

KEAFCS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE KANSAS
EXTENSION ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY AND
CONSUMER SCIENCES

2021 KEAFCS OFFICERS

President

Teresa Hatfield

President-elect

Jodi Drake

Secretary

Andrea Wood

Treasurer

Chelsea Richmond

Past President

Donna Krug

VP for Awards and Recognition

Robin Eubank-Callis

VP for Member Resources

Sara Sawyer

VP for Public Affairs

Erin Tynon

VP for Professional Development

Becky Reid

NW Area Counselor

Ashley Svaty

NE Area Counselor

Susie Latta

SE Area Counselor

Rebecca McFarland

SW Area Counselor

Lora Horton



FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES



Creating Healthy & Sustainable Families

KANSAS EXTENSION ASSOCIATION WEBSITE

GREETINGS FROM DONNA KRUG, YOUR PAST-PRESIDENT:

I hope everyone is adjusting to our “new normal” with programming and life in general. With the year nearly half over, it is time to activate the nominating committee to complete the slate of officers for 2022. As chair of that committee I reached out to the Area Counselors for their input.

Every year we are looking for someone to step into the role of President-elect. This is a three-year commitment, (president-elect, president, and past president) but trust me it goes really fast! I had so much fun the first time (2016, 2017, and 2018) that I did it a second time! 😊 Seriously though, it is a wonderful leadership experience that brings much satisfaction.

Also, on the ballot this year will be Vice-President for Public Affairs, Vice-President for Awards and Recognition, Treasurer, and Area Counselors for the NW and NE areas.



The following members have accepted the invitation to serve our professional association in 2022.

President-elect - Susie Latta

Vice-President for Public Affairs -

Chelsea Richmond

Vice-President for Awards and Recognition

- Robin Eubank-Callis

Treasurer - Kathy Tharman

NW Area Counselor - Ashley Svaty

NE Area Counselor - Bernadette Trieb

Those continuing to serve on the KEAFCS board in 2022 include: Jodi Drake, President; Teresa Hatfield, Past-President; Sara Sawyer, VP for Member Resources; Becky Reid, VP for Professional Development; Andrea Wood, Secretary; Rebecca McFarland, SE Area Counselor and Lora Horton, SW Area Counselor.

A big “shout out” should go to Erin Tynon, who is completing her second term as our VP for Public Affairs, and Chelsea Richmond, who served as treasurer for four years.

If there is anyone who would like to be added to the ballot for an office for 2022 please let me know by July 1st. A ballot will be sent out electronically before our Annual Conference business meeting and we will install officers at that time.

TERESA HATFIELD- PRESIDENT.



The year seems to be going by so quickly. We are still adjusting to changes, going from totally virtual to getting out and about for programming. I was very excited to start a new Stay Strong Stay Healthy class this week. It makes me happy to see smiles on faces and hear laughter again; this is what makes our jobs as Extension professionals worth the effort.

In the past few months, some KEAFCS members have started to explore how we can deliver outreach and service to our youth. A Youth Outreach task force group formed in February to explore ways to promote the FCS vocation with 4-H and young people. I am thankful to those willing to lend their time and expertise to this endeavor and get us started thinking about ways KEAFCS can give back to our young folks. Thank you to Becky Reid for the inspiration and those on the task force willing to serve; Deb Anders, Tristen Cope, Carol Ann Crouch, Susie Latta, Christine McPheter, Bernadette Trieb, and Berny Unruh. We will be sharing our findings with the group soon.

Because of the situation with COVID-19 across the county, national conferences were virtual this year. As a result, the association saved money on travel this year for the president-elect, Jodi Drake, and myself. With that in mind, the KEAFCS Board elected to donate \$245 to the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council for the Leadership Adventure Course at Rock Springs Ranch.

