



American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

bringing people together to improve the  
lives of individuals, families & communities

# The GAFCS NEWS

Published by the Georgia Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

August, 2008

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*-An Affiliate of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences—  
Dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals, and families since 1908*

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## *President's Pen*

### *Reflections on Milwaukee.....*

Dear Members:

Approximately, 900 Family and Consumer Sciences and Allied Professionals came together in Milwaukee. It was great to see Georgia's representation at AAFCS this summer. We had almost 40 members attend! Whether it was presentations, committee work or awards, Georgia was well represented.

Georgia was honored to have Janett Gibbs, retired family resource management specialist, former home economist, former University of Georgia home economics instructor, and former Carson-Newman College assistant professor, honored with the American Association of Family &

Consumer Sciences' (AAFCS) most prestigious national award, the AAFCS Distinguished Service Award.

The Second Century of Helping (SCOH) Centennial community service project is zooming full speed ahead. AAFCS Affiliate members are encouraged to record volunteer hours that reflect ways we serve our local communities. To find out more about the SCOH visit [www.aafcs.org](http://www.aafcs.org) and click on the SCHO link under "What's New" or visit [www.aafcs.org/centennial](http://www.aafcs.org/centennial) and click on the SCOH link. Volunteer hours will be traced all year long and recognition of volunteers will be acknowledged in Knoxville. Log in your volunteer so Georgia will be recognize!

The AAFCS Strategic Plan 2008-2013 was approved and GAFCS will be submitting

our Plan of Work soon! Goals for the POW will be addressed based on AAFCS Centennial and sustainability-focused theme of the 2009 AAFCS Annual Conference. Goals include: Celebrate the Past, Launching the Future and Addressing Sustainability.

GAFCS Executive Board Members met in early July fired up to work this year to implement a great annual meeting, increase our membership, participate in centennial celebrations and promote the profession of Family and Consumer Sciences.

I look forward to working with all of you this year and welcome for input and feedback.

*Jessica*

## 2009 GAFCS Annual Conference

GAFCS Annual Conference  
March 26-28, 2009  
Marriot Savannah, “**Evolving Technology: Impact on Individuals, Families and Communities**”  
Our Special Guest will be AAFCS President Sharon (Shelly) Nickols-Richardson, Ph.D.,R.D. The Annual Conference will be held jointly with the Florida Affiliate. The Early Bird Registration Deadline must be postmarked by September 15, 2008. A limited number of hotel rooms are available. Block of rooms will be held until filled or until February 23, 2009, whichever comes first. Make your **HOTEL** reservations **NOW** to be assured the \$179.00 rate conference rate for single or double occupancy! Call the Marriot Savannah Riverfront at 912-233-7722 or 800-285-0398 and ask for “Georgia Association of Family & Consumers Conference.” A conference brochure is enclosed. Make your plans early to attend!

### A Note of Thanks

A special “Thank You” to Melissa Wilmarth and Sami Benson for developing the GAFCS Affiliates Wall of History display. Melissa gets special credit for the final

design and logistics at the AAFCS meeting. We can be very proud of our affiliate display.

### “Eight Ball” Contest

AAFCS sponsored and “Eight Ball” Registration Contest for the Annual Conference this year. State affiliates having at least 10 percent of their affiliate’s member’s register for the conference were entered into the drawing. Tennessee actually won, but Georgia was listed among the 27 states and territories that had at least 10% registering.

### Ten Reasons Why to become a member of AAFCS...

Why be a member of AAFCS...Bringing Professionals together to improve the lives of individuals, families and communities...Why be a member of AAFCS.

We are connected to people more than we have ever been in the past. As I sit at my computer that offers me the opportunity to connect with my world I continue to be amazed how it has also connected me to my professional family. I remember not too long ago one of the major complaints

of AAFCS members was that they did not get enough services for their money. Well, sisters and brothers this in no longer the case! By being involved on line, in a community of practice or on a chat room we are given the opportunity to learn and get new information on a daily basis from experts in the field.

This is an extremely exciting time to be a member of AAFCS. The organization has made a commitment to each member to support them in the information age. New emphasis on Family and Consumer Sciences issues are discussed through communities of practice allowing all members the opportunity to stay abreast to the current and emerging issues. We can choose to be engaged in continued dialogue and learning throughout the year.

It seems that as a Family and Consumer Sciences Professional, to continue to grow professionally we must move beyond commitment to our profession to committed engagement within our profession. We now have the tools to do it at our  **fingertips**.

The benefits of AAFCS Membership are listed below. I encourage each current member to identify at least one professional that is not currently a member

and invite them to join AAFCS.

1. Engagement with experts from throughout the county.
2. Networking opportunities through joining a community of practice and connecting at annual meeting.
3. Journal of Family and Consumer Sciences keeping you in touch with trends, issues, and practical information that can help you in your career.
4. Discounts for AAFCS Annual Conference , publications and products.
5. Insurance plans
6. Advocacy for Public Policy
7. Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal
8. Continuing Education
9. FCS Career Connection
10. Research Grants and Fellowships
11. Professional Certification
12. Education program Accreditation

As Vice President for Membership, I encourage each current member to identify at least one professional that is not currently active in AAFCS. Invite them to join AAFCS and share and experience learning and growing together. For questions contact: [jvalente@uga.edu](mailto:jvalente@uga.edu)  
Prepared by: Janet S. Valente, Ed.D.  
July 14, 2008

## Call for Posters

GAFCS wants you to present. Bring your Visual Displays (charts, graph, and photo's) that encourage informal discussion about a situation/problem, response and results. The deadline for submission is February 15, 2009. For further information, contact Joanne Cavis at uge [2215@uga.edu](mailto:2215@uga.edu)

## GAFCS Fundraisers

-AAFCS Centennial Seal  
Paper weights - \$10  
-DVD: The Life and Legacy of Ellen Swallow Richards-\$20.

*Price does not include shipping.  
Contact Sue Chapman to  
arrange pick-up or mailing.*

## Calls for AAFCS Annual Conference Proposals

***Online Proposal System  
Opens September 16,  
2008 - Proposals due by  
October 14, 2008***

AAFCS invites FCS and related professionals to address sustainability topics by submitting theme-based educational session proposals for the 100th Annual Conference & Expo, *Celebrating the Past, Sustaining the Future*

### THE GAFCS NEWS

is the newsletter for members of the Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Photos and articles from and about members are welcome.

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The American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is a not-profit 501 (c) (3) organization with 10,000 members, dedicated to improving the quality of life for individuals and families. AAFCS and its affiliates may accept charitable contributions, which are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

