



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR HOME ECONOMICS

IFHE

# IFHE-US CONNECTION

Volume 8 Issue 2

Fall 2006

A Newsletter for Members of the International Federation for  
Home Economics in the USA

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## A Message from the President

Mary Andrews

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### Get Involved!

Are you a passive IFHE member? If you are, join the crowd! Seventy-three percent of all IFHE members responding to a survey in 2004 rated themselves as passive members. Past President, Gertraud Pichler noted that sixty percent cannot be reached directly at any one time because of faulty addresses or e-mails! But luckily 81% responded that they did read the IFHE newsletter, received by e-mail or on the website.

In our own national survey in 2004, we also found that communications is a key concern of IFHE-US members. The major avenue of contact with members is through the twice annual newsletter. But newsletters require good addresses—either mail or e-mail addresses. And we, too, have trouble maintaining address lists. Please alert us to any changes in your personal situation.

Why do people join? The number one reason is the interaction and international level networking made available by the organization. How can you become more involved?

- Both at the national and international level a variety of committees exist that need the time and talent of interested members. So think about joining a committee.
- Develop linkages and relationships with one or two key members, institutions or organizational members. “Twining” or “matches” have been used by the organization to recognize formal linkages across countries. But informal linkages are equally rewarding.
- Support the needs of members from the developing countries of the world. In many countries the cost of individual membership is prohibitive (perhaps even with the change in dues recently approved). So you can help by sponsoring a member or organization, by supplying access to information or resources to colleagues where INTERNET is slow or difficult to access, or by sending books and journals to Universities who cannot afford the costs of texts.
- Take-on a commitment to serve on the Board of IFHE-US. There is no better way to shape the direction of an organization than through service within the leadership ranks.

You are what makes the IFHE organization robust. As we approach the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of IFHE, we can be proud of our history and the changes that have emerged. Our profession has grown and our international linkages have matured. But in the final analysis, it is the people—the membership that makes the difference. Get and stay involved!

## Organizational Memberships in IFHE Valued

Currently 24 AAFCS state affiliates and organizations from the USA hold organizational memberships in IFHE (and IFHE-US). These memberships provide critical and very visible support to the world-wide organization and the ideal of international cooperation. As our world increasingly shrinks and becomes interdependent, the value of having contacts across the globe increases.

Memberships create friendships and access. It is not just having access to the literature from international institutions; it is meeting with and becoming colleagues with the professionals themselves and thus contributing to the international body of knowledge. Organizational memberships mean that many more professionals can be aware and potentially involved in the organization, and that many more opportunities become available for linkages with organizations and institutions abroad. Think about partnering with an international organizational member to exchange materials, interact with personnel or jointly work on a project. The newly formed Home Economics Association of Zambia <oswellnaka@yahoo.com> invited such interactions just this past summer in Cape Town. Many such groups across the world would welcome your involvement.

One of the constant worries, however, about organizational memberships is finding the funds to pay the dues! All of our organizations are facing budget concerns. However, many of our organizational representatives report holding fund raisers for this purpose. Wisconsin AFCS reported that *"the cost of organizational membership is prohibitive for us so we raised our dues by holding a silent auction at our WAFCS annual meeting. While we usually do this for our WAFCS Foundation, a separate auction of "international" items raised enough for this year's and most of next year's IFHE organizational dues. We intend to replenish the potential auction items in our travels between now and our 2007 meeting."* Share your strategies with others by contributing to the next newsletter. ❖

## News from the UN

Ruth Norman, IFHE-US Liaison to the UN

The NGO Committee on the Family at the UN met on April 28, 2006 to discuss the topic of *Human Trafficking and the Consequences for Families*. A Ukrainian Pediatrician, Dr. Dyrzka noted that more than a million children and as many women are trafficked each year. Mail Order Brides is also a form of trafficking of women and includes girls as young as 13. Complexities of the problem in the Ukraine were outlined, such as reluctance of victims to divulge their plight; indifference of the public and the government in addressing the issues; and pervasiveness of ties to organized crime. Decades of repression and economic degradation have forced young people to leave their villages; girls are very vulnerable to the false promises of traffickers who may be family members or friends! Governments must be made aware of the prevalence of the problems in their countries and policies must be written and enforced, to prevent trafficking. Currently police officers in New York City are being trained to deal with these problems. The *Victims Protection Act* in the US documents the forms of trafficking, how more must be done in addition to opposing trafficking, how help must be given to victims to recover from the traumas experienced, and the need for education to turn the lives of victims around. Thanks to NGOs like ECPAT it is now illegal to travel across state lines or abroad with the intent of engaging in paid sexual activity.

Congratulations are in order to IFHE member Sadiga Washi of the Sudan who recently received a grant from UNIFEM to focus on an educational campaign to prevent violence against women in the Darfur region of her country. More must be done throughout the world.



## IFHE-US Annual Report 2005-2006

Mary Andrews, President

The officers of IFHE-US during the year of 2005-2006 consisted of Mary Andrews, President; Juanita Mendenhall, Past President; Joanne Pearson, Director of Professional Development and Programs; Kitty Decker, Recorder; Nancy Billings, Director of Finance; Nancy St. John Director of Communications, Sharon McManus, Director of the IFHE-US Development Fund, Ruth Norman, Chair UN Liaison Committee; Alberta Hill, Chair Nominating Committee; Jenny Schroeder and Sharon Christie, Subcommittee on History, Archives and Documentation; Janett Gibbs, Liaison to History Committee; and Carol Makela, AAFCS International Division Chair.

