



# The GAFCS NEWS

## From the President

It's a great time to be an FCS professional. It's an even greater time to belong to a network of experienced FCS professionals who are willing to share their expertise and offer support to one another. Our content areas are becoming more critical as our nation struggles with issues related to the economy, health care and families in crisis. Family and Consumer Sciences professionals are helping people better manage their financial resources, deal with foreclosure, learn basic life skills, and prevent the spread of the H1N1 virus. In the coming months, we will have many opportunities to increase public awareness of our profession and the value that we provide.

The GAFCS Executive Board met for a full-day planning session on July 9, 2009, in Macon. I was impressed with the commitment and the forward-thinking ideas from our elected officers, and I look forward to working with them in the coming months. Much of our discussion focused on statewide activities that address outcomes identified in the AAFCS Strategic Plan for 2008-2013. Our Georgia Affiliate action plan for

this year includes the following:

- Increase knowledge of the FCS profession among legislators.
- Recruit new professionals and students for membership and mentor for leadership roles.
- Utilize technology to bring recognition to the association.
- Promote CFCS credentials.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate with other associations that promote our same values and goals.

Even though our officers and committees have specific duties and responsibilities that will help us reach these goals, we need you to get involved and to communicate with us. Please feel free to contact any member of the Executive Board (listed below) with your ideas, suggestions and complaints. You may post messages to all GAFCS members who have provided their e-mail addresses by sending an e-mail message addressed to [GAFCS-L@listserv.uga.edu](mailto:GAFCS-L@listserv.uga.edu). Please use this electronic distribution list to share information and network with other FCS professionals throughout the state.

We are also working on creating a presence on *Facebook* for additional opportunities to communicate. We would specifically appreciate your thoughts on recruiting and retaining new members, reaching key stakeholders, and collaborating with other associations.

As I've said many times, I am honored to serve as your president for 2009-2010 and I consider the word "serve" to be my primary responsibility. How could anything be more fun than to love what you do as an FCS professional and feel that it matters?

*Sue*

### 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 notprofit 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.

# FACS: Celebrating 100 Years of Service DVD

Visit the Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Website today and view our public service announcement DVD, FACS: Celebrating 100 Years of Service.

This short PSA provides a snapshot on the work of FACS professionals. It celebrates the FACS field which is grounded in education critically relevant in today's world. ...Teaching people how to

spend smart, eat right, raise a family and live well.

Download a copy today for your use. Broadcast ready copies of the DVD are available for purchase of \$10. Send an email to [jvalente@uga.edu](mailto:jvalente@uga.edu) to request and order broadcast ready copies.

The Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Economics challenges you to use this

PSA throughout Georgia marketing and promoting FACS at meetings, with students, businesses, and legislators.

## *From the President Elect, Katie Gilbert*

Hello to all of our wonderful members in GAFCS. I am so very excited to be serving you as your new president elect for the 2009-2010 year. As part of my responsibilities I am going to be planning our 2010 annual conference. As most of you know by now we have changed the date of this event to **April 15-17, 2009**. The conference will still be held at Brasstown Valley Resort & Spa in Young Harris, Georgia. This is an exciting time for our organization and this setting will be a wonderful and relaxing place for us get energized with FACS. Our theme for this year will be "Sustaining the Future". I look forward to us looking at different ways we all can "Sustain our Futures" in our homes, communities and our world. I can't wait to see every member there, yes I said every member. I want everyone to be as excited about FACS and GAFCS as I am. I hope that this upcoming annual conference will do that for every member that attends. I look forward to meeting all of you then and thank you for your continued support of GAFCS.

## Top Jobs in FCS

"It's a great time to be an FCS professional! Why? Check out this article on top college majors."

CNN.com article <http://www.cnn.com/2009/LIVING/worklife/08/19/cb.unusual.majors.jobs/index.html>

Areas where jobs opportunities are emerging from overlooked majors:

1. Family and consumer sciences, including consumer economics and personal finance
2. Linguistics
3. Recreation management
4. Food science
5. Packaging
6. Criminology
7. Social work
8. Urban studies
9. Natural resources
10. Gerontology

## Let's kick-off the *next* 100 years of membership!

What an accomplishment! As of 2009 the professional field of Family and Consumer Sciences has achieved "Centennial Status!" While this success should be celebrated rightfully, it nonetheless leaves us with the implicit challenge to make it to the next 100 years as a professional organization. The key to ensuring a second era of FACS lies in any organization's backbone - membership.

It's safe to say that the 2009 centennial celebration has re-ignited passion for our field. Let us hold onto this excitement and fervor by staying active at the state level. As members we constitute our field's vitality and ensure its future success. We must encourage our colleagues to formally join GAFCS, as well as others who have an invested interest in our field, such as students or retired professionals. Furthermore, keeping an active membership with GAFCS helps our state maintain its strong voice at the national level. Member feedback represents what others all over the state may also be feeling, so your membership truly makes a difference in influencing where GAFCS should be focusing its attention. Lastly, now more than ever we must strive to represent our association in the best light possible to set the tone for the next century. Active membership ensures a direct line of communication to events happening at the national level, provides a multitude of networking and professional development opportunities, and proudly reflects Georgia's strong foundation of membership.

