

GAFCS NEWSLETTER

American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences



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Greetings, GAFCS!

by Vida Szabat, GAFCS President



Greetings! My name is Vida Szabat, and I am the current GAFCS president for the 2022-2023 term. It has been one of my greatest honors to be the leader of this organization that I got involved in 5 years ago.

I am originally from Pennsylvania and was brand new to Georgia when I volunteered to help with setting up and be a tour guide during the 2017 American Association of Family and Consumer Science (AAFCS) Conference in Atlanta. Not many people know but I had to use my GPS to even know where I was going and was scared to death to take a tour group over to Americas Mart.

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I had never been to Americas Mart, let alone even know where it was or what happened there. Lucky none of us got lost, but by being daring and stepping out of my comfort zone I was able to be welcomed into the GAFCS family. It's been a whirlwind ever since! At the beginning of October, I attended the AAFCS Fall Leadership Conference in Arlington, VA. As I sat there and listened to the presenters and speakers I kept hearing the same phrase "What can we do to help our profession grow?" The typical responses were heard of advertising our profession, speaking to people, and finding ways to get our profession out there. Then I realized that the most important thing we can do to help our profession to grow is to keep growing our affiliation here in Georgia.

We are doing amazing things that other affiliations are starting to see, and I truly believe residents of Georgia are starting to see FACS is still here. But our job isn't done, it is just beginning, we cannot rely solely on our board members either to get us there. It takes people like you who have put blood, sweat, and tears into their profession, ones that have talked to our family members or even friends about FACS, ones that have stood and said "no more" when their profession was on the line because of the viewpoints of others saying we aren't necessary. We need more people who are willing to stand up and say "we are here, and we are strong." The perfect time to get involved in GAFCS is NOW. So, are you willing to stand up? DeShanne Stokes once said "only by speaking out can we create lasting change." Are you ready to be that change?

Professional Development: Why Is It Important?

Submitted by: Dr. Rhea Bentley



Professional development is important not only for your career but for personal development. You can learn new skills. This could be homing in on existing skills and learning new ones.

Adding additional skills or certification from a professional development program to your resume is one way to boost your confidence in your skills and show your credibility to employers. Professional development opportunities can expose both new and experienced professionals to new ideas and expertise. Seeking out these opportunities shows ambition and the space to practice those new competencies.

If you consider yourself as a confident employee usually developing new skills can help you to increase your enthusiasm about the job and personally. Professional development gives you the opportunity to develop your leadership skills. These leadership opportunities may not have been sought out otherwise.

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Professional development can provide many opportunities for networking. Workshops, conferences, classes, and webinars are all spaces in which professionals can meet new people within their industry and make new connections. These connections can lead to new opportunities, mentorship, and support which may provide the next stepping stone in your career.

Employees who are invested in professional development display commitment to their work and an interest in continuing to improve. Professional development can also boost your earning potential by increasing your value through obtaining credentials, certifications, and designations.

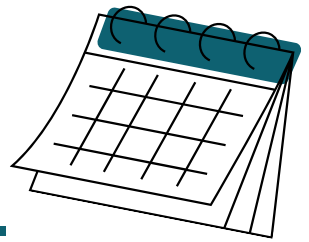
So, if you have the opportunity for professional development take advantage. It will open a whole new world of opportunities for you.

Public Policy

Submitted by: Joanne S. Cavis, CFCS



Save the Dates!



- FACS Day at the Capitol: February 16, 2023
- GAFCS Annual Conference: March 3, 2023
- World Home Economics Day: March 21, 2023
- International Day of the Family: May 15, 2023

FACS Day at the Capitol

All Family and Consumer Sciences professionals and students in Georgia will gather for a day to increase the visibility and value of our profession, hear House and Senate Resolutions read by our Legislator Sponsors, receive a Proclamation from the Governor, participate in educational sessions and photo-ops, network and more.

Stay tuned for more registration information and agenda in the monthly GAFCS email updates.

Elevate and Celebrate FCS Every Friday in December

Submitted by: Joanne S. Cavis, CFCS

December 3, 2022, is the day we celebrate the value and impact of the family and consumer sciences profession, and commemorate the birthday of our founder, Ellen Swallow Richards. For 2022 we will ELEVATE and CELEBRATE FCS all month long.

FCS Fridays with AAFCS!

- December 2: Where in the World is Ellen? Let's see where Ellen is exploring as she celebrates her 180th birthday. Download the flat Ellen template; snap a photo; share to social media and <https://dropevent.com/ElevateFCS2022>.
- December 9: Up, Up and Away! Attach the Elevate FCS card to a balloon and share with local stakeholders, students, families and community members.
- December 16: FACES of FCS Students and professionals are the FACES of FCS! How do you model the mission of FCS in your practice setting and content areas? Record a one-minute video and post on <https://www.aafcs.org/elevatefcs/fcs-faces>.
- December 23: Wear BLUE for 2022! Show your FCS spirit by wearing blue at a holiday function. Take this opportunity to educate family and friends about the mission and values of our profession as you ELEVATE FCS!
- December 30: Time is Running Out! As we near the end of 2022, let's celebrate! Put on your party hat and spread some FCS cheer as we ask you to ELEVATE throughout the coming year. Celebrate with ME in 2023!

The AAFCS website (<https://www.aafcs.org/elevatefcs>) has all of the Logos, templates and printables, and zoom backgrounds that you'll need to ELEVATE and CELEBRATE!