This annual report of activities of IFHE-US is organized according to the Plan of Work for 2005-2006. Accomplishments relative to those goals are as follows:

### 1. Strengthen communications and networks.

- Newsletters were sent in the fall and spring by regular mail and posted on the IFHE-US webpage. Approximately 350 copies are distributed per issue.
- New Officers of IFHE-US took-on responsibilities in July 2006: Nancy Billings remains for a second term of office as Director of Finance; Jan Scholl (PA) replaces Nancy St. John as Director of Communications; and Tahira Hira (IA) replaces Joanne Pearson as Director of Professional Development and Programs.
- Leadership at the Region of the Americas also changed in July 2006. Janet Archibald of Guyana replaces Sherry Betts as Vice President for the Region of the Americas; Joanne Pearson replaces Janet as Regional Representative on the IFHE Board of Directors; and Geraldene Hodelin was elected President Elect of IFHE in July in Cape Town. She will take office as President at the Congress in 2008.
- Conference calls were made involving all members of the Board on September 9 and December 1. These contacts were in addition to the regularly scheduled Board meeting at AAFCS Annual Convention.
- A Policies and Procedures Manual was drafted and presented at the June 2006 annual meeting. Alberta Hill organized the materials and developed the manual.

- A call for delegates to the IFHE Council Meetings in Cape Town secured 26 delegates.
- The 100 year history project is well underway. Jenny Schroeder and Sharon Christie developed a draft of the IFHE-US History. Similar efforts are underway at the international level and in each region or country. In addition to the official history in print, members have been requested to send documents and photos in support of a DVD project. Once collected reports, narratives, and photos will be compiled on a DVD to document the past 100 years. These materials will be presented during the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in Switzerland in 2008.
- Based on the Treasurer's Report of June 2006, a balance of \$12,778 remains in the treasurer.

### 2. Provide educational services and support for international involvement of members.

- Members were encouraged to become actively involved in the organization by joining an IFHE committee, attending the IFHE Leadership Meeting in February, and making plans to attend the 2006 IFHE Council Meeting in Cape Town, South Africa.
- Final shipments of donated materials were sent to Granada in Sept 2005 in response to the devastating hurricane damage. A personal report of the impact of our support was made by Allison Parke from the Grenada Ministry of Education during the AAFCS Annual Meetings in 2005.
- Although Hurricane Katrina created another opportunity for service, the Board decided to encourage individual members to contribute independently as many organizations are available in the USA for such relief work.
- A total of 9 IFHE-US members are serving on programme and council committees of IFHE. Most participate as active members, but several serve as "corresponding" members. Six IFHE-US members attended the Leadership Meeting in Berlin, Germany in February 2006.
- One educational session was developed and presented at AAFCS Annual Meeting in 2005 titled "The Changing Face of Malnutrition Worldwide". The moderator and speakers were Janett Gibbs, Mary Andrews and Bruce Humphrys, Executive Director of *Compatible Technology International*.

Continued on page 4

- *Project Identify and Recognize* hosted an awards ceremony and reception during the 2006 International Cultural Event in Charlotte. This ongoing project is coordinated by Janett Gibbs and Rita Wood. It recognizes the service of Home Economists/Family Consumer Scientist who currently serve in the military or have done so in the past. Since the beginning of the project in 2003, 181 personal data forms have been submitted. Each honoree receives a specially design pin and recognition certificate.
- Our IFHE and AAFCS representatives at the UN continue to participate in a number of key committees, work on commissions and participate in briefings and conferences in our behalf. The Board considered the possibility of applying for UN observer status directly as the IFHE-US organization. Ruth Norman, the IFHE-US Liaison to the UN is exploring this option.

### 3. Contribute to the IFHE Development Fund.

- A letter requesting contributions to the IFHE-US Development Fund was included in the fall and spring issues of the IFHE-US Connection. The current value of the investments of the Fund as of March 2006 was \$76,565. An estimated 92 people contributed in this program year.
- Educational fundraising events were held at the AAFCS Annual Meeting at the University of MN in St Paul and in Charlotte NC. Another quilt is being developed to raise monies for the International Development Fund. That quilt will be raffled off at the 2008 Congress. Additional grants hope to be awarded at the 2008 Congress. The current grant is to St. Lucia for income generating activities for women.

### 4. Develop long-range plans for meeting the professional development needs of members.

- Because interest in projects to be carried out internationally had been expressed in the interest survey conducted in 2004, a grant proposal with The Technical University of Moldova was developed. This proposal, co-sponsored by IFHE-US and IFHE (CEEC Outreach Committee), was submitted to and funded by the Monsanto Fund. The title of the project is "*Improving Nutritional Health with School Gardens in Moldova*". Joanne Pearson is leading this 2.5 year effort to provide nutrition and community gardening training to local school teachers and

administrators, and to assist schools in establishing school gardens. IFHE members who wished to be involved were invited to contact Joanne. A total of six persons volunteered and two were selected to assist in providing educational sessions in Moldova in September 2006—Demetra Collins and Caryl Johnson.



Training Team for the School Garden Project at Workshop held in September 2006, Moldova. ❖

### Don't Let Your Talents Go Unused—Take an International Teaching Assignment

Mary Andrews

Many of our colleagues in developing countries are working under severe stress due to extraordinary teaching loads. So if you are looking for a sabbatical, a short-term (semester or more) international assignment or a retirement contribution, enquire with the various colleges and universities in countries of your interest. Search websites for programs that might use your expertise and just write to the Dean of the Faculty of interest. Most universities have some policies and procedures regarding visiting faculty. They usually cannot pay salaries, but can provide housing at cost or less. And if you think you would qualify for Fulbright status, all your expenses might be covered!



