

FOR AND ABOUT THE  
MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION FOR FAMILY & COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION



**OUR MISSION**

To strengthen individuals, families and communities through education, leadership and action.

**SUMMER 2018**

**MAFCE President's News**



Well summer is finally here. I hope you enjoyed your District Meeting. In the past articles we learned about injuries or diseases of the brain now we will be learning about infections of the brain. The first infection is Meningitis or the inflammation of the membranes surrounding your brain and spinal cord. Most cases in the U.S. are caused by a viral infection, but bacterial and fungal infections are other causes. Some cases of meningitis improve without treatment in a few weeks. Others can be life-threatening and require emergent antibiotic treatment. Seek immediate medical care if you suspect that someone has meningitis. Early treatment of bacterial meningitis can prevent serious complications. The symptoms mimic the

flu and may develop over several hours or over a few days. Symptoms are: sudden high fever, stiff neck, severe headache, and headache with nausea or vomiting, confusion or difficulty concentrating, seizure, sleepiness or difficulty waking, sensitivity to light, no appetite or thirst and a skin rash. Seek immediate medical care as bacterial meningitis is serious and can be fatal. Delayed treatment increases the risk of permanent brain damage or death. It's also important to talk to your doctor if someone you come in contact with has been diagnosed with meningitis. You may need to take medications to prevent getting the infection. Bacterial meningitis may be caused by an ear or sinus infection, a skull fracture, or rarely after some surgeries. Several strain of bacteria can cause bacterial meningitis: *Streptococcus pneumoniae*; this causes ear or sinus infections. *Neisseria meningitidis*; this bacteria commonly causes an upper respiratory infection, then enters the blood stream and goes to the brain. This bacteria is highly contagious. *Listeria monocytogenes*; this bacteria is found in unpasteurized cheese, hot dogs and luncheon meats. Some forms of bacterial meningitis are preventable by vaccines.

Viral meningitis is usually mild and often clears on its own. Viruses such as herpes simplex virus, HIV, mumps and West Nile can cause viral meningitis. Meningitis can be spread through coughing, sneezing, kissing, or sharing eating utensils. The steps to prevent it are: Wash your hands, don't share anything that touches your lips (lip balm), eat a healthy diet and cover your mouth when coughing or sneezing.

Encephalitis is the inflammation of the brain also. The most common cause is a virus. It often causes only mild flu-like symptoms. It is rarely life threatening. Symptoms are: Headache, fever, aches in muscles or joints, fatigue, seizures, loss of sensation in the face or body, problems with speech or hearing and confusion. Seek medical care if you are experiencing any of these. Common virus that can cause encephalitis are: Herpes simplex virus (HSV) Type 1 – associated with cold sores and fever blisters around your mouth and type 2-associated with genital herpes, Epstein Barr Virus which commonly causes

mononucleosis and the varicella-zoster virus (which is chickenpox and shingles), West Nile (from mosquitos), tick borne viruses, rabies virus, and child hood viruses such as measles, mumps and German measles. To prevent this disease practice good hygiene, don't share utensils, get vaccinations, protect yourself from mosquitoes and ticks and stay away from dying birds or animals.

As you can see both of these infections of the brain act similar so seek medical treatment when you are not feeling well. You are worth the money!

If your county has had any member who has passed away I would need that information before the convention. Send me a photo or the name of the funeral home they used.

Just a reminder that the applications for state board are due by July 1<sup>st</sup> and they can be found on our web site or from your District Director. We are in need of a Secretary. Applications for State scholarship to the convention are due to Audrey Warren by July 15<sup>th</sup>. Her address is 120 Shimon Court Marquette, Mi. 49855. The Heart of FCE application is due August 1<sup>st</sup> to me. If you are going to have a 50 year anniversary of your membership in MAFCE please let me know by July 1<sup>st</sup> so I can get the certificate from NAFCE. Please try to sell your raffle tickets and if you do not sell tickets then have another type of fundraiser instead.

Stay healthy and we hope to see you at the convention in Battle Creek.

Kathy Couchene  
MAFCE President

### **LOWER PENINSULA INTERNATIONAL DAY (WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2018)**

Come join us for the Lower Peninsula's International Day. The day begins at 10:00 am at the Kimball Township Fire Station #1 at 1970 Allen Rd. We will have a program on the Great Lakes Lighthouse Keepers. There will be a light lunch after the program, followed by a trip to the Fort Gratiot Lighthouse, grounds and hospital (FYI there are 80 steps going to the top of the lighthouse for those who are daring enough to attempt it). Cost is \$20.00 per person.