#FCS DAY #ELEVATEFCS #FCSFriday #AAFCS



GAFCS Board Position Opening

Submitted by: Dr. Karen Jones



Co-Chair for Vice President of Communication

Would you like to become a team member on the GAFCS Executive Board? We've been wondering where you were! There are board positions and committees that could use your personality, input and expertise. Currently, we are in need of a Co-chair for Vice President of Communications. A board member needs to be a current member of AAFCS/GAFCS, contribute to monthly one hour Zoom conference calls, attend a face-to-face meeting in July and the annual conference in March, as well as fulfill the responsibilities of the position as outlined in the GAFCS Handbook, located at <https://www.fcs.uga.edu/gafcs>.

For more information, contact Karen Jones, the current Nominating Committee chair at khjones@uga.edu. This position is a great opportunity for you to contribute not only to the GAFCS board, but to the entire membership!

GAFCS Awards and Scholarships

GAFCS has scholarships and awards available to dues-paid members!

\$3,500 in scholarships are available to students through the:

- Graduate Scholarship
- TC Transcontinental Undergraduate Scholarship
- Spirit of Giving Undergraduate Scholarship Professional Member Awards are also available:

Professional Awards

- Julius Benton Professional Improvement
- Georgia Outstanding FACS Professional
- Georgia Leader Award
- Georgia New Achiever
- Georgia Teacher of the Year
- Georgia Wiley-Berger Award for Volunteer Service

Check out the guidelines, applications at nominations forms [here!](#)

DEADLINE TO APPLY: JANUARY 10, 2023

In Loving Memory

The Georgia Association of Family and Consumer Sciences would like to recognize and honor the members that have passed on. They have each made life-long contributions to our organization and the field of family and consumer sciences.

Gloria Berry

Gloria Berry died at Northside Hospital Gwinnett on August 5th, 2022. She was 75 years old. She was born Gloria Jo Conner on December 14, 1946, in Athens, Georgia to P.K. and Sallie Conner. She is preceded in death by her parents; son, Charles Morgan Berry, and mother-in-law, Remel Horne Berry.

Gloria was a native of Walton County, Georgia and raised her son, Bradley Tolbert in Monroe. She graduated from Monroe Area High School in 1965 before continuing her education at the University of Georgia. She was a lifelong 4-H member, State 4-H Fashion Show winner, and President of the Master 4-H Club. Gloria graduated from UGA with a B.S. in Home Economics and was a member of the Georgia Home Economics Association.

Gloria married Goebel Berry on March 16, 1986, and became Mom to Melody, Holly, and Charles. She had 10 GRANDchildren ranging in ages from 6 to 28. After a 34-year career at Walton EMC, which she described as her “dream job”, Gloria retired as District Manager and Director of Community and Government Relations. In her career, she blazed trails for women in the utilities space, including her national role on the Electrical Women’s Round Table, lobbying Congress for gas deregulation, and Shepherd of the Walton Electric Trust Foundation. She was a member of Gwinnett Sunrise Rotary Club and a 25-year member of Rotary Club International. Throughout her career and beyond, Gloria had leadership roles at local, state, and national levels for the many organizations she served. More recently she served in First Ladies of Walton (FLOW), a philanthropic group in the Walton County area. She was grateful for the opportunity to “help my community, my country, and my world”.

Gloria and Goebel made their home in Loganville, Georgia where she was an active member at First Baptist Church and close friend and encourager to the pastor and staff. Together with their faithful canine companion Kiki, “Mrs. Gloria” and “Mr. Goebel” greeted the members of FBCL each Sunday. She was a member of the Carter Sunday School class, the Young at Heart club, and Master fundraiser for the Loganville Community Ministry Village where she served on the Board of Directors. Gloria also belonged to Knit Wits, a delightful group of women sewing prayer shawls and winter caps for children in Romania.

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Gloria had a passion for travel and encouraged travel in others. She was an avid reader and instilled a love of reading in her children and grandchildren. She was an excellent cook, seamstress, and shared her enthusiasm for life with those around her. She offered comfort, guidance, and acceptance to everyone, young and old. Gloria watched Jeopardy nightly and enjoyed working on her creative projects in her “She Shed”. She loved to be surrounded by her family and friends telling stories and sharing laughs.

Gloria, Precious Darling, Mom, Jamma was loved, respected, and honored. She will be remembered for her cheerful personality, deep love of family and friends, unmatched creativity, feisty sense of humor, and she never met a stranger! Gloria wrote about the “dash” between birth and death saying, “it is all about the dash that really matters. I hope my dash reflects how I enjoyed being a wife, a mother, grandmother, friend, and a Child of God”. She will be deeply missed by all that knew and loved her.

Gloria is survived by her husband of 36 years; Goebel Daniel Berry, Jr., brother; Don Conner, son; Bradley Tolbert, daughters; Melody Berry Healan (Joseph) and Holly Elizabeth Berry, daughter-in-law; Mandie McDonald, grandchildren; Caitlin Leigh Haynes (Gabriel), Conor Healan, Trade Berry, Maura Healan, Annabel Ruth Haynes, Aiden Berry, William Berry Haynes, Addyson Berry, Talon Berry, and Tadhgan Berry; many cousins and countless friends she made along the way.

Obituary courtesy of Tim Stewart Funeral Home



If you would like to share an obituary or memorial for a family and consumer sciences professional who was a member of GAFCS, please email gerogiafacs@gmail.com.

