

Mrs. Linda Gayle Smith
740 Lower Myrick Road
Laurel, MS 39440

2006-2009 Conventions

June 22-25, 2006
Charlotte, NC

June 21-24, 2007
Reno, NV

June 19-22, 2008
Milwaukee, WI

June 25-28, 2009
Knoxville, TN

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MAFCS

Focus

Mississippi Association of Family
and Consumer Sciences, Inc.

Fall 2005



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Special Points of Interest:

• MAFCS Annual Meeting
February 16, 2006
Jackson, MS

• AAFCS Annual Meeting
June 22-25, 2006
Charlotte, NC

• MAFCS Web Page
www.mafcs.com

Visit this site to keep abreast of committee members, awards offered, student activities, meeting dates, etc.

President's Message – Linda Gayle Smith, MS, RD, LD, CFCS

"The real act of discovery consists not in finding new lands but in seeing with new eyes."

Marcel Proust

Our main goal for the Mississippi Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (MAFCS) is to be the organization recognized as the driving force in bringing people together to improve the lives of individuals, families, and communities. In order to accomplish our goal as members of MAFCS, we must focus on CHANGE and OPTIMISM. I know some of us have difficulty with these two words because they create new environments that we may find uncomfortable. But to be successful and reach our goal, our organization must be able to ride the waves that these two words create.

In January of last year, the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) Board of Directors, after carefully weighing all current information and current circumstances, decided our headquarters would remain in the Washington, D.C. area. This was not a quick or easy decision to make. Ultimately, the Board of Directors determined the cost savings to relocate to Knoxville was no longer sufficient to offset the risk of loss of organizational memory and disruption of member service, and are better served to put our resources and energies into implementation of the Strategic Plan.

As members of AAFCS, we had much to be excited about in the year 2005. At this time I will make you aware of three issues: (1) While operating revenues have been a challenge for several years, we are blessed with a very strong cash reserve of nearly \$10M, some of which is restricted for awards, grants, and scholarships. This year, we will award approximately \$160,000 to individuals! (2) AAFCS is investing about \$500,000 in technology to update and upgrade our outdated systems and enable you to better communicate with one another and access information more readily. (3) We are presently in the process of revamping the governance structure to enable us to perform more effectively as a member driven organization, geared for the 21st century in a manner that is in alignment with the Strategic Plan.

As many of you know, our membership numbers are down. I encourage everyone to renew your membership when it comes due. Those members who have maintained an active membership believe in MAFCS and AAFCS are working to see our goals become a reality. The AAFCS Board of Directors in June recommended that our dues not increase \$10 as scheduled for the FY 2005-2006 and remain at \$135.00. When compared with other Organizations, our dues are very low.

Presently, MAFCS will have its Annual Meeting in Jackson, MS on February 16, 2006. The program is still in the planning stages at this time. The 97th Annual Meeting of AAFCS will be held on June 22-25, 2006, in Charlotte, NC. This year the theme for both meetings is "Life Skills! Solutions for Thriving in Threatening Times." As we all have seen dramatic change in our world during the last few years, professionals in the area of Family and Consumer Sciences are needed more than ever to assist with improving the quality of life in Mississippi. See you at the meeting next month.

Northern District Fall Meeting

The Northern District of the Mississippi Association of Family and Consumer Sciences held their Fall Meeting on Friday, September 30, 2005. As usual, the meeting was very informative and productive.

A tour led by Henry Outlaw, Ph.D. of the Delta Center for Culture and Learning was very enlightening.

Members toured famous blues, historical, and civil rights sites.

They were able to shop at McCarty's and Peter's Pottery.

Finally, they ate lunch at Ground Zero owned by Morgan Freeman.

Southern District

The Southern District of the Mississippi Association of Family and Consumer Sciences are currently in the process of reorganizing to combine districts. Due to the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, program planning was further delayed.

Sponsors for the 2005 Annual Meeting

A heartfelt thank you is extended once again to the sponsors of the 2005 Annual Meeting.

Mississippi Poultry Association

P. O. Box 10383
Jackson, MS 39236-3309
Phone: (601) 355-0248
Fax: (601) 353-3840

National Pork Producers Council

P. O. Box 13309
Des Moines, IA 50306
Phone: (515) 223-2600
Fax: (515) 223-2646

2005-2006 MAFCS EXECUTIVE BOARD

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2006 Annual Meeting

The MACS Annual Meeting will be held on February 16, 2006, in Jackson, MS. The theme for the Annual Meeting: Life Skills! Solutions for Thriving in Threatening Times. You are invited to come together with professionals in family and consumer sciences and related fields for the Annual Meeting, and continue working on solutions to today's most serious societal problems.

See the tentative insert of the agenda or visit the website www.mafcs.com for updates.

"VISION & MISSION"

The American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences is recognized as the comprehensive and integrative source of knowledge and the primary voice focusing on family, individual, and community well-being.

The mission of the American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences is to effect the optimal well-being of families and individuals by empowering members to act on continuing and emerging concerns; focusing the expertise of members for action on critical issues; assuming leadership among organizations with mutual purposes.

Silent Auction

A Silent Auction will be held at the Annual Meeting. The items are too numerous to list. You are invited to participate in this part of the meeting. Feel free to bring items to be auctioned. You are guaranteed to take home some cherished keepsakes.

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For further information contact

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## Membership Appeal

Join AAFCS Now!

As a member, you become part of the only national organization representing family and consumer sciences professionals across practice areas.

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MAFCS Members!

Renew your membership when it comes due. Our dues for FY 2005-2006 will remain at \$135.00. **If you were located in a disaster area, you will not have to pay dues for the upcoming year.**

"Betty Lamp"

In 1926, the American Home Economics Association adopted the Betty Lamp as a symbol for the association. The lamp derived its name from the German words "besser" or "bete," meaning "to make better."



Mildred Chamberlain of Chicago submitted the design for the lamp.

"Mentoring is about the circle of life and the passing on of knowledge to new generations."

FCS Profession: Our Legacy, Our Destiny

What an impressive legacy AAFCS has—empowering consumers and strengthening families and communities for almost 100 years! Although family and consumer sciences (FCS) can celebrate this legacy in each specialty, our destiny depends on moving the profession forward amidst formidable challenges.

At least four formidable challenges exist.

Challenge 1: Increasing the number of FCS university administrators, faculty, and other FCS professionals within AAFCS.
Challenge 2: Cultivating preprofessional students in AAFCS strengthens student ownership of FCS careers.
Challenge 3: Increasing employment of FCS administrators and faculty with no FCS degrees is problematic.

Challenge 4: Increasing fragmentation of FCS units in higher education is perhaps the most daunting challenge. Fragmentation is highly problematic if FCS professionals are to be adequately prepared for the increasing emphasis on the holistic, integrated approach to FCS.

FCS Students Represent The Future!