2018 GAFCS Annual Conference

Join us for our 2018 GAFCS Annual Conference! We will be meeting at the University of Georgia - Griffin Campus on March 23, and would love to see you there. Join professionals from across the state as we focus on Financial Fitness: Trends, Innovations, and Impacts, and rekindle the flame of your Betty Lamp! Scheduled speakers include: Lori Silverman, General Manager from the Clark Howard Consumer Action Center; Dr. Kirk Kealey, Director of the Center for Food Product Innovation and Commercialization; a representative from Coveris, addressing the connection between their business and consumer impacts; a representative of Junior Achievement of Georgia; and Joanne Cavis, sharing more about the AAFCS Annual Conference in Atlanta this summer. Registration and additional information can be found at www.gafcs.org. We can’t wait to see you there!

-Megan Palmer, President-Elect

Friends and Families Georgia Reunion - An Outing to the Atlanta Braves

GAFCS is considering a pre-conference event – an Outing to the Atlanta Braves in SunTrust Park – on Saturday, June 23, 2018. The game is at 4:00 pm. The Outing package would include a Coca Cola Corner ticket, voucher for a 20-oz Coca Cola product, snacks bag and plastic bottle of water, transportation to and from the game from the Marriott Marquis. The price is $40/person. You do not have to attend the AAFCS Conference to participate in the Braves Outing. For those who live in the Atlanta area, take MARTA to the Peachtree Center station and use the skywalk to the Marriott Marquis and save the expensive parking fees of downtown Atlanta. Board transportation at the hotel. We think that this will be a fun event to bring us together and show off SunTrust Park and the Atlanta Braves to our colleagues around the United States. Please help with the survey.

The 109th AAFCS Annual Conference & EXPO will be held at the Atlanta Marriott Marquis hotel (265 Peachtree Center Street, downtown near Centennial Olympic Park), June 24-27, 2018.

We are surveying our members and friends to estimate how many tickets to purchase at the group price. Please copy and paste the following link into your browser: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Z3R7PZ3 to help us gauge interest in the Braves outing. Deadline for Survey is February 28th.
From Student Unit to GaDOE: A successful FCS journey

“Where would I be without GAFCS? I became involved with GAFCS as an undergrad student at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College (ABAC). My involvement continued as I transferred to the University of Georgia (UGA). During my time at ABAC and UGA, I had the wonderful opportunity to serve as an AAFCS National Student Unit Officer from 2008-2011. I was privileged to serve as the 2010-2011 AAFCS Student Unit Chair, there is no way that I can replace this experience in my life. I was able to network with fellow students and professionals from across the United States, learn more about the operation of the organization, travel, and heighten my leadership skills. Everything I learned as a student transferred to my time as a FACS High School teacher in Tift County High School. In (2014-2015), I was awarded with the opportunity to serve as the GAFCS President.

As I began my journey as the Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) Program Specialist at GaDOE, I have said to myself, “Where would I be without GAFCS?” As GAFCS President, one of my main objectives of the year was to plan the GAFCS Annual Conference. Through this, I worked with fellow FACS Professionals outside of the secondary teaching atmosphere. The networks that I made have been a benefit as I planned for the GATFACS Winter Conference and other items of interest that are occurring for FACS at GaDOE. This includes connections I have across the United States.

As a student or teacher, GAFCS can be very beneficial! The organization provides professional development, leadership, and networking opportunities for all members. Anyone in the FACS world has the chance to join GAFCS and take advantage of the experiences that will be awarded to you.”

-Linsey Shockley

Archived Materials Needed

Members, Don Bower and Karen Jones have been getting materials ready to take to the Georgia Archives in Atlanta. We could use important documents, such as conference programs or meeting minutes from 2007 to the present. We also welcome pictures. Per Georgia Archives guidelines, photos need dates and names of individual or groups written on the back. If you have materials to be archived, please send them to Karen Jones, 130 Devereux Drive, Athens, GA 30606. Thank you!

Report from the 2018 Conference Committee

We need your assistance with the AAFCS 109th Annual Conference and EXPO. There are many tasks that take many hands to complete. Saturday morning volunteers are needed at the hotel to set up GAFCS Booth, stuff bags for AAFCS Registration, deliver “goodie bags” to the Leadership Council, etc. What can you do?

We need individually packaged snack items to give away – Who do you know that could supply some?

