

# Oregon FCE News

Volume 33 Issue 2

Oregon Association for Family & Community Education

April 2026

## President's Comments



### President's Newsletter Article April 2026

Spring has sprung and grass has risen.... and risen. Yes, the grass continues to grow, which now needs to be mowed. Spring flowers are blooming and birds are singing. Yes, it's spring and time to head into the summer. It's also time for me to start doing some fishing.

I hope that all is well with each of you and your families. Not a day goes by without me thinking about our "FCE Family" throughout Oregon and the rest of the country. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you.

Bonnie and I are busy doing all the various things that we do. We both have lots of various "Irons in the Fire." Somehow, we usually figure out how to get them all done. Bonnie has taken the reigns as the National FCE President while still completing her term as the ACWW USA Area President. Her term will end at the end of April while we are attending the ACWW World Conference in Ottawa, Canada, but she is running for another position on the ACWW board. I am still subbing almost every day while fulfilling my duties as the Oregon FCE State President and other various FCE duties. Oh well, "There is no rest for the wicked... and the righteous don't need it!" Don't know where I am but I don't seem to get too much rest.

At the Oregon FCE State Spring Board Meeting there was a lot of planning done for the 2026 Oregon FCE State Conference. The Conference will again be held in Springfield, Oregon on October 5, 6, and 7. The Board will meet on Sunday, October 4. Set up for the Conference will also begin that day. Conference Scholarships will be available and

starting this year, we are having an **Oregon FCE Member Essay Contest** where people can win an award voucher to be used towards the cost of attending the State Conference. Check out the Oregon FCE website for complete application forms and information. The due date for this contest has been moved to **June 1, 2026**.

We have completed the 2026 Oregon/National FCE High School Age Essay Contest. This year's theme was "RESPECT." The deadline was March 1, 2026. It is a State and National contest, so we are now sending in the essay of our 1<sup>st</sup> place winner. This year we had 14 entries, all of which unfortunately, were from Klamath County. We need you to help promote this contest elsewhere throughout the State. You can view and download all the rules and forms on the Oregon FCE website <https://www.oregon-fce.org/hs-age-essay-contests>. You can also see all the results from the past three years. The contest rules and guidelines are also available on the Oregon FCE website. The 2027 Essay Theme is "RESPONSIBILITY."

To help with the cost of the State Conference, we are looking for **Conference Sponsors** including individuals, Study Groups, Counties, and businesses. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for sponsors. I have and will email out a letter and form to each of you. Please find someone to help us by doing a Sponsorship. Last year Conference Registration amounts brought in a lot less money than our expenses. Thankfully, the Sponsorship donations canceled out the loss in revenue. We are **NOT** going to raise the conference registration amount, so we really need your help in finding and recruiting Conference sponsorships.

Let's make sure that we are doing all our normal activities including volunteering, meeting in our Study Groups, County Council meetings, District meetings, and our State Conference. Be sure to schedule and hold those special events that we have had in the past. Please Invite me to your various activities and I'll do all I can to be there.

The Oregon FCE Zoom lessons will continue onward this year. Wednesday, April 1, 2026, was our 64<sup>th</sup> monthly lessons. They are usually held on



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~Next deadline-August 7, 2026~

Send articles and/or change of address to:

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E-mail [LYNDATrose@aol.com](mailto:LYNDATrose@aol.com)

the first Wednesday of the month. FCE members and friends of FCE have participated from across the USA. There have been “Guest Presenters” from Oregon, Virginia, West Virginia, Hawaii, Kansas, Florida, Maryland, Tennessee, Nebraska, North Dakota, Idaho, and Mississippi. All the Zoom Lessons have been recorded and are available on the Oregon website <https://www.oregon-fce.org/oregon-fce-zoom-lessons-on-youtube> Please let me know if you’d be interested in being a presenter.