WHAT: Michigan's Lower Peninsula's International Day

WHEN: Wednesday, August 22, 2018

WHEERE: Kimball Township Fire Station #1  
1970 Allen Road, Kimball MI

TIME: 10:00 AM

COST: \$20.00 per person. Make checks payable to: L.C.F.C.E.

DEADLINE: Monday, August 13, 2018

QUESTIONS: Marie Haas 810-441-3815

MAIL TO: Marie Haas  
72 Edgewood Lane  
Lapeer MI 48446

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNTY: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

**Come be a part of the MAFCE Convention in Battle Creek**

We will have a tour, "Meet Battle Creek" on Tuesday, October 2, 2018. Meet in the lobby of McCamly Plaza Hotel. Early registration begins at 11:30. Boarding the bus begins at 12:45 and the bus will leave PROMPTLY at 1:00 p.m. The tour will include Heritage Mile, WMU Aviation, CW Post Cereal Museum and Turkeyville for dinner on your own.

Joyce Weiss has come up with a fun way to raise money for MAFCE by arranging for a fun night for \$2.00. You will not be disappointed. Join us for the fun on Tuesday evening in the Montgomery Room (ground level) at 7:30 pm !

The convention will begin on Wednesday, October 3. Breakfast will be "on your own" and registration will be from 9:30-11:00 a.m. There you will get your name tag and folder, voting delegates will check in, you may purchase cash raffle tickets and tickets for the Game of Chance, and set up educational displays and drop off your cultural arts.

The county presidents will meet with Kathy Couchene from 10:30-11:30 in Branson II. Go to the 16<sup>th</sup> floor for lunch at 11:30.

Those members carrying banners should meet outside Branson II at 12:45. The opening session will be in Branson II on the main floor at 1:00 p.m. We encourage all participants to come to all of the meetings. Those receiving scholarships are required to attend all meetings.

I am looking forward to hearing our keynote speaker, Richard Schlatter. He won the 2017 Art Prize in Grand Rapids, Michigan. His topic is "A Penny for My Thoughts".

Our educational speaker will be Shari Montgomery. She is from the "House of Promise". Her topic fits in with our "Human Trafficking" which we have been encouraged to study.

The pool will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m. The Hospitality Room will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor. On Wednesday night there will be a Euchre Tourney. There will be a \$3.00 entry fee and prizes will be awarded.

You get to choose 2 workshops. For more information look elsewhere in this newspaper.

As usual we are asking each county to furnish 3 gifts for the silent auction/game of chance. The gifts should have at least a \$5.00 value. Something new this year is the ticket prices. They will be 3/\$1; 18 for \$5 or 40 for \$10. The more tickets you buy, the greater your chances to win! This year Janet DeGroot and Joan Milhoan will demonstrate and you may choose to paint on rocks during the trade show.

Our entertainment on Thursday night will be Bob Holderbaum. Some years ago Bob was the entertainment at JIL (Jackson, Livingston & Ingham Counties) annual meeting. At the time Bob worked for Goodwill Industries. He plays the guitar and his ukulele and sings. I (Arlona McCallum) participated in a style show with clothes purchased at Goodwill. I layered my clothes and then stripped one layer at a time until I was down to a swim suit. I came across Bob's name this summer when I was going through my files and thought about the possibility of having him for our entertainment for the convention. I e-mailed him and he wrote back and asked me if I was who he thought I was. How could he forget with the name Arlona and modeling a swimsuit? Indeed, I was who he remembered. Bob is retired from Goodwill, but does many entertainment shows.

### Meal Choices for the Banquet

There are three choices for the banquet meal on Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>. Please be sure to circle on the registration form the one you would like to eat. They are as follows:

- Slow Braised Rustic Pot Roast - slow braised pot roast served with roasted root vegetables, mashed potatoes and topped with bordelaise and fried onions.
- Salmon Florentine – char-broiled with Dijon and topped with a walnut herb crust finished with a sundried tomato Florentine sauce served with mashed potatoes and asparagus.
- Chicken Roulade – breast of chicken stuffed with spinach, ricotta, roasted peppers and prosciutto and smoked tomato sauce served with mashed potatoes and asparagus.