#### Positions Available in Botswana!

Colleagues in the Faculty of Education, Department of Home Economics Education at the University of Botswana would gladly welcome assistance. <http://ub.bw/departments/education/hee.cfm>

### University of Botswana (Continued)

Currently the Department of Home Economics has one faculty member teaching all of the child development courses and no one available to teach the clothing and textile courses. Foods and Nutrition and Housing and Interiors are also understaffed. UB offers Bachelor of Education degrees with specializations in school teaching or extension work. UB is a modern, beautifully organized campus in the heart of Gaborone, the capital city. The language of instruction is English and the people are extremely warm and friendly. Teaching for a semester or year would be a chance of a lifetime. Think about it and explore possibilities. Currently, a number of “real” jobs are posted. Contact the Department Chair, Dept. of Home Economics, Faculty of Education, Private Bag UB 00704, Gaborone, BOTSWANA or e-mail: [tsimako@mopipi.ub.bw](mailto:tsimako@mopipi.ub.bw).

For information about formal teaching programs abroad, search the Web or look at sites such as:

[www.ciee.org](http://www.ciee.org)  
[www.worldteach.org](http://www.worldteach.org)  
[www.cie.uci.edu/teaching.html](http://www.cie.uci.edu/teaching.html)  
[www.transitionsabroad.com](http://www.transitionsabroad.com)❖

### Books Needed Abroad

If you are cleaning out your office, have recently retired or have access to publisher handouts, think about sending new or used books to our Home Economist/Family Consumer Scientist living abroad.

What type of books might be useful?

- Secondary School or College Texts
- Reference Books on all subjects
- Professional Journals
- Curricular packages/manuals/media
- Preschool Picture Books

What is the best way to send books?

- Within pallets of donations from religious or civic groups
- M-Bag (U.S. Postal Service)

All materials should be relevant for overseas use (not those highly specialized to the American context), be relatively up-to-date (within last 10 years

or classics), and be clean and serviceable. The following colleagues have asked for donations, but if you have contacts with any overseas College, University, Dept. of Education or Extension Service, enquire—resources are extremely expensive and most units would gladly accept donations.

- University of Botswana (texts and reference books in all subjects of home economics, preschool picture books for the lab school, journals): Department Chair, Home Economics; University of Botswana, Private Bag UB 00702, Gaborone, BOTSWANA.
- University of Malawi (texts and reference books in all subjects of home economics, journals, extension materials): Bunda College of Agriculture, Dept. of Home Economics and Human Nutrition, P.O. Box 219, Lilongwe, MALAWI.
- Chancellor College, Faculty of Science, Home Economics, University of Malawi, PO Box 278, Zomba, MALAWI.
- University of Swaziland (texts and reference books in all subjects of home economics, journals, extension materials): University of Swaziland, Faculty of Agriculture, Dept. of Home Economics, Luyengo Campus, PO, Luyengo, SWAZILAND.
- Home Economics Association of Zambia (texts and reference books for elementary and secondary school home economics, extension materials, journals): Ministry of Education, Home Economics, Room 208, PO Box 50093, Lusaka, ZAMBIA, Central Africa.
- Liberia (science, math, and home economics texts and reference materials for secondary schools and extension workers; materials to support income generating projects for women). There is no one person, but contact Janett Gibbs at: [jangibbs@ix.netcom.com](mailto:jangibbs@ix.netcom.com) for suggestions and advice.
- Lady Irwin College, New Delhi (college texts, reference materials and journals in all subjects of home economics/FCS): Director, Lady Irwin College or Librarian, Lady Irwin College, Sikandra Road, New Delhi, 110 001, INDIA.❖

### Theme of World Home Economics Day Set

IFHE celebrates *World Home Economics Day*, the goal of which is to promote the aims and purposes of home economics. The theme will focus on promoting development, which is socially desirable, economically viable, and ecologically sustainable. The date, established for 2005 through 2008, is **March 21**. For more information, check the <http://ific.org> Web site.

## Council Meetings in Cape Town Create Organizational Changes

Mary Andrews



US Delegation at Council 2006, Cape Town, SA

The USA was well represented with 27 delegates at the recent IFHE Council meetings in Cape Town, S.A. A big thanks for the members who served as delegates. As always, important business was transacted, and our votes provided critical inputs. During the Council, three important decisions were made (among others). Geraldine Hodelin from Jamaica was elected as the IFHE President Elect. Geri will take office as President at the Jubilee Congress in 2008. (Let us all plan to be there to celebrate her inauguration!) Delegates voted to reduce the membership fees for individual memberships of professionals from developing countries (half the rate of active members from other parts of the world), and voted to eliminate proxy fees. This means that all organizational members can vote even if they cannot send a representative (an existing delegate can be empowered to vote for them) without paying an extra proxy fee. However, organizations must send a letter authorizing the person who will vote in their behalf. Delegates also made minor changes in the constitution to conform to German law as a not-for-profit organization.

As always IFHE meetings bring old friends together...and now even the spouses recognize each other and anticipate the meetings! More stories about Council are presented in this newsletter.

## Get Ready for Lucerne, Switzerland in 2008

Mary Andrews (MI)

Our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jubilee Congress will be a special time to celebrate, so plan to attend—July 26-31, 2008. A number of opportunities for participation in the 2008 Congress will be available. The theme of the Congress is “Reflecting the Past, Creating the Future”. The submission of abstracts for research paper presentations, both oral and poster, are due to Tahira Hira (IFHE-US Director of Programs and Professional Development) by August 15, 2007. Presenters must be individual members of IFHE. In addition, a number of new opportunities are being made available:

- Textile Exhibit: the IFHE Textiles and Design Committee is hosting a juried exhibit of original textiles not previously exhibited publicly. The deadline for submission of photos and statements is December 31, 2007.
- “Sustainable Development CD”: A call for letters of intent for supplying a case study of a sustainable development project, lesson or educational experience will be forthcoming on the IFHE Web site. An indication of interest should be e-mailed by November 1, 2006, to Miriam O’ Donoghue at [miriamodonoghue@eircom.net](mailto:miriamodonoghue@eircom.net).
- Picture Presentations: Communicate your efforts with a picture! The Gender, Families and Development Committee are collecting pictures for an exhibit. Each entry must provide a title, background about the picture and explanation of the message intended and why it is important.

