President’s Message

Dear Ambassador Friends,

John F. Kennedy once said “Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.” As an Ambassador organization, we have experienced a few growing pains as we have striven to update bylaws, committee work, etc. to keep with current policies and procedures. It has taken the entire Board and committees to keep this a positive adventure. My heartfelt thanks goes to each and every one of them that helped make these necessary changes. I also want to thank you for allowing me to serve as your President the last few years. It has truly been an honor. As you read and study the rest of the newsletter about the Annual Meeting, Silent Auction and more… Let us remember this quote from Eleanor Roosevelt, “The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” “Keep believing” in Ambassadors for a bright future helping Oklahomans!

Yours respectfully,
Jan Maples
Ambassadors President 2017-2018

Dear FCS Ambassadors:

The year 2019 has brought many changes to the college of Human Sciences. The first one is that our development officer, Brett Riley, has moved to the college of Arts and Sciences. This move has impacted our efforts to grow the Ambassadors endowment funds to our goal of $1 million. As soon as we have a new officer assigned to us, we will renew our fund development effort. Another change is that the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) will be moving from our college to the Spears School of Business in the near future, pending Board of Regents approval. As you may know, HTM grew out of our nutritional sciences department 80 years ago. As they have grown and diversified their portfolio, the faculty want to align with the business school. We, of course, wish them the best and those faculty members who have been part of FCS Extension will always be welcome to partner with us.

Other news about change include the request from OSU administration to explore the merging of our college of Human Sciences with the college of Education, Health and Aviation (EHA). This is an exciting opportunity and our dean, Dr. Stephan Wilson, is now also the interim dean for EHA while we explore this effort. Currently, we are meeting with units in EHA to see how we could collaborate in the future. Stay tune to exciting developments around these new opportunities.

Finally, we have a very healthy Ambassadors Endowment Fund and I urge you to continue to contribute to it so it can fund many more county educators’ ideas and programs. These funds are critical to FCS Cooperative Extension and we thank you for what you do.

Jorge H. Atiles
Associate Dean, Extension & Engagement
Assistant Director, Cooperative Extension-FCS
Annual CE-FCS Ambassador’s Meeting

April 18, 2019 will be the date of the annual meeting. It will be at the Embassy Suites by Hilton, 1815 S. Meridian, OKC, OK 73108 in conjunction with the OEAFCS conference. The meeting will be held in Ballroom A&B starting promptly at 11:00 am. This will be an abbreviated meeting so we can adjourn and join the OEAFCS Awards luncheon which will start at 11:30 am. If you are coming for this meeting and are not part of the OEAFCS conference and choose to stay for the awards luncheon, you will need to pay for your lunch. Please contact LaDonna @ ladonna.hines@okstate.edu for information on cost and payment.

LaDonna Hines, Vice President

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee is working to finalize the slate of officer candidates for the following offices:

Vice President – Jessica Riggin
Five Directors - Randi McCann, Donna Jung, Penny King, Tara Brown and Cindy Clampet

The election for these positions will be held during the Annual Meeting.

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at the Annual Meeting if prior approval from the nominee has been obtained.

Janna Kelley, Past President

CE-FCS Ambassador Financial Report

Source: Budget Snapshot, January 18, 2019

Total Revenue: Budgeted - $162,454.30
Actual - $169,114.15

Total Expenses: Budgeted - $63,289.37
Total Actual and Encumbered - $16,542.33

Applicants Needed for FCS Honor Awards

We have many qualified educators, teams and groups who could easily win this award. Besides, it would look great for your career ladder! The Honor Awards available are Individual; Team (up to five people); and Group (more than five people). The winner in each category will receive $500.00.

Applications are STILL BEING ACCEPTED until April 1 and available at:
http://ambassadors.okstate.edu/grants
Send them to sonya.mcdaniel@okstate.edu

2018 (almost) in the books!
2018 CE-FCS Ambassador funds closed out in January with some great projects completed across the state. However, we aren’t done yet! Grant reports should have already been submitted to Dr. Jorge Atiles office by February 15th. If you haven’t submitted your grant report, please do so ASAP. This is a requirement for our Foundation Accounting.

Next, those who received funding in 2018 need to make plans for their project displays. These displays will be viewed during the State OHCE meeting on Tuesday, July 9, 2019 in the grand hall of the Downtown Embassy Suites Hotel. Displays should be in place by 8:15 am and remain in place until after lunch. Each project will be given half of a table for their displays.

Lastly, there will be a slide show of 2018 Project Successes during the OHCE Lunch on Tuesday. Please email one or two photos highlighting your project and a 30-word statement to Sonya McDaniel by June 20, 2019.

2019 Awards
The new program year will start July 1, 2019 with 15 grants awarded totaling $29,924.81. Two Margaret Edsel Fitch Fellowships were awarded sending two Educators on educational trips. Look forward to hearing these awards announced at the District OHCE meetings and during the OEAFCS Awards Luncheon this spring.

Proposed Bylaw Change--
ARTICLE III. Officers and Directors

Section A. The officers of the CE-FCS Ambassadors will be: president, president-elect, vice-president, secretary and treasurer. The immediate past-president will serve two years as adviser to the Board of Directors.

Reason for change to Article III. Section A: To match wording/intent in Article VII. Section E. (“The Nominating Committee will be appointed by the President. It will consist of three Ambassadors with the past-president serving as chair.”)

Proposed Bylaw Change--
ARTICLE IV. Elections

Section A. The vice president will be elected on odd years. The president-elect, secretary and treasurer will be elected on even years. All officers and directors, except the president-elect, will serve a two-year term. The president-elect will serve a one-year term followed by a two-year term as president. Five directors will be elected annually. An officer or director cannot be re-elected for a second consecutive term in the same position.

Reason for change to Article IV. Section A: Due to the change of the fiscal year, annual meeting timings, etc. to accurately reflect and update the timing of the elections.
Ensure a Bright Future by Helping Build the Endowments

**Ambassador General Fund**
You can support the educational endeavors of Ambassadors that benefit Oklahoma families and youth by making a contribution. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

I pledge: $ _______ to be paid  ____ monthly ____ quarterly ____ annually.

Enclosed is a check for $_______ payable to OSU Foundation/CE-FCS Ambassadors.

Charge to my credit card ___________________________
Brand
___________________________________________
card # expiration date
Signature ____________________________

Name

Address

Phone ____________________________

This gift is in memory of:

___________________________________________

This gift is in honor of:

___________________________________________

Send an acknowledgement of my gift to:

___________________________________________
Name

Address

___________________________________________

Return to: Ambassadors Fund, 135 HS, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078-6111

**Margaret Edsel Fitch Extension Fellowship**
The Fellowship provides a mini-sabbatical experience for OCE-FCS staff to study a relevant program in another state or country. Your continued support is greatly appreciated!

I pledge: $ _______ to be paid  ____ monthly ____ quarterly ____ annually.

Enclosed is a check for $_______ payable to OSU Foundation/CE-FCS Fitch Fellowship

___________________________________________
Name

___________________________________________
Address

___________________________________________
Phone

This gift is in memory of:

___________________________________________

This gift is in honor of:

___________________________________________

Send an acknowledgement of my gift to:

___________________________________________
Name

Address

___________________________________________

Return to: M.E. Fitch Fellowship, 135 HS, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078-6111

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The Ambassador’s newsletter is published twice yearly.
Newsletter Editor: Randi McCann