### Class Choices for Convention

- A. Opioids/Prescription Meds:** Michigan State Police Community Service Trooper Kristi Angelo will tell how to recognize addiction behavior and encourage people with a problem to seek treatment. Prescription medication safety will also be a topic.
- B. Senior Scams** – Zana Macki from the office of Michigan State Attorney General Bill Schuette will present an informative view of how senior citizens are targeted for all types of phone and mail scams and fraud. She is dynamic and very knowledgeable.
- C. Exercise and Balance Class:** Learn to be a “Sassy Senior” staying safe, strong and self-confident. Traci Jo Hubbard, Health Wellness Coordinator at the Senior Center in Hillsdale will lead a fun filled beginner’s balance and core strengthening program.
- D. How Battle Creek Became the Cereal City:** John Cerva, retired public school teacher, will be talking about the impact that three local business men had on the lives of so many residents.
- E. Fun with Flowers:** Gayle Scantlen of the Harvester Flower Shop in Marshall will show designs that can be easily copied at home and garden to vase techniques.
- F. Creating Solutions for those Impacted by Dementia:** Sherii Sherban serves as executive editor for Scene Magazine, publisher and executive editor for Senior Times of South Central Michigan and is producer and host of “Be Scene On Air” weekly TV show. Sherii has so much to share about local efforts to change the face of Alzheimer’s Disease in Calhoun County through movement, programming and research.

### Message from your Treasurer

I’m sorry to say I will not be able to attend the state convention this year. I will be on a long awaited trip with my husband to celebrate our 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. It has been a goal of ours to take a trip on Route 66 and this is the year! If anyone has a problem about registration, Sharon Rajewski has been good enough to offer her assistance. I will be home until September 21<sup>st</sup> but after that please contact Sharon at 989-697-3460 (home) or 989-450-8853 (cell). I will miss seeing all of you and hope you all have a great time in Battle Creek.

Sincerely,  
Faye Lipinski

**STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM – 2018**

McCarmly Plaza Hotel, 50 Capital Ave., SW, Battle Creek, MI 49017  
Oct. 3-5, 2018 Telephone 1-269-963-7050

Complete this form and send **Check payable to MAFCE**  
TO: Faye Lipinski, Treasurer  
51 Markel Rd., Munger, MI 48747

Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip code \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**WORKSHOP SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY, OCT. 4th**

Indicate your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> choice for each session. Placement is based on first come, first served. If you wish a confirmation, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with this form.

**9:15 – 10:30 am, Workshop #1**

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Opioids/prescription meds
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Senior Scams
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Sassy Seniors

**10:45 – 12:00 am, Workshop #2**

- \_\_\_\_\_ D. Battle Creek, the cereal city
- \_\_\_\_\_ E. Fun with Flowers
- \_\_\_\_\_ F. Solutions for those impacted by dementia

**Registration Fees: FCE Member**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Early Bird – postmarked by Sept. 4th.....\$150
- \_\_\_\_\_ One-Day – postmarked by Sept. 4th.....\$ 80
- \_\_\_\_\_ Regular – postmarked by Sept. 15th.....\$170
- \_\_\_\_\_ One-day – postmarked by Sept 15th.....\$105

(One day option is for Thursday only and includes morning events, lunch, afternoon workshops, evening meal and entertainment.)

**Registration Fees: Non Member**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Whole Convention – postmarked by Sept. 15th.....\$190
- \_\_\_\_\_ One Day (Thursday, Oct. 4th) postmarked by Sept. 4th.....\$105
- \_\_\_\_\_ One Day (Thursday, Oct. 4th) postmarked by Sept. 15th.....\$125

**Pre-Conference Tour** (tour sign up deadline Sept. 11<sup>th</sup>)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday, Oct 2nd – Meet Battle Creek.....\$35.00

**Choice for Banquet** (Please circle one): Pot Roast Salmon Chicken (see description of meals in newsletter)

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (registration fee, tour,) ck # \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle all that currently apply:** First Time to convention Co. President Alumni Non-Member  
50 yr. Member State Board **Would like to be a Hostess** Guest(title) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any food allergies? Yes or No If yes, what items are you allergic to: \_\_\_\_\_

(If you transfer your reservation, please contact Faye Lipinski ASAP. You may cancel your registration for a full refund until Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>. After that deadline, requests for MAFCE refunds due to emergency situations will be considered by the financial committee, after all convention expenses have been paid.)