Another way to participate is to enroll in a pre or post congress study tour. A number of tours are being arranged by colleagues in Europe. Janett Gibbs and Mary Andrews will be hosting study tours. Keep checking the Congress website at [IFHE2008.ORG](http://IFHE2008.ORG) for announcements and other opportunities to participate. ❖

The next Council meeting will be in conjunction with the World Jubilee Congress, 2008 in Lucerne Switzerland and, thereafter, in Sligo, Ireland in 2010.

### **New IFHE Initiative: The IFHE Young Professionals Network**

Mary Andrews

IFHE is proactively encouraging students and young professionals to join the organization and participate in activities of their choice. The fundamental aims of the YP network is to “*get young professionals involved in home economics at an international level, providing a platform for dynamic, enthusiastic globally aware individuals to have a voice and represent home economics and IFHE across the world.*” The first European regional YP meeting took place in July 2006 at the Institute of Consumer Sciences Research Conference at Liverpool, John Moores University in the UK.

An internship experience has been funded by the Executive Committee to assist at least one student to work in the Bonn headquarters annually. But, additional opportunities exist. English speaking students are especially valued as interns as they have been able to translate materials, compose correspondence and edit materials for the website. Each country and region is being requested to reach out to students and pre-professionals to become involved.

Special sessions and meetings will be held at Congress to empower this group. A unique feature of this initiative is that it is not a “student” section or committee. Rather students as well as young professionals and individuals not yet embedded in a professional role can participate to bridge the early years between college and work. Dues are reduced to assist them and activities are geared toward their interests. Flyers and leaflets are available from headquarters to promote this initiative. For more information, contact Chrissy Collins, YP Committee Chair at [Collins.chrissy.j@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:Collins.chrissy.j@edumail.vic.gov.au) or the YP Committee Secretary, Emma Collins, at [emmacollins133@hotmail.com](mailto:emmacollins133@hotmail.com)❖

### **Internationalizing the Family and Consumer Sciences Research Journal**

Virginia Vincenti, AAFCS

FCSRJ began in early 2004 to consider ways to internationalize its readership and content. It is seeking international manuscripts and additional international members on its editorial board. In 2006, it expanded its editorial board with four international researchers from three regions of the world: Japan, Finland, Hungary, and Australia as well as members from the U.S. FCSRJ is now published electronically and by the end of 2006, manuscripts will be submitted electronically, international researchers will find it much easier to submit their work to FCSRJ. Sage Publications and AAFCS Board of Directors is currently negotiating to reduce or eliminate page charges and reviewer fees.

The international leadership of IFHE has emphasized the importance of promoting research publication within IFHE. This topic is on the 2004-2008 agenda. The IFHE publication committee is considering how this might be accomplished. A proposal has been submitted that FCSRJ becoming an international collaborative journal with IFHE. Kaija Turkki, a FCSRJ editorial board member who attended the council meeting, reported that the proposal was discussed. Kaija noted that there seems to be support for IFHE participating with several research journals from different regions of the world. The publications committee will meet again in February in Bonn, Germany.

What can you do to increase the quality of FCSRJ as a journal with international stature?

- Accept reviewing roles and suggest new reviewers to the editor. The roles and responsibilities of the editorial board is available at: <http://www.aafcs.org/resources/fcsrj.html#editorial>. The guidelines for reviewers are being revised.
- Suggest highly recognized authors as well as new academics with good ideas and strong research to the Editor.

**Research Journal** (continued)

- Continue to recommend FCSRJ to your colleagues and libraries.
- Assign FCSRJ articles as course reading.
- Watch for trends and hot topics in conferences and symposiums you attend and suggest themes for special issues to the editorial office.
- Use every appropriate opportunity to cite FCSRJ published articles when you write for publication.

For more information on the Family and Consumer Science Research Journal (FCSRJ) contact Virginia at [vincenti@uwyo.edu](mailto:vincenti@uwyo.edu) or call 307-766-4079. ❖

**Report on the International Cultural Event at AAFCS, 2006**

Sherry Kleinschmidt (CA)

A successful International Cultural Event was held June 21, 2006 at St. Sarkis Armenian Apostolic Church in Charlotte, NC. The event merged both the Development Fund and the Project Identify and Recognize activities.

The 3rd *Project Identify and Recognize Award Ceremony* honored 33 home economists, FCS professionals who have served or are currently serving in the U.S. military. Each received a certificate and service recognition brooch in absentia. The ceremony began with the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Sharon Kleinschmidt. Art Fetting, a motivational speaker and Purple Heart recipient, spoke on "Serving Our Country with Pride." A 30" x 60" banner, designed by Deborah Thomason, was displayed to recognize past recipients of the award and each participant received a copy of the banner and the poem, "Growth." Armenian hors d'oeuvres, rice dishes, sandwiches and desserts, prepared by women of the church, were served and an Armenian teenage dance troupe presented several numbers, arranged by Mary Etta Moorachian.