Then, during the conference, we need to staff the GAFCS booth. We will send a sign-up spread sheet out to our members in May. There are other opportunities for all conference attendees to help with room monitor, ticket-takers, concurrent session facilitators, etc. GAFCS is responsible for obtaining and managing all volunteers during the conference.

You helped us pull off a great marketing for 2018 in Dallas ----- NOW, we need ALL of YOU to show our exceptional Georgia hospitality.

Contact Joanne Cavis at JSCavis@gmail.com for more information and to volunteer.
Keeping it in the Family

GAFCS is fortunate to have a mother and daughter team on our Executive Board. Jenna Black is a long-time AAFCS/GAFCS member. She has taught Early Childhood Education at Decatur High School for an amazing 31 years, and was instrumental in establishing the Frasier Center Lab School in 1991. She was named the City Schools of Decatur Teacher of the Year for 2016/17. Jenna currently serves as the VP for Professional Development. Her daughter, Sarah Catherine, graduated Summer 2017 from the College of Family and Consumer Sciences at The University of Georgia, with a double major in Dietetics and Consumer Foods. She was very active in the Student Unit of FCS at UGA, and was an Ambassador for the College of FCS during her senior year. Sarah Catherine was also very active on the national level, becoming an AAFCS member her freshman year. She attended the AAFCS National Conference every year during her college career. In addition, she served as first vice chair and chair of the AAFCS Student Unit. After graduation, she received a Culinary Internship through the Disney College at Be Our Guest in the Magic Kingdom. Sarah Catherine currently serves as Secretary on the GAFCS Executive Board.

Jenna has been a wonderful mentor to Sarah Catherine, making sure she knew the benefits of being an AAFCS member as well as the importance of providing service to the profession of Family and Consumer Sciences. We greatly appreciate both of them for their commitment and on-going involvement in the profession! -Karen Jones, President

Votes at State Conference are Needed

Members our state conference is fast approaching and I hope you are making plans to attend. According to our By-Laws, members are to be notified thirty days beforehand that a membership vote will take place. So here is your notice as there will be one very important vote during the state business meeting. The membership needs to vote on our updated By-Laws. A majority of two-third votes of those attending the meeting will determine the vote. Let your voice be heard by attending and voting.

A draft of the updated By-Laws are posted on the GAFCS website for your reviewing. The vote will take place on March 23, 2018 at the University of Georgia Griffin Campus, Griffin, Georgia in Stuckey Auditorium during the state business meeting held during lunch.

Also, our associations' new handbook is posted on the website. The officers approved the handbook during the September 2017 board meeting. As a reminder, the membership does not have to vote on the handbook.

If you have questions or concerns about the By-Laws or Handbook, please contact Helen Carter, Counselor at hrcarter@bellsouth.net.

Your vote is important and it counts if you are a current member. So register for the state conference and let your vote be counted. -Helen Carter
Did we miss something? All GAFCS members can submit articles for the quarterly newsletter! If you have information you'd like to share with the membership, email Ivy Odom at ivyodom@gmail.com.

GAFCS exhibited at the GATFACS Career Fair & Expo

On January 26, 2018, GAFCS exhibited at the Career Fair & Expo of the Georgia Association of Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences (GATFACS) conference which was held at the Grand Hyatt Buckhead. GAFCS members: Harrilean Conner and Arlene Fitts Winfrey greeted the teachers. They gave away mint patties with strips on each one stating “GAFCS is Mint 4 U.”

To promote AAFCS membership, teachers were asked to complete a form for a door prize drawing, which was held on Saturday morning. The winner, Denise Barge of Jones Lo High School in Milledgeville, Georgia, received a free registration to attend the 2018 GAFCS State Conference. Welcome, Denise Barge! We proudly displayed our membership banner and gave out AAFCS information sheets. GAFCS conference date savers were placed on each table to promote the upcoming conference. It is important for GAFCS members to connect with their local FCS middle and high school teachers and FCCLA advisors to increase and maintain membership and promote “Say YES to FCS” with friends and colleagues.

- Arlene Fitts Winfrey

Register NOW for the 2018 Annual Conference and take advantage of early bird specials!
https://www.aafcs.org/ac2018/register

Above: Arlene with friends - 2 Middle School teacher Priscilla Scott (Henry County) & Christine Mayfield (Dekalb County)

Below: GAFCS Winner Denise Barge with Arlene Fitts Winfrey and Harileen Conner