**Room reservations** are made separately by calling the Hotel at **269-963-7050**. It's good to register early! Be sure to mention that you are attending this convention (MAFCE) to get the discounted rate.

### **MYSTERY GAME NIGHT !!!**

We want to continue in the tradition of a fun evening event after the tour is completed. Once again we are hosting a "Mystery Game Night". Upon completion of the tours, you will have time to get into your rooms then hurry down stairs by 7:30 pm **SHARP** for what will surely be a fun event. The cost is \$2 at the door and we want everyone to attend! Yes...prizes will be awarded which will be supplied by convention committee. See you there.

### **"ATTENTION ALL SONGBIRDS!!"**

The convention will once again enjoy the lovely sounds of our MAFCE choir. Practice will take place Wednesday from 4:15 – 5:30 pm in the boardroom near the hotel entrance in the lobby. I have 3 songs planned with one of the being an invocation. Please join me! All are welcome.

**EDUCATIONAL SPEAKER** at convention will be Shari Montgomery, from the Lansing area. She will be addressing the issue of "Survivors" of Human Trafficking and she is the founder of the "**House of Promise**" which is a non-profit providing survivors of sexual abuse and human trafficking unconditional love, acceptance, and a place to heal. With Shari's help we will continue our dialogue on the subject of Human Trafficking.

**HOSPITALITY ROOM** will be available on Wednesday and Thursday evening following planned events. It is located on the 16th floor of the hotel. There is room for games, and visiting. It is available until we decide to retire for the morning...whoops! I mean evening!

**EUCHRE TOURNAMENT!** Following Wednesday evening's festivities, anyone who is interested can meet us in the hospitality room on the 16<sup>th</sup> floor for a late night euchre tournament. Everyone will receive a deck of cards in their goody bag, so bring your cards and \$3 for a lot of fun. But watch out! Our state president has learned how to play euchre now and is challenging everyone to try and beat her! This will be loads of fun. We hope to start no later than 10 PM. Joyce will have a sign-up sheet during the day and it is important for the tournament that you attend if you sign up.

### **BANNERS**

The opening session of the convention will feature a procession of county and district banners. If your county does not have a banner, now is the time to make one. The procession opens the convention. Bring your banner and plan to gather at 12:45 outside the general session room where you will receive instructions from Jacquie Whidby & Cecil DeVries, Parade Coodinators.

### **GAME OF CHANCE**

We will have the Game of Chance as one of our Convention activities. Each county is requested to bring two or more new or homemade gifts worth at least \$5.00. "Start Your Day the FCE Way" at the registration table by buying lots of tickets for the Game of Chance. Tickets will be 3 for \$1.00, 18 for \$5.00 and new this year 40 tickets for \$10.00. We will also be selling tickets at the Game of Chance event. Have some "FCE FUN" and support our "Great" organization.

### **HOST/HOSTESSES**

The hostess committee is looking for volunteers to serve as host and/or hostess. Host/Hostess responsibilities vary from greeting guests who are entering the dining room at mealtimes to introducing speakers and workshop presenters. We hope to have 30 hosts/hostesses so that each person would be responsible for no more than one event. Each host/hostess assignment will come with instructions. Please circle the host/hostess portion on your registration form. You will meet new friends and enhance your conference experience!

Nancy Conkey & Cecil DeVries, Hostess Coordinators

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING:** What can I do to help victims or those at risk of being trafficked???

SHOP at the W.A.R. BOUTIQUE at the convention. The Alumni group is sponsoring a sale on Wednesday night. There will be fashion accessories, candles, coffee, ornaments, and cards, among other things for sale. Items are made by rescued women around the world, including the USA. Funds from the sales are used to rescue, support, and empower victims of this growing crime. \$300.00 in sales will sustain a woman in a Safe House for a month. Bring your Christmas list and be prepared to shop.

For more information on this organization go to their website: [www.WARINTERNATIONAL.org](http://www.WARINTERNATIONAL.org)

Submitted by: June Owen and Sheri Drake, co-chairs for W.A.R. Boutique sale.