Before I close this President’s report, I want to, as I always do, repeat “Scott’s Challenge.” My challenge to you is to do all that you can do to “Grow” this organization. This is an extremely difficult thing to do in these tough times, but together we can do it. We, as FCE members, can make a difference by increasing our membership. Every one of you was “Invited” to join this organization. Now it’s your turn. Don’t do this great organization a disservice by not inviting others to join. Don’t let the FCE organization die. You, each of you, can be the salvation of Oregon FCE. One last reminder, if we don’t do something to help this organization grow, the challenges of “Aging Out,” “Burn Out,” and an “I don’t care attitude” will destroy this organization. Become part of the solution. Don’t be a “Nay-Sayer,” become a “Yay-Sayer.” **If you don’t Love, Share, and Invite them, they will never join.**

I am excited about the things that we have done, can do, and will do in Oregon FCE. With all of us working together we can make Oregon FCE all that it can be. **“It is what you will it to be.”**

Thanks for all you do,  
Scott Teeples – Oregon FCE President

## **Web Site for Oregon FCE**

**[www.oregon-fce.org](http://www.oregon-fce.org)**

Again, please check out the web site and let me know what you think. There is lots of information and forms available to all members. Have you checked out YOUR County “Invitation to Join” Brochure that is now available. Please contact Scott Teeples at 541-891-6456, or email [sfteeples@outlook.com](mailto:sfteeples@outlook.com) if you have any comments or questions.

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## **Character Counts Essays 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Essays Sandie Bolyard (Youth Education Representative)**

### **FCE ESSAY and ARTWORK CONTEST 2026 contest was Respect**

Participation throughout the state is still down. We have had entries through our study groups in the past, so check with your groups, the children don’t have to do them in school, also put entry forms in libraries and community centers.

Put your thinking caps on, we need to think of other ways to reach children, even your own Grandchildren.

#### **2026 Contest Winners**

We had 3 participants in 2 school for 4<sup>th</sup> grade in Klamath County on Respect:

Klamath County and State **1<sup>st</sup> place is Kristi Johanson** from Ferguson School, teacher Ms Collens

Her entry will be sent to National.

**2<sup>nd</sup> place Olivia Ogao** from Roosevelt School, teacher Mr Knodel.

**3<sup>rd</sup> place Christopher Mcreado** from Roosevelt school, teacher Mr Knodel.

1<sup>st</sup> place \$ 100.00 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$ 75.00 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$ 25.00 From County and State levels.

## **2027 pillar of Character will be Responsibility**

## “Why I Love Living in Oregon”

### Second grade 20 participants 2 schools:

1<sup>st</sup> place...**Hallie Nichols** from Amity School, teacher Mrs Elmore.

2<sup>nd</sup> place...**Tatum Johnson**, Malin School, teacher Mrs Hogue.

3<sup>rd</sup> place...**Kadence Cross**, Malin School, teacher Mrs. Hogue.

### Third grade 34 participants 3 schools:

1<sup>st</sup> place...**Tavak Danner** from Henley School, teacher Mr. Murdock.

2<sup>nd</sup> place...**Aiden Dearing**, Henley School, teacher Mr. Murdock

3<sup>rd</sup> place...**Nora Meserve**, Henley School, teacher Mr. Murdock

1<sup>st</sup> Place \$50.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$30.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$20.00, for both 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade essays. From County and State levels

### Books for Newborns and Books for Children.

It is important to get books into the hands of our children. You can add other items to the bags. For newborns in addition to **new books**, you might want to add a new toy, burp cloth, bib, socks, booties and anything else that would be helpful for newborns. For older children the books can be gently used, you may want to add school supplies, shampoo etc. then find a need in your community, there are many organizations that can use our help. Add our brochure to advertise our organization.

### Heart of FCE

Our new Heart of FCE for 2026 is **Alice Wicks** of Yamhill Co. She is from Amity.

I want to emphasize that all writers of these nominees keep in mind that this award is for Heart of FCE, they don't have to have held any office, they are the worker bees of your group, you all have members that might not want to hold an office but are always there to help your group function, help spread the word of all the good work FCE does, they work on fundraisers, man a membership drive table, help with your District meeting, Spring festivals, Conferences... etc.

Remember that if your entry does not get the award in any year you may resubmit it next year.

## V.P. for Program Report

### Half yearly report

**Sally Wyffels**

Study groups who participated in the community service program of comfort bears and blankets donated them to local communities. The members gave the items to local fire station, care homes, and places that care for children and/or women dealing with domestic abuse.

District 1 has 16 members with two study groups in Washington County. District 3 has a membership of 31 members in Lane County, Marion County with two members-at-large, and Yamhill County with one member-at-large. District 5 has three study groups in the communities of Prospect, Talent-Phoenix and Klamath with 19 members.

