



North Carolina Extension Association of Family & Consumer Sciences

The Professional Association for North Carolina Cooperative Extension Family &
Consumer Sciences Educators

2009 West District Annual Report

We held our fall meeting on Friday December 5, 2008. We met at the Troyer's Country Amish Blatz in Fairview, North Carolina. We did not install officers since we had made the decision to hold offices for two years instead of one year in order to keep some continuity and help officers better understand their responsibilities. Our program was presented by the owner of the store, David Troyer. He explained about the Amish traditions and his decision to start his business. He stressed the ties to local products and family businesses in the Amish communities in Ohio as well as our local agriculture and artisan communities. We toured the store before our business meeting.

We networked during our meeting and welcomed new members, Eve Rogers of Graham County, and Jimmi Buell, from Polk County and Kristin Mart, from McDowell County who will join us when we begin the new districts after this year's meeting. We had some discussion about resources for people during these hard economic times and Cheryl Beck shared with us publications and ideas that were used in the past.

We enjoyed hosting the State meeting in August at Lake Junaluska, and felt that it was a success. We were pleased that so many had been able to travel to be with us that week. It was also good to see the sharing of successes and programming ideas that occurred during the meeting.

We held our Spring meeting on March 27, 2009 at *Balsam Mountain Inn* in Balsam, North Carolina. At this meeting we shared memorable moments in Extension and matched newer agents with experienced agents as mentors. We discussed how Extension had changed over the years and situations or experiences that helped us grow professionally. We also discussed the difficulties we were starting to face with traveling to continuing education programs and trainings due to the recent economic downturn that had affected many of the counties locally. We discussed ways to share curriculum and other resources we had with each other.

Other news:

Sue Counts, CED in Watagua County, retired in October.

It is with sad news that, Lynda Spivey, retired agent from Buncombe County, loss her mother, Oma Childers Parris, on December 28, 2008 and our condolences go out to her.

Respectively submitted by,

Cathy Hohenstein,
West District President