**2018 MAFCE October 2<sup>nd</sup> Pre-Convention Tour-**

The pre-convention bus tour will begin at the lobby of McCamly Plaza Hotel. We will board the bus at 12:45 pm and travel to the Western Michigan University College of Aviation located at the W. K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek. We will be met by Aviation Ambassadors who are also current WMU students. The tour of their facilities will include a focus on their aircraft fleet, state-of-the-art simulators, maintenance labs, and their air traffic control tower. Then we will board the bus and return to downtown Battle Creek where a step-on guide will tell us about important historical sites along the Heritage Mile. We will then journey to Ralph and Virginia Moody's to view their C. W. Post collection. (C. W. Post commercially produced cereal before W. K. Kellogg). Again we will board the bus. Cornwell's Turkeyville will be our next stop for our evening meal (on your own). Cornwell's has a player piano and other items on display as well as a place to shop before returning to McCamly Plaza Hotel. The tour cost is \$35 and you must preregister and pay through your registration form. There is some walking.

**PROGRAM SHARING - "WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU"**

"What's New With You" is an important part of our state convention. It gives counties and study clubs an opportunity to share **ONE** event making a difference in your local area during the past year. Your presentation should be no longer than 3-5 minutes. If you are willing to share, please fill out the Event Sharing form below:

\*\*\*\*\*

Event Sharing Form: State Convention 2018                      Deadline, September 18, 2018

Name\_\_\_\_\_

County/Study Club\_\_\_\_\_

Address (Contact Person)\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbe\_\_\_\_\_

Topic You Wish to Share\_\_\_\_\_

Mail or e-mail this form to:

Nancy Conkey  
145 Vansickle Drive  
Charlotte, MI 48813  
E-mail: [nconkey63@yahoo.com](mailto:nconkey63@yahoo.com)

\*\*\*\*\*

## **DEMONSTRATIONS**

We have two members, Janet DeGroot and Joan Milhoan, who will be doing 3 demonstrations during our Wednesday night event. For a donation to our State treasury, you can learn to make "zipper pins", "doily coasters", and paint "rocks". Please support our organization by participating. Also if anyone else would like to do a demonstration, contact Joyce Weiss so that space can be provided.

**EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS AND GUIDELINES** I hope everyone takes the time to enter one or more displays for convention. How else can we learn what other groups are doing? The displays might encourage other counties to try your project! You may enter all categories. The Hearthfire challenge is structured a bit different than the Educational Displays. Below are the guidelines for entering. Be sure to read carefully. Also included is the registration form to enter 1 or all 5 displays. Be sure to write on the back of the form or on a separate piece of paper the title of each of the displays you enter. A display may be entered by an individual, club or county.

### **GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS**

**1) Choose a project from your county or club and assign it one of the following categories:**

- A) EDUCATION
- B) LEADERSHIP
- C) ACTION

**\* you may enter in EACH category once**

**2) Design your display board on your chosen topic. It should include somewhere on the board the following criteria:**

- A) TITLE OF PROJECT (EXAMPLE: CHARACTER COUNTS)
- B) TYPE OF PROJECT (FROM ABOVE THREE CHOICES)
- C) PHOTOGRAPHS
- D) ANY MEDIA COVERAGE ARTICLES OR PICTURES
- E) GOAL, DESCRIPTION, ACTIONS TAKEN
- F) NAME **ON THE BACK OF THE BOARD** OF PERSON IN CHARGE AND CLUB OR COUNTY SUBMITTING DISPLAY

**\* Display board may be single or bi-fold/tri-fold fashion EXCEPT FOR HEARTHFIRE CHALLENGE...MUST BE ON A SINGLE BOARD!**

**3) Handouts/pamphlets not a requirement but may enhance your display and would be allotted 5 Points toward total score (certainly not enough to assure a win in your category BUT MAY HELP)**

**4) A one page typed summary (you may use front and/or back) to include the following information:**

- A) TITLE OF PROJECT
- B) CATEGORY OF PROJECT
- C) CLUB AND/OR COUNTY SUBMITTING DISPLAY  
NAME OF CONTACT PERSON IN CASE THERE ARE QUESTIONS BY JUDGES
- D) SIMPLE DESCRIPTION OF GOAL
- E) SIMPLE DESCRIPTION OF STEPS TAKEN TO REACH GOAL
- F) WERE ANY OTHER GROUPS OR AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT..IF SO, WHO?
- G) RESULTS OF PROJECT (GOAL REACHED OR NOT REACHED)
- H) APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS REACHED AND APPROXIMATE VOLUNTEER HOURS INVOLVED