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**School Gardens Workshop in Moldova**

Joanne M. Pearson, Project Co-Director (VA)

The first major activity of our grant from the Monsanto Fund to improve the nutrition of the school children in Moldova with school gardens was to host a workshop. It was held September 9 and 10, 2006 in Chisinau, Moldova. The project is coordinated by Joanne M. Pearson, both a member of the IFHE-US and the Outreach to Central and Eastern Europe Programme Committee of IFHE; Dr. Eleonora Dupouy, chairperson of the Nutrition for the Public Department at the Technical University of Moldova, and Dr. Herve Dupouy, coordinator of the NGO "Partenaires" in Moldova. The workshop was attended by 69 school administrators, science and technology teachers, school foodservice managers, and school nurses from 26 auxiliary/boarding schools across Moldova. This represented approximately one half of the auxiliary schools in the country! These schools had expressed an interest in developing school gardens at their facilities.

Speakers at the two-day workshop included representatives from the Moldovan National Agency for Rural Development (ACSA), two retired professionals from the Netherlands in Home Economics and Water Management, and Caryl Johnson, Eastern New Mexico University, Demetra Collins, retired extension agent from TN, and the three project co-directors. The new Moldovan Food Guide was presented to the participants by the National Institute of Cardiology, Chisinau, Moldova.

Later in the fall, a group of schools will be selected to participate in the garden-development phase of the project. These schools will receive supplies, seeds and fruit trees to be planted in the spring. Members of ACSA will serve as consultants for these school-garden projects as needed. The overall project will continue until July 2008. ❖

## Multicultural Opportunities at the UN

Ruth Norman, (WA)

*Would you like to attend a meeting that rivals the diversity of an IFHE Council or Congress? Would you like to discuss international issues with NGOs from organizations, large and small, from grass roots groups to religious groups to professional groups from all areas of the world? Then put one of the UN meetings open to representatives of NGOs (that's us) on your calendar:*

- The DPI/NGO Annual Conference is held for 3 days every September,
- The Commission on Social Development (includes the Family) meets in February
- The Commission on the Status of Women meets in March—both two weeks long but you may stay as long as you wish.

All of these meetings attract from 2000 to 6000 people from all areas of the world. Cost of attending any of these valuable conferences is not several hundred dollars. IT IS FREE! The only requirement is early registration. Excerpts from the 2006 DPI/NGO Conference speakers will be on the IFHE website. This website will be an up-to-date opportunity to gain information on all social issues of interest to us: the family, women, the elderly, children and more.

## Report on the International Event (Continued)

Both Don Bower and Mary Andrews, Presidents of AAFCS and IFHE-US, were present. Andrews welcomed participants and introduced Dr. Tom Hanchett, staff historian at the Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte, NC, who spoke on the topic "The American South and South Africa." as he showed the parallels of these two regions.

Janett Gibbs is the Director and Rita Wood, Co-Director of Project *Identify and Recognize*. Sharon McManus is the Director, IFHE-US Development Fund. This educational event raised \$1,777.77 for the IFHE-US Development Fund and provided a wonderful networking opportunity for those present. ❖

## IFHE History DVD Needs Inputs

Our official IFHE-US history text is now complete and has been submitted to the international committee. Thanks to Sharon Christie and Jenny Schroeder for their hard work on our behalf. That official IFHE written history will be developed as a publication for sale at the 2008 Congress. At the IFHE international level, a DVD will also be developed with a different focus—inspirational promotion of our rich cultural and geographic diversity. Stories, pictures, reports, music, PowerPoint presentations, and personal narrations will be included. You are invited to send materials that could be included in the DVD.

Contact Nancy Leidenfrost: Phone: 301-530-3441, e-mail: [CandNLeid1@aol.com](mailto:CandNLeid1@aol.com), if you have questions. ❖

## Upcoming Conference in Australia

Home Economics Institute of Australia Conference 2007 will be held January 10-12, 2007. This biennial conference will be held at the Grace Hotel in Sydney. Many tours will be planned. Registration is available on-line at: [www.heia2007.com](http://www.heia2007.com). For questions, send e-mail to: [heia2007@icms.com.au](mailto:heia2007@icms.com.au).

## Region of the Americas Regional Meeting and CAHE Conference

The Caribbean Association of Home Economists (CAHE) biennial meeting will be held Sunday, July 29-Wednesday, August 1, 2007, the regional meeting on August 2. Pre-conference workshops will be held on Saturday, July 28. It is hoped that in addition to providing a greater opportunity to interact with home economists throughout parts of the Caribbean, that there will be IFHE members from other parts of the region, including: Canada, Brazil, and Venezuela who will be in attendance.

Watch for further information about the CAHE meeting and the regional meeting on the IFHE-US website at [IFHE-US.ORG](http://IFHE-US.ORG)

## New Quilt Squares Needed for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Quilt

Carolyn Blount is busy collecting quilt squares for the Centennial Quilt to be raffled off at the IFHE Congress in 2008. She received three additional quilt squares while in Cape Town: one from Sandee Wicklund for the Oregon Association of Family and Consumer Sciences, another from Grace Keir from Minnesota, and a third with an embroidered rhino from Rosina from South Africa. The total is now eight blocks. Carolyn purchased some textiles in Cape Town on her way home from Kuala Lumpur and Seoul that may be used.



Carolyn Blount with 2004 Quilt in Kyoto, Japan.

