

CONTEMPO

Bringing people together to improve the lives of individuals, families, and communities

Special points of interest:

- California State & Region Conference
- Scholarships & Grants
- Report from Poland



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President's Message

Happy New Year CA-AFCS Members and Friends!

I want to encourage each of you to plan now to attend our **2010 Biennial Conference!**

Please review the conference information provided by the 2010 Western Region Biennial Conference Committee Members provided in previous and current *Contempo* newsletters. Information is also provided on our website: www.aafcs-ca.org

The conference will be in Sacramento, CA, at the Embassy Suites/Sacramento Riverfront on **March 11-14, 2010.**

I encourage each of you to attend the conference to learn and share and to network with past and new colleagues and friends. The Conference Committee has worked diligently to plan many wonderful opportunities and experiences for you related to all areas of Family and Consumer Sciences.

Let's make this conference an exceptional way to celebrate the beginning of the second century of our profession!

See you all in Sacramento!

Marge Lichty
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Capitalizing on Our Strengths

“Inspiration, Motivation, and Education”

California & Western Region Conference

March 11-14, 2010

Embassy Suites—Sacramento Riverfront

Don't Miss It!!!

You must know by now that the North Central District is hosting the Biennial State conference, and also hosting the 10 western states. There have been several “Save-the-Date” notices in *Contempo* over the last year. It has been three years since our last conference held in Los Angeles, and it will be another two years before the next one.

DON'T MISS THIS ONE



Promotion

Barbara Kilborn was recently in Indianapolis for a leadership conference, where she personally handed state presidents a draft of the preconference mailer. The women from Washington, Alaska and Nevada were very interested and said they would spread the word to their members.

Betty Knopf has an EEF grant to publicize the conference to HETAC members. Our preconference mailer was mailed to everyone late December, so you should have received it by now. We have now mailed out invitations to over 1000 members. Let's all spread the word to all the people in our field, members or not.

Program

Clare Dendinger and the local committee has worked for over a year on the planning of this great event. We have arranged for excellent speakers for 3 general sessions and 5 breakout sessions with three concurrently running educational opportunities. There will also be gourmet chocolate and wine tasting reception at the Railroad Museum on opening night and two luncheons included with the price. 9 PDU's have been requested for certified members.

Four excellent tour opportunities on Friday are available for those who can come in Thursday evening. These too will have PDU's available. Thursday evening is when the Board of Directors will be meeting.

Hotel

Embassy Suites is located next to Old Sacramento and the Sacramento River Promenade. There is easy walking to many interesting sights, the capital and shopping. A free airport shuttle is available to hotel. It is the newest and most attractive hotel in the downtown area. There are views of the capital and Sacramento river, situated next to the iconic Tower Bridge.

The hotel is on the expensive side (\$169/ night) but they have given us a \$30 discount on their regular room rate. It includes a full made-to-order breakfast plus appetizers and cocktail hour daily. There is a city parking garage across the street from the hotel (no parking at the hotel except by valet). Hotel rooms are real suites and can sleep up to 4 persons.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL

Mention you are with CA-AFCS for a special rate for double occupancy \$169/night.

Call (800) EMBASSY for reservations. On-line reservations www.embassysuites.com with a link for on-line conference registration (two registrations can be found at one site).

Students

We have special rates for students. They can also apply for **special financial support** by contacting Bonnye Whamond: bwarren@raleys.com or applying through the website: www.aafcs-ca.org/conference. Students who are willing to work for a few hours during the conference can almost attend free.

Registration

Registration forms must be accompanied with **your check** made out to:

CA Assoc. of Family & Consumer Sciences

and mailed to: **Bonnye Whammond**

2787 19th Street

Sacramento, CA 95818-3008

NO CREDIT CARDS will be accepted by mail.

Online registration can be found at: www.aafcs-ca.org/conference/registration where you can also download a copy of the printed registration form.

Credit card payments will be accepted through PayPal with an additional \$5 handling fee.

	By February 16	By March 10	Single Day	On-Site
AAFCS Members	\$225	\$240	\$150	\$255
Non-Members	\$240	\$270	\$175	\$285
Students	\$100	\$100	\$70	\$115

Tour prices are separate but need to be sent in with registration. See the mailer and registration form for details or visit the conference website.

DON'T BE LATE in registering for this great even that will take place in the River City. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to keep up to date with advancements in our field, with long-time friendships and professional networking within Family and Consumer Sciences.



Free to a Classroom!

One set of large, historical textile production posters.

Please pay for postage or pick up at the State Conference in March.

Contact Betty Knopf at fpstude@aol.com

Life is An Adventure!