**JUDGING WILL BE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING:**

- A) ALL CRITERIA MET ON POSTER BOARD (30 POINTS)
- B) ALL CRITERIA MET ON SUMMARY PAGE (40 POINTS)
- C) OVERALL NEATNESS (10 POINT)
- D) USE OF COLOR (5 POINTS)
- E) OVERALL "PLEASING TO THE EYE" AFFECT OF POSTER (5 POINTS)
- F) SPELLING, PUNCTUATION, ETC (SINCE WE ENCOURAGE THIS IN OUR 4<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CHARACTER COUNTS KIDS, WE SHOULD SET AN EXAMPLE!) (5 POINTS)
- G) ADDITION OF HANDOUTS/PAMPHLETS (5 POINTS)

**HEARTHFIRE DISPLAYS must be displayed on a SINGLE POSTER BOARD!!!**

**HEARTHFIRE CHALLENGE**

The focus for your challenge this year will be on Hearthfire #18 regarding Diabetes. If you attended District Meeting you learned a little bit about this issue. As VP for Education, I am challenging you to bring a single poster board display depicting what your county learned about diabetes.

**EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY REGISTRATION FORM**

CLUB/COUNTY : \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PERSON - \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE : \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF EXHIBIT: \_\_\_\_\_

CIRCLE ONE:    EDUCATION            LEADERSHIP            ACTION            HEARTHFIRE CHALLENGE # \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Please use this form for Educational display and Hearthfire Challenge displays**  
**\*\* if you are entering more than one display, circle all that apply...ON BACK OF REGISTRATION LIST TITLES OF EACH DISPLAY YOU ARE ENTERING!!!**

MAIL TO:            JOYCE WEISS  
                          2283 E. N. UNION ROAD  
                          BAY CITY, MI 48706

## VICE PRESIDENT FOR EDUCATION REPORT

I had the honor once again of traveling around the state to present the educational lesson for the District Meetings. The topic I chose this year was "What You Got On Under There" which was a history of undergarments throughout time. It was light hearted but also very interesting to see how lucky we are not to have lived during the Elizabethan or Victorian era!!! The things those ladies had to endure wearing sometimes as many as 8 layers of undergarments. Our attendance numbers were down this year, but so is our state membership. We still had a little over 1/3 of our membership attend. I included a quiz on diabetes which will be our Hearthfire Challenge for this year's convention. Then I provided a quiz about underwear as well as actual pictures of undergarments and even some cartoons regarding underwear. As a fundraiser for our state treasury, a bra decorating contest was held in each district. We had 5 bras in the West U.P., 8 at North Central and Southeast, 7 at Southwest, and 12 at East Central. Those present could buy votes and select their favorite. The winning bra from each District received a gift of 2 sterling necklaces and was told to bring their bras to the convention where we will once again vote on our favorite to select our state winner!!! This little fund raiser brought in \$200 to our state treasury and we will increase that amount when you purchase your votes during convention!! Thanks ladies! The afternoon programs will be discussed by your District Directors.

Joyce Weiss - MAFCE Vice President of Education

## ALUMNI

As your alumni president, I am encouraging all paid dues alumni members to attend the state convention. Newer board members and first timers need to see the depth of this organization represented by all ages of its members. If you have **EVER** served on the **MAFCE STATE BOARD** in any capacity, please join us. Dues are only \$5 annually and can be paid during the state convention to Edna Bell, our alumni treasurer. The alumni also has the honor of installing our new state board during convention. If driving or transportation is an issue, take advantage of the younger members of your area to assist you.

Alumni members in attendance at our annual spring meeting in Owasso on May 21 & 22.



Missing in photo are Judy Lamphere, Doris Rolland, and guest Kristine Mueller.

## Delta County FCE 2018

The Town and Country study group held a recognition picnic June 2017 with the lesson being on Waysides parks. The lessons was called: "Picnics, Pit Stops and Potty Breaks". The members made barbeques favors from plastic champagne glasses and candy food to place on the grill.

They donated to "Walk for Warmth", "Water for all", a needy family and winter hat, gloves, sock and scarfs to the Rapid River School.

This year each month they brought in a new fruit that they have never eaten. Information about the fruit was read. So far we studied the Jazz apple, piñata apple, Pazazz apple, Envy apple, red pear, Asian pear, passion fruit, Red banana, pomegranate and the horned melon. The Envy apple was everyone's favorite apple and no one liked the horned melon.

Our international lesson took us to the Mexican restaurant. The lesson for our Christmas party was Christmas in Mexico. We even got to play a Mexican dice game.