The 2004 quilt, raffled in Kyoto, generated more than \$1600 for the IFHE-US development fund; one way each state and country can be involved in a joint project. Send your 11 inch (28 cm) cotton or cotton/polyester square that has been pieced, embroidered, appliquéd or otherwise embellished by March 2008 to Carolyn Blount, 2026 Tenth Avenue East, Seattle, WA 98102. Be sure to include the name of the organization, as well as your own name on the square. ❖

## Resource in *Food Insight*

The May/June issue of *Food Insight* magazine contains articles on the food guide pyramid in the United States, as well as an article titled “Consumer Testing of Dietary Guidance Tools Around the World: An International Overview.” Information is provided about the Thailand nutrition flag, Mexico’s apple of health, etc. Other topics in this issue concern the bird flu and proper hydration to beat the heat. The publication is supported by IFIC (International Food Information Council). Their Web site is: <http://ific.org>

## Trouble Accessing the “Member’s Only” Section of the IFHE.ORG Web site?

Your name, address, and e-mail address are registered on the online IFHE membership database. When you first enter the “members only” section, your name is compared to the database, if there is no match, you will not be given access. If you are having trouble, most likely the database is incorrect. Contact the headquarter’s office staff for assistance by e-mailing Anne at [office.ifhe@t-online.de](mailto:office.ifhe@t-online.de)  
Instructions for entering “members only” area:

1. Go to the Web site: [www.ifhe.org](http://www.ifhe.org)
2. Look in the box in the upper right hand corner. Click on “request login datas.”
3. Enter your full e-mail address, (i.e., [mandrews@msu.edu](mailto:mandrews@msu.edu)).
4. Click on the lock image.
5. You will receive a password per your e-mail address.
6. Go to [www.ifhe.org](http://www.ifhe.org) again, and enter your e-mail address and the new password.
7. Click “edit” to change your password for future entrance or to edit the information in the database about yourself. ❖

## Reports from Council Meetings in Cape Town, July 2006

### A View of Council from a First Timer Sandy Ranftl (OH)



This was the first time I attended the Council meeting of IFHE. Having lived in Cape Town before, I went early to meet my friends and do some visiting. Then, I joined my professional friends at the Council meeting. I was a voting member representing the Ohio Association of Family and Consumer Sciences. Materials were sent to us before the meeting. This information was discussed and voted on at the meeting.

The South African hosts were wonderful. On the first day, there were speakers. Good topics. Then it was down to business.

It is fun to meet and talk with FCS professionals from around the world. It is always reinforcing to know that we are all working on the same topics and problems. Whether a first world or third world country, family is at the core of everything. Some countries may have larger numbers associated with their problems, but the problems are still the same. The approaches to solving problems may work at different speeds and with varying financial assets, but the work is going forward. It gives one a feeling of fulfillment to be a part of the large process of FCS at work in the world.

I look forward to attending the Congress in Switzerland for IFHE's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Hope to see many of you there in 2008. ❖

### Council Setting a Unique Experience Mary Andrews (MI)

The meetings in Cape Town were held at the historic Breakwater Lodge on the Victoria and Alfred Waterfront. Whenever the mist cleared the famous Table Mountain was visible overlooking the waterfront. The Breakwater currently serves as a hotel and academic setting, home to the University of Cape Town



Graduate School of Business. But in a former life, the Breakwater was a prison. It served white male convicts for 10 years in the early 1900s. Later, it became a facility for juvenile offenders and in 1926 became a hostel for black dock workers. The remodeled interior still reveals the rows of cells, now offices.

A special attraction of the week was an afternoon trip to Robben Island. The ferry ride, 7 kilometers offshore, took about 45 minutes. Once there, former prisoners provided guided tours and shared their personal experiences. Visitors got a glimpse of the beauty and yet haunting nature of the island prison. Few places in the world symbolize the struggle for freedom against oppression as Robben Island does. Many African chiefs and political leaders stood against oppression within the confines of Robben Island. ❖

## Happy Birthday, Mandela! Reflections on Robben Island

Deborah Tippet, NC

While we were in Cape Town for the IFHE Council Meeting, Nelson Mandela celebrated his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday on Tuesday, July 18, 2006. The entire country seemed to be offering thanks for this life. It was especially meaningful to the IFHE delegates who visited Robben Island on the day after his birthday. This was the site where Mandela was imprisoned for 27 years. We took a high-speed catamaran to the island off of Cape Town and the delegates were in a jovial, holiday mood.



We were greeted by a charming guide who gave us a lively tour of the island, where we saw the warden's house, elementary school for children of those who work and live on the island, and a huge array of wildlife, including penguins. When the guide asked where we were from, he was amazed that over 30 countries were represented. He noted, "We have the whole world on this bus." He threatened to fine us 60 Rand if our cell phones rang and another 60 if we answered it. If we could not pay, he promised to lock us up for 27 minutes, where we could have a long walk to freedom and become President.

He stated that he might take longer to give the tour than publicized and added, "Europeans have clocks, we have time." We drove by the limestone quarry where prisoners worked. The bright sun on the quarry caused many prisoners to become blind. We were advised to wear sunglasses even for the short period that we were there. The limestone was first used to line the walls of the harbor. It closed in 1978 as a functional quarry, but lasted as a form of punishment for the prisoners. The dust from the

limestone contributed to prisoner's contracting tuberculosis (TB).

They jailed the political prisoners with the common criminals with the thought that the common criminals would influence the political prisoners to become criminals. The opposite happened, for with



education, the common criminals became political. Robben Island has been called a "university" for prisoners.

We were shown pictures from 1962, which showed prisoners with shaved heads. When you entered prison, your hair was shaved and you were given short

pants and left bare-foot, which resulted in a loss of dignity.

At the site of the prison cells, our bus driver took over the tour and introduced himself as Sparks, a former political prisoner of Robben Island. He reported that on September 29, 1983, he was arrested as a terrorist for being a member of the ANC (African National Congress). He showed us the cell where 80 people would have been housed to share one bathroom and four cots. They would be awakened at 4:00 a.m. in a room that had no glass in the windows. TB and pneumonia were common. Prisoners were segregated by race and given clothing and food by the color of their skin. If you were black, you had short pants, short sleeves and the least amount of food. Your name was replaced with a number. Boxes in the wall allowed guards to eavesdrop on the conversations. In 1991, the political prisoners were released. We also visited the small individual cell where Mandela was imprisoned the last eight years.