By: Betty Knopf

Looking for something to do on a week end? Go to Lodz for cultural, educational, shopping and exciting experiences. In case you are not familiar with Lodz, (pronounce “Woosht”) it is the second largest city in Poland, about 2 hours away by train from Warsaw. Let me share memories of my experiences with you and please do not expect me to pronounce the words in Polish.

First—A Brief Historical Background

In 1820, a campaign was started to turn Lodz into a centre of manufacturing. The first cotton mill opened in 1825 and in 1839 the first steam-powered factory in Poland and Russia officially opened. A massive influx of workers from Portugal, England, and France flooded the city to join Poles, Germans and Jews. The city grew to be the biggest textile production centre in the Russian Empire. The first Manufaktura loom began spinning in 1852. Between 1879-1890, 12 factories were producing high quality textiles and vast fortunes were made by the major industrialist families. Dissatisfaction among the working classes grew and the city became a hotbed of socialist unrest.

In 1892 massive strikes gripped the city.

The huge gap in the living standard between the rich and the poor came to a head in 1905 when the city had open revolution. Over 300 workers and protestors were killed by the Tsarist police force. By WWI, Lodz was one of the most densely populated cities on the earth with approximately 13,000 people per kilometer. (A kilometer is 0.6 mile.) At the end of the war the city lost about 40% of its population to the post-war worldwide influenza epidemic.

In 1939, the start of WWII, Lodz held out but was finally annexed to the Reich. The northern part of the city was turned into a ghetto with approximately 200,000 Jews confined within its walls. Only about 900 are thought to have survived the ghetto's liquidation in 1944.

From 1945 the city fell under Soviet sphere of influence. Businesses were nationalized, and political and religious leaders were imprisoned. In 1970, shipyard workers called a strike about the plunging living standards. In 1978, the first Polish Pope was elected, John Paul II, and he is regarding as pivotal in the collapse of

communism by preaching sermons of hope and unity to Poles. In 1990, Lech Walesa became the first popularly-elected president of post-Communist Poland.



Second—The City Today

The death of the Warsaw Pact trading block left Lodz without any real market. Factories closed and production fell. In 1997 the last plant closed, a rundown wreck. A French developer bought the site in 2000 and work began in 2003 to transform the mills into a multifaceted complex. The original 19th century brick buildings remain the focal point and many of the original bricks have been reused. An equal amount of new buildings, mainly the shopping centre, have replaced the Soviet leftovers that have been demolished.

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Program of Work for AAFCS-San Diego

By: Sharon McKenzie

2009-2010

The year commenced in September with a tour of the newly opened San Diego Continuing Education Center that includes a commercial kitchen with adjacent classroom and demonstration space, an industrial sewing machine classroom, and a huge sewing room complete with a demonstration space that is supported by a camera to project the demonstration onto a screen for all to view. All AAFCS classes have waiting lists of interested students.

In November we toured the San Diego County recycling center to view the process of managing tons of material on a daily basis. It was amazing to view the process from the trucks unloading to separating and bundling the various categories of materials. I'm sure we will all think twice about the packaging involved in our future purchases.

The remainder of our year will include a tour of the new Ronald McDonald House recently completed as a support for San Diego's Children's Hospital. The facility is a 47 bedroom house built on top of a parking structure!

A special February gathering will be held with Joyce Miles, the National AAFCS Virtual Ellen Richards, while she is in San Diego.

Attending the State Meeting in March will be a highlight for many of us.

We will end our year by honoring the AAFCS graduating seniors from Point Loma Nazarene University and our newly awarded scholarship winners.

Our programs this year will support all three of the AAFCS National Goals in the areas of Celebrate the Past, Launch the Future and Address Sustainability.

Sharon McKenzie
President
San Diego District

Interested in submitting an article? Have something to advertise?

Send it to our editor at articles@aafcs-ca.org

Life Is an Adventure!

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The Manufaktura is an amazing shopping and leisure complex that opened in 2007 and is built at the location where the textile industrialist, Izrael Poznanski, had his factories in the 19th century.

The designers of Manufaktura have combined historical buildings built in red-brick industrial style with modern life. The two level shopping galleria has more than 250 boutiques and shops, grouped together according to their products such as children's fashions, interior decoration, beauty, and jewelry.

Popular bands are offered from Poland and 22 foreign countries. The Manufaktura offers entertainment and recreation opportunities such as a bowling facility, a fitness club, an IMAX, a 15 screen cinema, numerous restaurants and cafes, and even a disco. For kids, big or small, there are additional choices such as the Experymentarium. This is an amazing interactive museum of science and technology. Also available for children is the Kinderplaneta where children can bounce on trampolines, drive a race car on a special track, climb on a wall or ride a merry-go-round.