In February we toured the Pregnancy Service where we donated our blankets, burp clothes and bibs that we had made last year. The same day we got information on the Welcome Newborn program in our county. We donated 12 purple hats for their Shaken Baby awareness program.

We decided to make favors for the nursing houses again this year. We made Valentine Bibles for the Christian Village and Easter bunnies for the Christian Park. Chocolates (sugar and sugar free) candy was the candy we chose as they do not need teeth for chocolate.

We are in the process of making walker and wheel chair bags as they were so popular that many places are asking for them. As of the writing of this letter we have made 59.

May we held our pot luck recognition picnic with the planting of a memorial tree, in the Rapid River Park, for those who have passed away since we planted our last tree. Our lesson was picnics around the world. Did you know some countries picnic in cemeteries? If you think you may like this lesson it is available.

Kathy Couchene  
Delta County FCE Historian

### CONVENTION TRADE SHOW EXHIBIT TABLE

The trade show is held to allow members/clubs/counties/districts/alumni the opportunity to sell their handmade/project items to convention participants. To reserve a space please complete the following form and send it and check (for the full amount)

Payable to: MAFCE to  
Joyce Weiss  
2283 E North Union Road  
Bay City MI 48706

.....

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Items you will be selling: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## DISTRICT MEETING REPORTS

### WEST U.P. DISTRICT

The West U.P. District Meeting was held in Marquette County this year. There were ten people in attendance and was held in the Chocolay Townhall. Our program from Joyce Weiss was both informant and fun as was the way we decorated our bras. We had a great lunch which was prepared by the Harvey Homemakers of Marquette County. Our afternoon program was about Beekeeping in the Upper Peninsula. Our speaker was Joel Lantz from Skandia who has been beekeeping for about 30 years. We gave away small bottles of honey that was made in the U.P. and boxes of wildflower seeds. We then gave away the table decorations which were roses made of cardstock. Judith Gereau won our scholarship to the State Convention. I will not reapply for the position of District Director for the West U.P. Judith Gereau has made known that she will apply for that position.

Nancy Berta  
West U.P. District Director

### SOUTHEAST DISTRICT

Southeast membership is Wayne County 8, Washtenaw County 6, St Clair County 14, and Lapeer County 47. Twenty-five persons attended the district meeting, which was held in Wayne County. Shoot for the Stars winner was Marilyn Nowodworski. State scholarship winner was Lucille Rucker.

The afternoon program was presented by Zana Macki from Attorney Bill Schutte's office, titled: Phone, Mail, and E-Scams. It was very well received. Fifteen percent of the population in Michigan are seniors and thirty percent of scams are on seniors. Best advice was to not answer phone calls especially 1 (800) numbers and unavailable numbers. Keep calm and do not be fooled, people will trick or con you, tell you a believable story and play on your emotions! Do not give out any personal information in person, on phone, or on the computer, unless you initiate the contact. If something sounds too good to be true it is!

Some charities are out right scams: confirm your contribution is tax deductible, make sure you know the exact name of a charity, research and determine the percentage of donation that goes directly to carry out the charitable purpose, donate directly to organization. Ask questions if you get an "emergency" phone call The IRS will not call you without sending a letter first, do not respond in any was to robocalls, caller I.D. numbers can easily be faked, it is illegal in the U.S. to play foreign lotteries, when in doubt check it out, hover over link with mouse to see the real redirect, hangup on telemarketers.

Do not call registry [www.donotcall.gov](http://www.donotcall.gov) phone: 888-382-1222  
Manage mail and E-mail solicitations [www.dmachoice.org](http://www.dmachoice.org)  
Eliminate pre-approved offers [www.optoutprescreen.com](http://www.optoutprescreen.com) phone: 888-567-8688

Southeast District Director  
Kritine Nueller

## **EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT**

Our afternoon program was a talk and demonstration by a lady from My Secret Garden, a store in Bay City. We were shown different items and how to decorate our homes. Try to use one color as a central theme and then build your table or entry using the tallest to shortest approach with your items.

Mary Lou Wisniewski  
East Central District Director

## **NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT**

June Owen was elected North Central District Director.

Marion Eagling shared with us her trip to Africa using a power point operated by her daughter and showing us some of the items she purchased as well as telling us how they were made and what the people used to make them.