The Public Issues Leadership Development Conference (PILD) was held virtually in April, and although we were not able to meet in Washington D.C., the conference provided some great information. The session "What Elected Officials Want to Hear about Extension" was very informative. It seems that most of our elected officials have a positive perception of Extension, but they would like to learn more about what we do and what our impact is in our community. Once again, this goes back to telling our story. They want to get to know us better. How can we as agents think about ways to communicate better what we do and get our local officials more involved? How can we partner with them to help them accomplish their mission at the local level? I think one way we can do this is to ask them. How do they want to receive information from us, and what can we do to help them fulfill their mission to the community? Would they prefer in-person meetings, emails, annual reports, oral presentations, or all of the above? What doesn't work for them? I believe we won't know until we ask. Everyone is different; every community is different. Lastly, we need to make an effort to invite them to see what we are doing. Sure, they are very busy people, but the reason most people don't participate is that no one asked them. Think about extending that personal invitation; you might be surprised!

Being your president this year has renewed my spirit as an agent. We have seen so many changes this last year, I know we will never be the same, but that's okay. We need to explore new things, do things a little differently; we need that to grow. I'm encouraged by the impactful things Kansas FCS agents have accomplished across the state and how we have all pulled together and partnered together to get things done. Thank you for being such a great group; you have made my job as your president much easier.

JODI DRAKE, PRESIDENT-ELECT.

Greetings from your President-Elect and thank you so much for trusting me with this position. I am excited to learn all I can from our fantastic President, Teresa, so that I am ready to be your leader in the coming year.



One of my duties as President-Elect is to represent KEAFCS at the Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) Conference, which I was able to do virtually. This was held during the VERY cold snap we had in February. The conference featured some outstanding speakers like Erik Qualman, who spoke about being a Digital Leader. We also heard speakers talking about the Broadband Divide. The capnote speaker was Dr. Doug Steele, StayingConnected in a Digital World.

I am so excited to see our world slowly emerging from this pandemic. As I write this article, the fate of our National Conference in Michigan is still unknown, however. Be watching your emails, though in the next few weeks. The National Office should be letting us know soon whether or not we will be able to have an in-person meeting or not. If it is held in-person and you plan to attend, please let me know as I will be planning our States Night Out event.

We are also in need of a donation(s) for a silent auction item for the National Conference in Michigan. If you have something you would be willing to donate, please send me an email. I will be attending the conference if it is held in-person, so I could possibly transport the item, or I would be willing to donate the cost of postage to get it to the conference. Some things that have been donated in the past include quilted items, jewelry, gift baskets, soaps, wine, etc. Just shoot me an email if you have something you would like to donate.

Thank you again for having faith in my abilities to be your President-Elect. Of course, I took this on BEFORE I knew I would be a single agent county during a hiring freeze. So please be patient with me if I'm not prompt at answering my emails. Have a great summer!

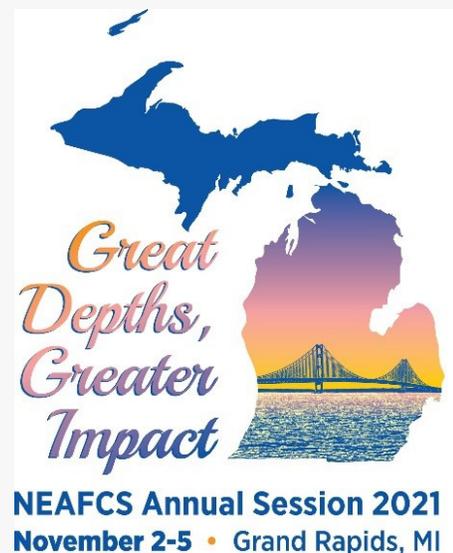
CHELSEA RICHMOND, TREASURER.

The current balance in the checking account is \$16,797.59. Expenses have included paying national dues as well as JCEP dues on behalf of members as well as making a \$250 donation toward the Leadership Adventure Course for Rock Springs Ranch. Additionally, the association received \$320 for 16 members who participated in the United Associations Conference.

SARA SAWER, VP MEMBER RESOURCES.

Many of you are wondering if there will be an in-person Annual Session in Michigan this year. Conversations are occurring between the Michigan liaisons, planning committees and the Executive Board with hopes to have a decision made and announced to the membership by mid-to-late June. Registration should be opening up very soon so go ahead and save the date for November 2nd through the 5th in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Hotel reservation information is available on the website to book your room today. [Click Here for Hotel Information.](#)

For those of you that have attended Annual Session, you know that it is "one heck of a Return on Investment." You will receive top notch professional development and fantastic networking opportunities. [Click here to view the 2021 Annual Session draft agenda.](#) We look forward to seeing you in Michigan!



