major nerd), and it is also the perfect place for online game night with some of my friends.

2020-21 WAFCS Annual Conference Coordinators -Jeanne Schwass-Long, Cindy Quilling, Janet Powell

Jeanne A. Schwass-Long, CFCS
Jeanne was a Family Consumer Sciences educator at Stoughton High and Middle School for a total of 29 years. Her professional accomplishments include FHA-HERO advisor, WAFCS and AAFCS member and WAFCS President. Jeanne was recognized as Teacher of the Year at the local, state and national level. Jeanne was awarded the WAFCS Leader for 2020. She is a Phi Upsilon Omicron member and adviser to Nu Chapter, UW-Madison. Jeanne was co-coordinator of two annual conferences. Stoughton United Methodist Food Pantry Coordinator has been her focus since retiring. “My FCS background is a perfect match for working with families in need.”

She and her husband Francis live on a farm in Stoughton. They have a combined family of 6 children, 5 grandchildren and 7 great grands.

Cindy Quilling (see info under Awards and Recognition

Janet Powell, CFCS - Co-Conference Coordinator and WAFCS Executive Director

Janet received a bachelor of science degree in Home Economics from Mount Mary University and Master’s of Science degree in Continuing and Vocational Education from UW-Madison as well as a Director of Instruction certification from Edgewood College.

Janet taught middle school FCS at Akira Toki Middle School in Madison for 25 years, followed by 5 years as Learning Coordinator. Janet received the MMSD Distinguished Service Award in 2004. Upon retirement, Janet became WAFCS president (2005, 2010) followed by several years serving on committees for AAFCS. This included chair of the AAFCS Centennial planning committee in 2009. Janet has been a mentor two times for the AAFCS Leadership Academy. She has received Teacher of the Year recognition from WAFCS and AAFCS and received the WAFCS Leader Award in 2012 and the AAFCS Leader award in 2013. In 2018 Janet received the Madonna Medal for Professional Excellence from Mount Mary University. Janet became executive director for WAFCS in 2014.

Janet and her husband, Fred, have four sons and three daughter in laws. They became first time grandparents in May to twins, Oskar and Ophelia who live in St. Paul, MN.

Hopefully you have had an opportunity to read about your WAFCS representatives. As you can tell, there is a wealth of experience and expertise and diversity here. Consider becoming a part of this group. You will find outstanding mentors who will be there to help you throughout your professional life. A side benefit is wonderful support and friendship.

Congratulations are in order!!! WAFCS member and former member of the board, Kayla Correll was awarded the AAFCS National Teacher of the Year during the 2020 AAFCS Virtual Conference. To honor Kayla and the 2020 WAFCS award winners, WAFCS will host a virtual Zoom Celebration Party yet this Fall. Information will be forthcoming.

IN THE NEWS!!
The 2020 WAFCS conference at Chula Vista rescheduled to October has been CANCELLED due to Covid-19 concerns. A virtual Zoom conference will be planned for next spring. Watch for news about it!!!
XXIV World Congress 2020 Postponed to 2022

September 4-10, 2022 in Atlanta, Georgia

Home Economics: Soaring Toward Sustainable Development

The IFHE World Congress is a source of inspiration to home economists around the globe. With the COVID-19 front and center, the planning team made a recommendation to postpone the IFHE World Congress 2020. IFHE cares about the health and well-being of every person and keeping everyone safe was first priority. Then since over 60% of the attendees come from other countries, travel was a secondary issue.

As you might imagine, it took time to work with the hotel to postpone without a substantial cost. The date in September 2022 was the only one the Hyatt had available from June-October 2022 since conventions and conferences are booked years ahead.

Planning for Congress continues, and committees are actively looking at what the 2022 experience might look like. The schedule will have the same elements but may look a little different as adjustments are made. For example, Friday nights in Georgia find high school football front and center. Monday of the week is Labor Day. Updates will be continually shared on the website. There is hope the fee for registration will not increase. Hotel room rates were actually reduced slightly.

You can find all updates regarding accepted abstracts and refund options at the XXIV World Congress website.

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