Cont'd...

GAFCS thanks you for all that you've done to help our field reach the centennial mark. Now we kindly ask for your help as members to keep seeing it through to the future successes we know are in store for Family and Consumer Sciences!

# A Message from AAFCS President

*Dear Affiliate Leaders,*

I need you and your members to help with ***Taking it to the Streets!*** If you were at the Centennial Celebration on Saturday night in Knoxville, and/or read the July and August FACS (parts excerpted below), you know I mentioned that we need to respond quickly to address issues of major concern as an association and profession.

Well an opportunity has presented itself to do just that! Nancy Bock, Vice President of Education of The Soap and Detergent Association feels that AAFCS can play a major role in the upcoming cold and flu season especially with the impending danger of an H 1 N 1 virus (Swine Flu) pandemic and they will partner with us in this effort. This means that we will all focus on one major issue at the same time, help the public, and be recognized as a family and consumer sciences organization and profession.

We are often frustrated that the public is not aware of our profession and does not perceive us as leaders. ***"Taking it to the Streets"*** can help us do just that. Why the title ***"Taking it to the Streets?"*** Our strength is that we are fully equipped to create learning opportunities for individuals and groups regardless of circumstances and demographics. Our already established networks and community partnerships can provide a vital connection to the general public via (the streets) schools, markets, community meetings, libraries, etc.

**Intended Outcomes:** AAFCS will provide leadership and support to empower Family and Consumer Sciences Professionals to better serve the general public

and the populations with whom they work in addressing this pandemic.

## **Why H 1 N 1 at this time?**

It is a serious problem!

Just weeks before the annual AAFCS Conference, the World Health Organization (WHO) signaled that a global pandemic of Influenza A (H1N1) was underway by raising the worldwide pandemic alert to Phase 6. At the time, there were ongoing community level outbreaks of the virus in multiple parts of the world. Since then, in the United States, significant illness has continued into the summer.

In early July, the White House stated that this is an issue of **major** concern (nationally and internationally) and that public awareness of this issue is vital. A message from Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health and Human Services, Janet Napolitano, Secretary of Homeland Security, and Arne Duncan, Secretary of Education, who are leading the efforts to prepare our Nation for the coming flu season, stated that "the most critical steps to mitigating the effects of 2009-H1N1 won't take place in Washington — they will take place in your homes, schools and community businesses." ***Is this not "Taking it to the Streets?"***

## **What can we do?**

I believe there are strong implications for us at both the national and international level! Professionals can distribute appropriate information through materials, lessons, workshops, etc. We can also proactively engage other stakeholders on the community level and provide leadership for community education programs. **Who?**-EVERYone can play a role...small or large! So start thinking about what **you** can do in your professional practice setting: Lesson plans, CD's, DVD's, contests, videos-contest on youtube, distributing educational materials, presentations, workshops, speak at teacher and parent meetings, service learning (e.g., students teach younger children the Elmo song on Flu.gov).

Go to the websites mentioned below right away for information and start developing and using your ideas as soon as possible. I'll be updating each month in the FACS and will also send you more information as I get it.

## **H1N1 Resources**

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): [H1N1 Information](http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/) <http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/> has lots of information including Elmo of Sesame Street and a song to encourage children to wash their hands thoroughly.
- [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov) is also a great resource. Check it out for information on 2009 Flu Prevention Video PSA Contest, research activities and lots of up to date information.
- World Health Organization (WHO) <http://www.who.int/en/>
- US Department of Education (DOE): [Flu Response](http://www.edgovblogs.org/duncan/2009/04/additional-flu-resources-for-school-leaders-seeking-guidance/) <http://www.edgovblogs.org/duncan/2009/04/additional-flu-resources-for-school-leaders-seeking-guidance/>

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Continued from page 5—AAFCS President's Message

- National Education Association Health Information Network (NEA/HIN): [Swine Flu Information](http://www.neahin.org/swineflu/index.html) <http://www.neahin.org/swineflu/index.html>
- [H1N1 Flu & U.S. Schools Questions & Answers](http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan/pandemic/guidance/flu-faqs.pdf) <http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/emergencyplan/pandemic/guidance/flu-faqs.pdf>

The Soap and Detergent Association: [Hand Hygiene](http://www.cleaning101.com/HandHygiene/index.cfm) <http://www.cleaning101.com/HandHygiene/index.cfm> and [Household Cleaning](http://www.cleaning101.com/house/index.cfm) <http://www.cleaning101.com/house/index.cfm> resources for schools and families. There are many no cost resources available through the Soap and Detergent Association at [www.cleaning101.com](http://www.cleaning101.com). Just e mail Nancy Bock at [nbock@cleaning101.com](mailto:nbock@cleaning101.com) to request them. There are also lots of neat things for young children.