SUSIE LATTA, NE AREA COUNSELOR.

The NE Area was please to host the Living Well Series in January, February, and March this year. Initial results were that the series was well received with good attendance and people enjoyed the variety of different programs offered. The NE Area oversaw the State Fair Fashion Revue this year but since it was all done virtually, we did not have a lot of responsibilities. Gina Conde is the new EFNEP/SNAP-Ed Agent in Wyandotte County. There have been no retirement or open FCS position this year in the NE Area. This is my last year to serve in this position.



BECKY REID, VP OF MEMBER DEVELOPMENT

138 participants (including 16 KEAFCS members) registered for the 2021 United Associations Conference. The theme was "In this Together" and all participants were mailed tech device organizers and face masks with the FCS logo. Live content was delivered virtually on March 4-5 and (almost) all sessions were recorded. The keynote presenter was Cyndi Kuhn from Kansas State University's Department of Education.

KEAFCS members are encouraged to take advantage of professional development webinars from NEAFCS. Let us help you grow!

REBECCA MCFARLAND, SE AREA COUNSELOR.

The Wildcat District welcomed two new Family and Consumer Agents this spring. Holly Minor is serving as the Health, Food Safety and Nutrition Agent and Katherine Pinto is the EFNEP Agent. Welcome the Southeast Area Holly and Katherine!



We welcomed a new little member to our area in February. Parker Elliott Smith is the son of Tara Solomon-Smith, Wildcat District Adult Development and Aging Agent, and her husband Brandon. Big brother Ryder also welcomed him home.

Rebecca McFarland transferred from Family and Child Development Agent in the Frontier District to the District Director and Family and Community Wellness Agent in April.

PROGRAMMING SPOTLIGHT

Family and Consumer Sciences Agents from Coffey County, Frontier District and Marais des Cygnes District are partnering to offer a 12-session virtual Keys to Embracing Aging program. The sessions are offered bi-weekly and the program is provided in coordination with the East Central Kansas Area Agency on Aging and made possible through a grant with the Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services.

The Marais des Cygnes District and Frontier District are partnering to provide Dining with Diabetes classes. The course is being taught by Chelsea Richmond and Franny Eastwood and runs May 17-June 13. Sedgwick County Family and Consumer Sciences Agents are offering online classes.

During Mental Health Awareness Month in May, Kathy Goul and Franny Eastwood of the Marais des Cygnes District, used the Healthy Minds Strong Communities Facebook page as a platform for a virtual campaign. Daily posts included resources and information on stress and anxiety, mental health in teens, general information, suicide awareness, mental well-being during and after pregnancy, and more.