Several groups reported on lessons that their groups presented to their members. Lessons presented were “Hybrid Study Group Meeting”, “Eat to Beat the Top 27 Health Problems for Seniors”, “Forgotten Towns of Oregon”, “Great American Women You’ve Never Heard of, Part 3”, “Pollinators”, “Precious Water”, “Aging in Place“, and “Food Security”.

Volunteer hours of listed by reported study groups were reported from 4 units plus a member-at-large. District 3 reported 389 hours for FCE and 1307 hours for other activities for a total of 1696 volunteer hours.

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## District and Study Group Reports Karen Walker, Washington County District I

We have 16 members: Groner Study Group has 7 members; Tualatin Study Group has 9 members. We have 1 member-at-large.

Groner Study Group meets in a member's home for business meetings and lessons. They buy walnuts then meet to crack them and sell them to raise money for donations to Washington County Domestic Violence Resource Center.

Tualatin Study Group meets in a restaurant for business meetings and lessons. They take up a collection to donate to the Good Neighbor House.

We had four members travel down to Amity for District III Spring Festival in March. We all had a very nice time. We learned about items that can

help us with our everyday living and about MV Advancement and the good work they do.

Washington County FCE Advisory Board is hosting a May Celebration to show appreciation for each other. Our program will be May Day Traditions Around the World. May 1, 2026, 11:00 am at OSU Extension Center, 1815 NW 169th Place, Suite 100, Beaverton, OR. A simple lunch will be provided. There is no Fee. Please bring coins to play Tea Bingo. Coins will be collected for Coins for Friendship. Please RSVP by April 27th to Karen Walker: 503-964-4923 (phone/text).

October Groner and Tualatin Study Groups will meet at OSU Extension Center where our OSU Extension Advisor, Maureen Quinn Loes will present our lesson, Pollinators.

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### **Yamhill, Marion & Lane Counties Lynda Nyseth, District III Director**

We have three active study groups: Yamhill County has two groups: Amity FCE with 9 members; Creative Homemakers with 10 members; Lost Creek in Lane County with 9 members; Marion County has 2 members-at-large; Yamhill County has 1 member-at-large, giving us 31 members in District III.

We started planning our Yamhill County Spring Festival in November. It was held, March 18, with 28 attending. We had 4 from Washington County, 3 from Lane County, 10 from Creative Homemakers, 8 from Amity and 3 speakers.

Our speakers presented very interesting and informative messages. Jeannie Rosenbalm (Lynda's daughter), an Occupational Therapist, shared with us many items and creative hints on aides to help us as we grow older and need help with daily task.

Marie Gwilliam (Sally's daughter) and Tony Meeker shared the history of MV Advancement. It started in Amity in 1966 as Mid Valley Workshop, now with its name change and advancements in its program, is located in McMinnville with its new name MV Advancement. We celebrated Tony's Birthday with cake and birthday song. With our donations we raised \$129.00 for MV Advancement.

We celebrated our Heart of FCE winner from Amity, Alice Wicks.

Our lunch consisted of Chicken noodle soup, cheddar potato soup, crackers, veggie trays, fruit platters and dessert. It was a good day.



Jeannie Rosenbalm



Marie Gwilliam & Tony Meeker



Tony and Sally Wyffels



Heart of FCE Alice Wicks & Sally

This month, April 29, in Yamhill County we will have our ACWW Women Walk the World. We will be at Discovery Park in McMinnville, 10 am, after our walk we will have brown bag lunch, play games and visit and take donations for ACWW. At Spring Festival from the donations for blankets that Linda Bird crocheted around we have \$30 as a start.

Lynda was happy to announce and present our 2<sup>nd</sup> grade essay winner Hallie Nichols, \$10 from Amity FCE for her participation. Hallie is Lynda's great-granddaughter. I'm excited to let her know she is the first-place winner from Oregon FCE.



Hallie and GiGi.

Volunteer hours October 2025 through February 2026: Amity FCE 197 and Other hours 271.5 and Lane County reported 30 FCE hours and 237 others, Marion County reported 400 other hours. These hours include: Study group activities (lessons, hosting, newsletter and officers' duties); other hours include knitting and crocheting for donations and teaching others how to knit and crochet; museums, hospital gift shop, helping neighbors, Gideons, Church, Model Car clubs, pregnancy centers and Firemen's auxiliary.