The pictures showed us some of the country, animals and people she met - the places she stayed - the crafts they were doing while telling us about the area. It was most interesting.

A new Secretary and Treasurer will be elected next year.

Paula Badder  
Outgoing North Central District Director

## **SOUTHWEST DISTRICT DIRECTOR**

Twenty five people enjoyed their day hosted by Eaton County FCE at the Eaton County MSU Extension building on Friday, May 4. Joyce Weiss had the morning program. A delicious luncheon was enjoyed by the members and guests.

In the afternoon we enjoyed speakers from two local businesses owned and operated by women from the area. The first was, Gypsy Market, co-owned by Jill and Shelly. They specialize in taking old and unused items and making them into something new and usable. You can take something to them and they will redesign or will assist the customer to do it themselves. You can also shop in their store for finished items. They are located in downtown Charlotte.

The other speaker was Angel who owns and operates Bella Grande, a clothing consignment store. She sells gently used clothes sizes 12 and up and explained the consignment process. Her store is also in downtown Charlotte.

Raffle tickets were given out and correspondence from Kathy Couchene was read. Counties were given opportunity to share with each other things going on in their counties.

I would like to thank all of the Eaton County FCE members for hosting our district meeting this year.

Arlona McCallum  
Southwest District Director



**Decorated Bras at Southwest District Meeting - 2018**

## CHARACTER COUNTS REPORTS - 2018

This year the pillar of Learning of Character Counts is . . . . . "Citizenship"

I was very anxious for this pillar of learning contest - Citizenship - to see how the fourth grad students perceived it. There are a number of examples for Citizenship. For example, being a good citizen, a good neighbor is one aspect for this year's learning word that was shown in the essays. This was no easy task in judging these entries. I had six judges to help me.

There were three entries for the state judging - Delta County in the upper peninsula, Bay County and Calhoun County in the lower peninsula.

The third place winner for the state is Calhoun County - Hailey Toney, teacher Mr. Mccann at the Mar-lee school. Hailey will receive \$25.00

The second place winner for the state is Bay County - Emily Baxter at the Floyd Elementary. Mrs. Smith is the teacher. Emily will receive \$50.00.

The first place winner for the state is Delta County - Chloe Anderson - teacher Mrs. Sauve at the Rapid River School. Chloe will receive \$75.00.

To all of the other counties that did not participate in this worth while program, I am disappointed in your non-involvement. Here our organization stands for home and family communication and you are missing the boat. The children are the losers. This is so very sad!

So now the state winner's entry from Chloe Anderson will go on to NAFCE (National) for judging.

To the Counties that participated, I "THANK YOU" for your time, effort and saying "YES" to this program. Can I get just one new county to get involved with Character Counts for next school year? Ask your fourth grade teachers to consider it as an assignment and to have it written in their lesson planner for the 2018-2019 school year. Do it before the school year ends. Just a heads up, the pillar word for next year will be ..... "Trustworthiness".

Come on ladies: You Can Do It!!!!

Judith Gereau  
Michigan Character Counts Chairman



## Helping My Neighbor

I learned citizenship by helping my neighbor.

My neighbor is 98 years old. He is very nice and cannot get around well.

I planted vegetables in his garden. I also got apples, oranges, pears, grapes, and strawberries at the store for him. Because he did not have company, I went over to his house and we snacked on fruit and vegetables. We grew flowers together. The kind of flowers we grew were roses, tulips, daisies, and lilies. Afterward, we drank lemonade. I know he liked me coming over because he smiled a lot.

When I had to move away I knew our days were over. I hope I really made a difference in his life. He taught me how to





## 2018 STATE BOARD

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REMINDER: If you are interested in running for a Board position, contact the nominating committee for details.

REMINDER: If you are interested in being appointed for a state committee chair, contact your State President. She would love to hear from you.

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**2018 DATES TO REMEMBER**

- July 1 - Applications for State Board due to President
- July 15 - Application for State Scholarships due
- July 15 - 50 Year member names due President
- July 19-22 NAFCE Convention, Austin, Texas
- Aug 1 - Heart of FCE due State President
- Oct 2 - Pre-Convention Tour
- Oct 3-4 - 2018 Convention, Battle Creek
- Nov 1 - Membership deadline to Treasurer

County Newsletter rotation for reports: Feb 1 – deadline for Southwest and East Central Districts  
June 1 – deadline for North Central and West U.P. Districts  
Nov 1 – deadline for Southeast District