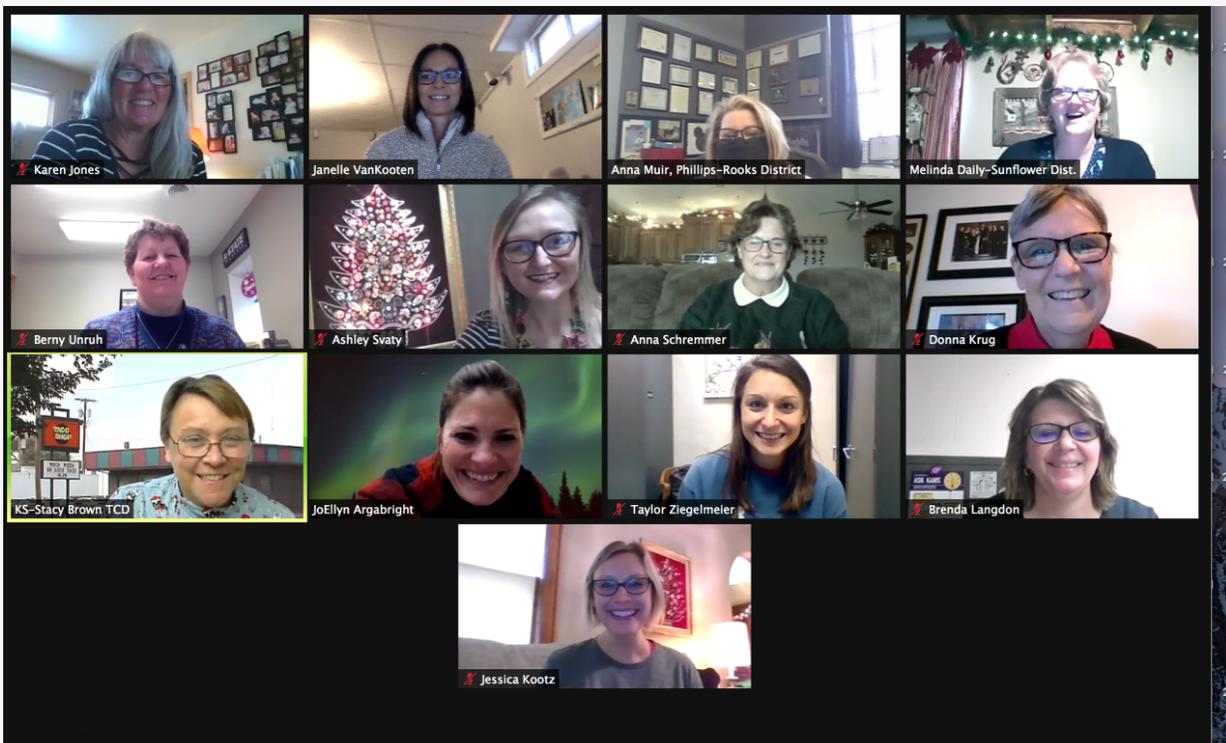
Powerful Tools for Caregivers has been helping family caregivers to better care for themselves while caring for others. Barbara Stockebrand, Tara Solomon-Smith, and Teresa Hatfield facilitated a class in January with participants from across the state. Teresa Hatfield, Nancy Honig and JoEllyn Argabright are also conducting a class with a group of employees from Cargill. Both classes were held on Zoom.

ASHLEY SVATY, NW AREA COUSELOR.



On December 11th, 2020 the NW FCS agents, specialists, nutrition educators, and retirees joined together to enjoy a virtual retreat. During this retreat, programming ideas were shared and a fun trivia game was played to get to know each other better. This photo was taken as a screen grab from our retreat.

On May 17th, the NW FCS agents and specialists met up for a spring program planning day at the NW area office in Colby. We enjoyed a guided tour of the Copeland Community Garden and also shared our programming impacts and successes during COVID-19.





LORA HORTON, SW AREA COUNSELOR.

The SW area agents held their spring programming day, IN PERSON, at Garden City on May 27th. After doing some much needed human connections and catching up with one another, the educational portion of the meeting began.

Dona Gerstner from Live Well Finney County gave a Vaping Education presentation. She is a great resource and is able to work with SW Kansas counties to provide this education to both youth and adult groups. To compliment this, SW area FCS specialist Racheal Clews, has obtained some visual displays that can be checked out at the area office.



After lunch, we moved on to the Lee Richardson Zoo. Johnetta Hebrlee gave a presentation at the Finney County Historical Museum, located adjacent to the zoo, on "Period Clothing Through the Years". Participants were able to not only see the clothing on display, but to also look through storage closets, drawers, etc to see the vast amount of articles they have. Afterwards, partakers could enjoy exploring more of the museum and/or walking through the Zoo.



Shout out to Aimee Baker, FCS agent in Wichita County, for being the featured speaker during the June 4th First Friday e-call. She has worked since 2017 to establish an affordable child care facility in her county. The "Grow and Learn Child Care Center" recently broke ground and is expected to open its doors in Jan of 2022. Great job Aimee!!

ROBIN EUBANKS-CALLIS, VP OF AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



Vice President of Awards

Award applications were up by 450% this year. Thank you to all of the people who took the time to apply for an individual or team award. At the next KEAFCS Meeting, 9 state award winners will be recognized.

Even more exciting, the Central Region Meeting 5 award winners will be recognized. During the National Awards ceremony, 1 Distinguished Service Award and 1 Continued Service Award will be recognized.

Congratulations to all award winners.

If you submitted an application and have not seen the award email, please reach out to Robin Eubank-Callis at reubank@ksu.edu.