**Don't forget to sign up for the free webinar held on Thursday, September 24, 2009, 6 PM EDT. E Mail [info@cleaning101.com](mailto:info@cleaning101.com) or visit the website. [www.cleaning101.com/handhygeine](http://www.cleaning101.com/handhygeine).**

### What can you do as leaders?

Get the information out to your members as soon as possible by forwarding this message and encouraging them to become involved right away. It is important that you keep track of their activities (how many involved, what they are doing) so you can let us know what's going on in your state! It may be a good idea to appoint someone. Send me your ideas to share with our members! [msinnovate@aol.com](mailto:msinnovate@aol.com)

**IMPORTANT:** Whatever you do to in "Taking it to the Streets," be sure you to include **AAFCS** and that you are a **family and consumer sciences professional** in your presentations, written materials and more!

**Snowflakes melt alone - but together they can be traffic stoppers!**

**Teamwork allows common people to attain uncommon results.**

**Some people want it to happen, some wish it to happen, others make it happen...**

***Let's make it happen together!***

***Marilyn Swierk, CFCS, AAFCS President 2009-10***

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## Georgia Students Participate at the 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

By: Traci Jarrett, Student Unit Chair

Five students from the University of Georgia and one student from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College gathered with 1,000 other members in Knoxville, Tennessee to participate in AAFCS's Centennial Celebration. While at the conference, the Georgia students and other Student Unit members had a fun-filled week including the Student Unit social night with AAFCS trivia.

Students also attended the Student Unit business meeting, where outgoing officers were recognized and the incoming officers were inducted. This year, we have the pleasure of having two national officers from Georgia: Linsey Johnson as the Chair Elect and Traci Jarrett as the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair.

Both students and professionals participated in the 2009 Student Unit Outreach Project: Recycle for Sight, where over 500 eyeglasses and sunglasses were donated, and also took part in the Keep Knoxville Beautiful project. The Student Unit sold the Betty Lamp tattoos to raise money for the Centennial Campaign. The Georgia students also had the privilege of helping facilitate the "Research to Practice" Rounds and attended the "Edible Art" demonstration.



Georgia students and Mrs. Connie Rash, Adviser, at the Centennial Celebration

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Counselor serves as member of  
 Nominating Committee

## Call for Award Nominations—GAFCS/AAFCS

Each year Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (GAFCS) recognizes those who have exhibited a commitment to their professional association and community through their talents and support. We offer an opportunity at the annual conference for the membership to thank, give credit, and offer public recognition for the many creative efforts accomplished throughout the year. The awards committee, chaired by Pearl Solomon, would like to take the opportunity to invite you to nominate worthy honorees that fit the various categories. The awards will be presented at the annual conference in April; however, nominations and applications must be submitted to the awards chair by **January 15, 2010**. If you would like to nominate someone (including yourself), please follow the instructions as given on the web site. **It is important that all applications and supportive materials be presented in one package following the guidelines as printed by January 15, 2010.**

**Please mail completed applications to:** Pearl Solomon  
GAFCS Awards Committee Chair  
UGA/Bibb County Extension  
736 Riverside Drive  
Macon, Georgia 31201

### GAFCS /AAFCS Awards

**AAFCS First Time Scholarship** -Awarded to a GAFCS member attending the AAFCS annual meeting for the first time. The award covers the cost of registration.

**GAFCS Undergraduate Student Unit Scholarship**- Any student in a Georgia college or university that is currently a member of the student association (undergraduate only) is eligible.

**Julius Benton Professional Improvement Award** – Any GAFCS member engaged in a personal improvement project that enables the individual to develop and share communications and public relations skills which exemplify the goals of GAFCS.

**GAFCS/AAFCS New Achiever Award Nominee**- Recognizes emerging professionals who have shown potential significant contributions in the field of Family and Consumer Science. Any Family and Consumer Sciences professional age 35 or younger and an active member of GAFCS/AAFCS is eligible.

**GAFCS Outstanding Family and Consumer Sciences Professional**- Any Family and Consumer Sciences professional who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to GAFCS and AAFCS at the district, state and national level is eligible for this award.

**GAFCS/AAFCS Teacher of the Year Award**- Recipients must be employed full time as a permanent Family and Consumer Sciences teacher in Georgia and been a member of GAFCS for a minimum of 3 years.

**AAFCS Leaders Award**-The Leaders Award began with the AAFCS 75th anniversary when it was established to identify and honor family and consumer science professionals who have made significant contributions to the field through their involvement with AAFCS. The Leaders Award guidelines and forms will be on the AAFCS web site in the fall of 2009.

**Wiley-Berger Award for Volunteer Services Nominee**- This award honors an outstanding volunteer whose work has enhanced the well-being of others. It posthumously honors David R. Wiley, D. Reid and Agnes Miller Berger for their outstanding contribution to Family and Consumer Sciences.

**Please note that some of the awards are national recognition, however the applications will be evaluated on the state level with recommendations for submission to AAFCS. All (AAFCS and GAFCS) applications must be submitted to GAFCS/Awards committee for review. Upon receipt of the applications, those that require forwarding will be forwarded as needed. Should you have questions concerning these awards, please call Pearl Solomon at (478)751-6338, prior to the deadline or you may email me at [asolomon@uga.edu](mailto:asolomon@uga.edu).**