**Lane County FCE Picnic, July 8<sup>th</sup>, 10am-2pm.**  
Elijah Bristow State Park, 38259 Wheeler Road, Dexter, Oregon, Big Leaf Maple Picnic Area.

Bring a friend, a lawn chair (optional) and a dessert or salad to share. Chicken will be provided and drinking water and an iced tea/lemonade mixture. Each FCE group that attends is asked to bring a basket (or) plant worth \$25 to raffle to help cover expenses. We will also have a 50/50 raffle and small plants for a donation.

Registration is \$15.00. Deadline for registration is June 15<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to Elsie Gabrisch and send to Elsie Gabrisch, 2536 Debra Drive, Springfield, OR 97477

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## **District V Klamath/Jackson County Council Report Bonnie Teeples County Chairman**

District 5 has one County Council and three Study Groups. We have a group in Prospect, Talent-Phoenix and Contemporaries in Klamath Falls.

Each of the study groups hold their meetings and share lessons. All three groups meet together in June at Lake of the Woods and have lunch, visit and sometimes take a boat ride around the lake. We love the time spent together visiting and catching up on each other's lives.

Some lessons taught: Precious Water; Aging in Place; Skin is a Miracle; Ovarian Cancer; Filling your Pantry on a Budget; Decluttering; Kindness; Do you believe in Magic and Food Security.

Prospect gave 3 scholarships to High School students, made care bags for foster and emergency families. Had their Spring meeting with a BBQ and self-guided tours with maps. Helped local families get access to programs to be self-sustained, learn to

grow food and animals, cooking classes and baking bread.

The stuffed animals and blankets from Oregon FCE Fall conference were delivered to DHS in Klamath Falls. They are so grateful and reported that the children are enjoying the animals. They are given to children in the waiting room and play area as parents are there to get help. Then they can take them home.

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## **State Conference Door Prizes**

The door prize committee is asking each study group and/or county council to bring a door prize to the state conference. The value should be around \$25.00. I know that it is hard to find things and keep the value at \$25.00, so if everyone in your group gathered new items that they have around their house and combine them it makes a very nice basket without spending \$25.00, you can say you are regifting. Thank you for your help.

Lynda Nyseth, Door prize committee chairman

## **Raffle items for Margaret Siebold Scholarship**

Frank and Elsie are looking for items to be raffled for the Margaret Siebold Scholarship. This raffle takes the place of the oral auction that was held in the past. Last year we had two items donated, a stain glass picture and a diamond dot picture. This year we have a quilt and are looking for one or two more items. Ticket price is \$10 each or 3 for \$25. If you can help please contact Frank Huisman or Elsie Gabrisch, 2536 Debra Drive, Springfield, OR 97477. Thank you.

## **Monday Morning Community Project**

This year we will be making cards to give to Service men and women, thanking them for their services (this could be military, firemen, first responders, you name them). And making some to be sent to Care Facilities to let people know that we are thinking of them, encouraging them and brightening their day. Come join, participate, visit and have fun.

## Scholarships and opportunities for help to conference

### Friends of FCE Scholarship

To help those that may need financial help with expenses in attending the 2026 Oregon FCE State Fall Conference Sponsored by “Friends of Oregon FCE” – Oregon FCE Keeper’s Corner Fundraising money will be used.

All Oregon FCE members are eligible to apply for this one-time Scholarship. Scholarship amount can be up to the total cost of a full time Conference Registration.

The following conditions must be met before the Scholarship money is awarded:

- This application must be filled out properly and mailed or emailed to the State President on/before the due date of September 15, 2026. The completed Scholarship Application form can also be sent in with the completed Conference Registration form.

- The applicant must pay for all fees involving Full Time Conference Registration and must attend the entire Conference before receiving the Scholarship money. Those not adhering to these conditions will NOT receive scholarship money. Scholarship does NOT include costs for rooms etc. A Scholarship check will be sent after all the above conditions have been met.
- This scholarship will not be awarded to those receiving the Margaret Seibold Scholarship or other Oregon FCE State Scholarships for this conference.

### Oregon FCE Member Essay Contest

June 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline for essay. Same as the high school age scholarship. Subject this year is **Respect**. Enter to win an award voucher to be used towards the cost of attending the State Conference. If you cannot attend, you can name someone to give the voucher to.