The political prisoners were imprisoned because they fought against Apartheid. Mandela wrote his autobiography, *A Long Walk to Freedom* while in prison. Another prisoner smuggled it out where it was printed and read all over the world. During the 27 years of imprisonment, while

Continued on page 13

he fought for peace, he taught other prisoners how to read and how to think.

In 1995, at a reunion of prisoners, they decided that the island should become a museum. The guide said, “We tell you our story so that you do not make history repeat itself. We must learn from and respect each other.” He explained the term, “umutu” as I am here because you are here.

Sparks ended the tour by saying that now on Robben Island, former prisoners and former guards live and work together in peace. He said, “We are here with the same guards who terrorized us. We did not suffer this much to have bloodshed. We wanted peace, which would not have been given to us without the international pressure from you. Today, you represent the world and I thank you. You are blessed.”

At that moment, I wanted to forgive every hurt or betrayal done to me just to have the peace that was on Spark’s face. As I tried to keep from crying, I noticed that men and women were wiping away their tears. I knew that I was not alone. As we traveled back to Cape Town, the crowd was thoughtful and pensive. We were all changed by this experience.

Throughout our tour of South Africa, people referred to Mandela as Madiba. I asked what it meant and was told that it meant extreme honor, respect and affection. I later read *A Long Walk to Freedom* and learned that Madiba is the name of his tribe. I learned of his desire for peace through the truth and reconciliation trials and of his dream of a rainbow nation. Mandela was elected president of South Africa in 1994 and in his inaugural speech he stated, “Never, never, and never again shall it be that this beautiful land will again experience the oppression of one by another.”

During our final banquet at Marco’s Restaurant, IFHE delegates joined the lively dancing. As I joined in, I noted that there were delegates from Japan, Korea, Finland, Germany, Australia, and Great Britain. I reached for the woman from South Africa and brought her in to the circle of dancers. At that moment I saw what Mandela had envisioned when he spoke of the rainbow nation. I smiled and said aloud, “Happy Birthday, Madiba.” ❖

## Presenting a Research Paper in Cape Town

Tahira K. Hira (IA)

I have been fortunate to be able to attend and present a research paper at all IFHE Congresses since 1984! However, this was my first time participating as a delegate in an IFHE Council meeting. I was very impressed with the program, local arrangements and business meetings held during this Council meeting. The location was exceptional. I met



the IFHE General Secretariat Staff, and many thanks to Judith Cornelissen, local arrangements, for terrific hospitality extended to the Council participants.

For me, there were three different aspects to this trip: 1) learning about and participating in the Council business and being a part of the decision making process, 2) learning about the various educational and research activities that colleagues are undertaking around the world (especially the UK and Scandinavian countries) and 3) catching up with friends and colleagues. A bonus was exploring beautiful Cape Town and Kruger National Park. In Johannesburg, we visited SWATO and saw the famous street where two Nobel Prize winners used to live: Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu. Kruger National Park is home for a variety of animals, including: lions, leopards, elephants, rhinos, buffalos, impalas, blue wild beasts, zebras, giraffes, and smaller species—in our case only a few yards away from the car.



I am looking forward to the World Congress in 2008 that will be held in Lucerne, Switzerland and will attend as many Council meetings as I can. ❖

## South Africa's Many Treasures

Marianne Calhoun-McKeon (CT)

I will never forget exquisite shopping adventures in Cape Town, South Africa. On a warm, slightly breezy afternoon at the Sunday Market, my shopping companion Debra (a.k.a Sandra) spied row upon row of colorful South African treasures that soon became ours. We were unable to resist the “sellers” gentle smiles and beckoning glances, welcoming their pitch as we tried to calculate the South African rand/U.S. dollar conversion. We soon abandoned this attempt and gleefully suspended carefully chosen necklaces from our wrists. When it came to take stock, it was evident just how inexpensive everything was!

We did engage the vendors in conversation by inquiring about the materials used to create their work. Patiently, they explained that their pieces were made from glass, bone, wood, malachite, hermatite, resin and nickel (imported from the U.S.). One young vendor mentioned that his glass beads were from Indonesia and were shown (and much more expensive) in South African fashion magazines. We spent considerable time with this salesman because his “character” was as colorful as his beads. Though we would not have known it from his accent, he told us he was from, “Chicago.” As we began to move on to the next table, he called out to us, “I love American and I miss it, say hello to America for me.” “We will,” was our reply.

We came to a table selling malachite jewelry and animal figurines. A very attractive young woman smiled broadly and encouraged us to look closely at her stock. The quality of work was good and the prices quite reasonable. While selecting our wares, a young man was watching us intently. As we caught his eye, he repeatedly asked for money. Noticing our discomfort, the young woman very gently said to him, “I will take care of you later, brother—let these women shop.” With that, he left. Her soft, reassuring tone not only assuaged his feelings, but ours as well. We made our way to yet another table, this one filled with goods made from bone and cotton cord—very light, airy designs with bold accents of sienna, amber, black, cream and lime. This was a brother and sister enterprise who worked well together while deftly explaining their creations. The brother, a handsome young man expressed a keen desire to visit America, especially New York. After complet-

ing our purchases which consisted of bracelets, necklaces and letter openers, they warmly wished us a good holiday in South Africa.

As we walked along the market fringes preparing to leave, we noticed a beautiful display of batik prints, mostly tablecloths and wall hangings, some of which soon became our possessions. Manning this display were what appeared to be a teenage boy and girl, beginning to pack up as the market day ended with the setting sun. Now it was time to make our way back to the hotel. As we attempted to cross a very busy street, the teenage girl who made our sale, took us by the hand and safely crossed with us to the other side. How thoughtful of her, especially since we really did not spend that much money!