Most trips to Lodz focus one street, ulica Piotrkowska. Measuring a little under 5 kilometers (about 3 miles), it ranks as Europe's longest



pedestrian street and is lined with retail shops, restaurants, beer gardens, food stands all housed in a mix of neo-renaissance and art nouveau buildings. Some of the buildings are in disrepair while others have been restored to former glory. All-year-around rickshaw bikes are available for a very low price to take people up and down this avenue.

Third—Textiles

In 1960 the Museum of the History of Textiles was established in Lodz and in 1975 the Central Museum of Textiles was established. Housed in an old textile factory, it is called “The White Factory”. The building is a beautiful example of industrial architecture first built in 1835-1839. It was the first “multi-

department” mill in Lodz.

The museum now houses the Department of Tapestry with textiles ranging from the 5th century to present day. The Department of Industrial Textiles houses one of the world's biggest collections of industrial textiles which date back to the beginnings of the 19th century. There are fragments and lengths of cloth for garments as well as decorative and technical fabrics. The Department of Fashion has a collection of garment pieces and accessories from the beginning of the 19th century until present times. It also has a special collection of garments from 1900-1939. Carefully documented are the materials, designs, costumes and jewelry by

famous European designers of the times. The Department of Folk Textiles was started in 1950 and now has over 4,000 items. There are various types of decorative and functional fabrics as well as fragments of folk costumes from various regions. These costume fragments include fabrics for garments, laces, hand and machine embroidery which illustrates various weaving techniques and types of ornamentations. The collection is accompanied by tools and equipment used in folk weaving and fiber processing.

The museum's Department of the History of Textile Techniques possesses a collection of textile tools, machines and appliances linked to the past decades of textile production in Lodz. There are various types of hand and machine weaving looms, spinning machines, reeling machines and spoolers. Also included in the collection are wooden blocks for hand and machine printing using relief techniques, tools for producing them along with various types of knitting and sewing machines. The Department of the History of Textiles Production collects items and is engaged in scientific work concerning the history of the textile industry in Poland, both in guilds and mills. The collection about

Lodz includes regulations issued by government, mill plans, reports of companies, books of production, workers' account books, and photographs. The Department of Exhibition Organization works with other departments in the museum and with other museums, along with galleries in Poland and abroad to plan various types of exhibitions.

The time I spent in this huge museum went far too quickly considering the size of the buildings and the displays. The first floor was filled with textile machines and certainly represented the history of the changes over time in the production of fabric. The second floor was totally unexpected as it contained an enormous exhibit of petite point. Yes! The items were beyond anything I have ever seen. There were some I thought were photographs as there was such detail and shading. Sponsored by DMC, this exhibit featured portraits, original designs, linens, still-life's and much more. Breathe-taking. On to the third floor I found an incredible exhibit of actual fabrics from Poland made by the Eskimo Company. Along with swatch books and sample lengths of fabrics, actual clothing made in the 60s from the fabrics were on display. Life in Poland in the 60s definitely had a Soviet influence.

Perhaps the most memorable part of the third floor was the film of very rare movies taken in these textile factories in the very early 1900s showing the textile manufacturing processes. I found it very humbling to see men and women working so hard and under such severe conditions.

This exciting weekend was part of a wonderful trip to teach English in Poland. No, we do not speak Polish; we speak American English. No, you do not have to be a teacher to volunteer. My husband and I were part of a team for Global Volunteers. This program works in over 20 countries providing medical services, nurturing help on orphanages and care facilities, construction assistance, and teaching English. The team worked with adults and children in communities in schools or tutoring, and participated in community events. During this trip we were invited to a traditional Polish wedding and we were guests at a dinner with a delegation from the Ukraine. Our trips on the weekends were bonus opportunities to travel to places of our choice. If you would like more information on volunteer opportunities with Global Volunteers, check out www.GlobalVolunteers.org. ■



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Calendar

February 16, 2010

Deadline for early-bird registration for the CA-AAFCS State & Western Region Conference

March 11-14, 2010

California AAFCS State & Western Region Conference

March 30, 2010

Contempo Submission Deadline

June 24-26, 2010

AAFCS 101st Annual Conference & Expo

View our complete calendar online at www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/calendar/

Visit us online at
www.aafcs-ca.org

Students

Do you love writing? Have you done research in an area you would like others to know about? Do you love Family and Consumer Sciences? Want to spread the word?

Then consider being a guest writer on our Student Blog! Contact Corinne Thomas at cthomas@aafcs-ca.org for more information! Represent your school/discipline today!

Scholarships & Grants

Scholarship and grant information has been made available on our website!

Please visit <http://www.aafcs-ca.org/ca/scholarships-grants/> for more information.

Many scholarship applications are due in February or March, so hurry!