## High School Age Essay Contest RESPECT



1<sup>st</sup> Place - **Yurida Cazarez Lemus**,  
Lost River High  
School \$500



2<sup>nd</sup> Place - **Sophia Meyer**  
Henley High  
School  
\$300.00



3<sup>rd</sup> place – **Mattie Donahoe**  
Mazama High  
School  
\$200.00



**STANDING RULES FOR MARGARET SEIBOLD OREGON FCE STATE CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIP**

**OREGON FCE STATE CONFERENCE MARGARET SEIBOLD SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Sponsored by Oregon Association for Family and Community Education

Each scholarship is for UP TO \$100.00

**PURPOSE:** The scholarship shall provide a partial payment of the cost attending the Annual Oregon FCE State Conference. The recipient may apply this to any expenses such as registration, travel, meals and motel costs.

**AMOUNT:** The amount and number of scholarships to be given will be determined by the Oregon FCE Board of Directors on a year to year basis.

**ELIGIBILITY:** The applicant must be a dues paying member of Oregon and National FCE. A person may receive the State Conference Scholarship as well as County and or local scholarships. An applicant may not receive the scholarship more than once in a five year period. The award is not transferable

**APPLICATION:** The applicant will write a paragraph stating why she/he wants to be considered for the scholarship, what he/she hopes to gain from the conference and where, with whom and how the information will be shared with others.

**HOW AWARDED:** The Margaret Seibold FCE Conference scholarship Committee will review the applicants and select the recipient(s). Questions may be addressed to the state Treasurer. The award will be in the form of a certificate and check given during the Conference.

**WHEN DUE:** Applications must be postmarked or emailed no later than August 30 Scholarship recipients will be notified no later than September 15.

**ADMINISTRATOR:** The Oregon FCE State Treasurer will be responsible for maintaining a separate interest bearing account and distribution of funds.

**POLICY CHANGE:** Rules governing this scholarship may be made by a vote of two-thirds of the Oregon FCE Board of Directors

You will be required to fill out an evaluation sheet, which will be given to you with the check after the conference and submit it to the treasure.

You must be registered for the complete conference to receive this scholarship.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

What is your age group? 18-30 \_\_\_\_\_ 31-40 \_\_\_\_\_ 41-55 \_\_\_\_\_ 56 & over \_\_\_\_\_

Are you an FCE member? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ How many years have you been a member? \_\_\_\_\_

Name and location of your study group \_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended the State conference? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Last year of attendance \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been awarded this scholarship before? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ What year \_\_\_\_\_

Will you have to pay for child or elder care expenses to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

To receive this award, you must attend the whole conference.

Tell us why you want to be considered a State FCE Conference Scholarship. Include what you hope to gain from the conference and how, where and with whom you will share the information you learn at the conference. (Attach a second page to your application if you need more writing space).

Application to be sent to State Treasurer:

Bonnie Teeples

4338 Arthur Street, Klamath Falls, OR 97603

Or email to: [bdteeples@charter.net](mailto:bdteeples@charter.net)

Application must be postmarked or emailed no later than August 30

Recipients of scholarship awards will be notified by September 15

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## OR Assoc. Family & Community Education

Oregon FCE News  
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## 2026 Oregon FCE Calendar

### April

27 **Deadline registration for Washington Co. Appreciation Day**

29 **ACWW Walk**

### May

1 **Washington County Appreciation Day 11am**

6 **Zoom Lesson**

10 **Mother's Day**

25 **Memorial Day**

### June

3 **Zoom Lesson**

15 **Deadline registration Lane Co. Picnic**

17 **Lake of the Woods, Klamath/Jackson Co. 11am**

21 **Father's Day**

### July

1 **Zoom Lesson**

4 **Independence Day**

8 **FCE Picnic, Dexter, OR, 10am-2pm**

20-23 **2026 National FCE**

Erlanger, KY, Forms on [www.nafce.org](http://www.nafce.org)

### August

5 **Zoom Lesson**

7 **Deadline for articles for Oregon FCE News**

21 **Mail Newsletter**

Oregon Association  
for Family & Community Education

Mission Statement of OR Association for Family  
& Community Education  
To strengthen individuals & families through  
Continuing Education, Leadership Development,  
Community Service

### National FCE Headquarters

PO Box 642  
Florence, KY 41022-0642  
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