We did not have to venture far to sample additional quality handicrafts. During the Council, the IFHE office displayed beautiful beaded necklaces, caftans, shirts, and hand embroidered cushion covers, wall hangings, aprons, bags and table coverings. These items were made by the Ratanang Women’s Project at the Jala Peo Training Center. Each item purchased was accompanied by literature which explained the project’s goals: “to alleviate poverty and promote sustainable community development in one of the poorest areas of the Free State Province.” I was quite impressed by the colorful and well-crafted designs and bought several. Mary Beaubien assisted me in making my selections and mentioned that I was her “best customer” (a term that I have become familiar with both at home and abroad). I can’t think of a better way to “spend quality time” but to shop for friends and family knowing that the benefits of the sale go well beyond the item. ❖



## Cape Town Viewed from an Accompanying Husband

Anthony N. Brittin (TX)

There was one task which I volunteered to take on during the trip, and that was to see that the poster for the research presentation by my wife, Dr. Helen C. Brittin, arrived in good shape and subsequently was returned home intact. Mission accomplished! Beyond that, pretty much everything, including the planning for the trip, was left for her to do since it was her meeting. Of course, I was consulted about which social events we would attend and which accompanying tours. These were in addition to the tours to which we subscribed through Janett Gibbs, "The Gibbs Group."

In that regard, the accompanying persons got to see more of Cape Town than did those who attended the Council meetings full time. These included a "cultural tour" which in fact was a tour of Cape Town's shantytowns. We visited a "doctor's" office—really a dark den full of dead animals and skins and all kinds of plant and herbal healing concoctions. The doctor spoke English articulately, but we still referred to him as a witch doctor. More scary were the signs in the area pointing the direction to "Surgery". We visited two successful businesses: a bed and breakfast and a day care center for preschoolers. Another tour took us to the old castle, the District Six Museum (all about the apartheid struggles in Cape Town), and the firing of the cannon at noon on Signal Hill. The weakest tour was simply "shopping" where we were dropped off at a large shopping center for two hours. This was in lieu of the "wine country" tour which we would have preferred.

On a day that no tour was scheduled I played nine holes of golf at the Metropolitan Golf Club which was within walking distance of the hotel. I finished in time to have lunch with Helen, and then we joined the IFHE group for the tour of Robben Island.

We men who were accompanying persons, from countries including the United States, Finland, Denmark and South Korea, enjoyed a certain camaraderie. We toured and lunched together, shared taxis, and generally enjoyed each other's company. We also enjoyed the meals and social events with the

Council delegates, especially the farewell banquet with dancing. It is always good to renew old acquaintances and make new ones.

Following the Council meeting, "The Gibbs Group" toured much of South Africa. Highlights included visiting an ostrich farm and taking game drives in Kruger National park. I have been an accompanying person to Helen on IFHE trips since 1968 and we have traveled to Congress and Council meetings six times in the last decade with "The Gibbs Group." It is my observation that those attending IFHE meetings are extremely intelligent, self-sufficient, and strong-willed leaders, who, for the most part, don't need accompanying persons to help them make these trips. We are happy to give morale and physical support when necessary. I feel privileged to have been able to travel to beautiful Cape Town as Helen's accompanying person. ❖



Line dance at Reception with spouses and guests.



Gift presentation to Geri Hodelin, New Pres-Elect

Photos from Cape Town





INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION  
FOR HOME ECONOMICS

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# International Federation for Home Economics-United States

## IFHE-US

October, 2006

Dear IFHE-US Member,

The IFHE-US Development Fund continues to work towards its goal of \$100,000 so we can help fund one or more projects at the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary and 21<sup>st</sup> World Congress of IFHE in Lucerne, Switzerland in 2008. The principal is kept intact and projects are funded from the interest income.

The "Banana Artistry" project, which was funded to St. Lucia in 2004, is doing well. It is nice to see them benefit from our financial assistance. We know that there are many other countries where we can make a difference by funding future projects.

Your commitment to the IFHE goals and your monetary gifts help us achieve our global mission. We thank you for your ongoing support. All contributions are tax deductible.

The IFHE-US Development Fund will have an educational program and fund-raising event in June 2007 in Reno, Nevada. Details will be included in AAFCS registration information, [www.ifhe-us.org](http://www.ifhe-us.org) and the spring issue of *Connections*.

With much appreciation,

*Sharon V. McManus, Director*

Committee Members: Talma Benavides (TX), Nancy C. Billings (AL), Carolyn Blount (WA), Mary Turner Gilliland (CA), Norma Maynard (St. Lucia), Gregg McCullough (PA), Marianne Calhoun McKeon (NY), Marguerite Scruggs (OK), and Nancy St. John (VA).

**The IFHE-US Development Fund, P.O. Box 2403, Holland, MI 49422-2403**

Yes, I want to support the IFHE-US Development Fund. Enclosed is my contribution of:

\_\_\_ \$25    \_\_\_ \$50    \_\_\_ \$100    \_\_\_ \$250    \_\_\_ \$500    \_\_\_ Other \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to the IFHE-US Development Fund.**

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**IFHE-US *Connections***

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State College, PA 16801-2906

**2006-2007 Calendar of Events**

**June 21-24, 2007**—IFHE-US Annual Meeting @ AAFCS Annual Conference, Reno, Nevada

**July 27-Aug 3, 2007**—Caribbean Association of Home Economics Biannual Meeting, Nassau, Bahamas and Region of the Americas Meeting

**July 26-31, 2008**—Jubilee World Congress, Lucerne, Switzerland

**July 2010**—IFHE Council, Sligo, Ireland

**July 2012**—IFHE World Congress, Sydney, Australia

For additional dates and events, check the “Calendar” at the [IFHE.ORG](http://IFHE.ORG) Web site.