

South Carolina Family and Community Leaders News and Views

SCFCL website: scfcl.com

Spring

"Improving the quality of life through fellowship, education and service" for over 100 years

2023

Will you **VOLUNTEER** to run for a **State Office**?



SCFCL needs members to step forward and run for the position of President, Secretary, Treasurer or Coastal District Director. The current State Officer's terms end December 31, 2023. State Officer terms are three years. Listed on page 6 are a few of the duties for each officer. A complete list of duties can be found in the 2023 SCFCL Handbook and on SCFCL's website: scfcl.com (Handbook)

Do you know someone in your county that will help this organization continue? Are you willing to step up and volunteer to be the next President, Secretary, Treasurer or Coastal District Director? Feel free to call these officers and hear from them what it takes to help run an organization for over 100 years.

SCFCL has been a leader in the state since it organized in 1921. We have made a difference in communities around South Carolina and across the nation sharing our experiences and knowledge with other like organizations. On the back cover of this issue are the contacts if you have questions for current officers, board members and advisors.

Mail Nomination forms to me at pbreznay@sc.rr.com Look forward to hearing from you.

SCFCL is affiliated with Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW), Country Women's Council USA (CWC), National Volunteer Outreach Network (NVON) and in partnership with Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

Central District

***Aiken, Allendale, Bamberg, Barnwell, Calhoun, *Chesterfield, *Fairfield, Kershaw, *Lancaster,
*Lee, Lexington, *Orangeburg, Richland, Sumter**

** by a name means no FCL members in the county*

SPRING CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING

Hostess: Lexington County FCL

Where: Our Saviour Lutheran Church
1500 Sunset BLVD
West Columbia, SC 29169

When: March 14, Register-9:30 Meeting-10:00 am

How much: Registration \$4 Meal \$12 Total \$16.00

Deadline for Registration: Friday, March 3
(\$5.00 late fee if received after March 3)

Payable to: LCFCL

Mail to: Bette Chinnors (803) 413-4005
152 Cherokee Hills CT
Lexington, SC 29072

Bring: One door prize & one \$10 gift card per county
Indicate allergies or if vegetarian



Kershaw County

One of Kershaw County's clubs, the Parker Club, has a project to help the people staying at "A New Day on Mill Street". "A New Day on Mill Street" is a transitional shelter for women, children and families in crisis. Parker members raise money by making hand-made (crocheted) "Worry Worms" to help alleviate stressful situations as these are then sold at yard sales to buy Christmas presents, toys, clothes, shoes, socks, and items for the home. FCL information and our projects were shared at the yard sale. A baby will be born in February and the club is planning a baby shower. Currently living in the shelter are six ladies, three boys and one girl and we hope to spread some joy in their lives.

Pictured upper right is Eather Evans, SCFCL Vice President accepting her door prize at 2022 Annual Meeting in Charleston.

Coastal District

**Beaufort, *Berkeley, Charleston, *Clarendon, Colleton, *Dillon, Dorchester, *Florence,
*Georgetown, Hampton, *Horry, *Jasper, *Marion, and Williamsburg**

** by a name means no FCL members in the county*

SPRING COASTAL DISTRICT MEETING

Hostess: Williamsburg County FCL

Where: Santee Electric Co-Op Inc
424 Sumter HWY
Kingstree, SC 29556

When: March 15, Register-9:30 Meeting-10:00 am

How Much: Registration \$5 Meal \$15 Total \$20.00

Deadline for Registration: Tuesday, February 28
(\$5.00 late fee if received after February 28)

Payable to: Williamsburg County FCL

Mail to: Silvertown Mitchum (843) 382-5918
18 Saxon RD EXT
Kingstree, SC 29556

Bring: One door prize & one \$10 gift card per county
Indicate allergies or if vegetarian



(left & center) Miriam White, Dorchester County President and Rosemary Armstead, County Treasurer participate in low impact exercise for flexibility and balance for seniors during Annual Meeting.
2023 Spring News and Views

Charleston County

Charleston County had a busy 2022. Hosting the 2022 State SCFL involved a lot of planning. Club meetings were held each month, including the summer months, when we normally don't meet. Sixteen participants helped in selecting the theme for the SCFCL Annual Meeting, finding a venue, planning the meal, decorating the room, making a variety of crafts for gifts and table decorations which included table centerpieces, tablecloths, placemats, coasters, lace napkin holders, gift bags, ruler covers, tissue covers, making bags for volunteer survivor kits and assembled them, crochet or knitted wash cloths, table beehives money collection holders, water bottle aprons, skit aprons and head wear, bags to hold craft activity, assembling craft kits. One member wrote and obtained flower seed packets for each delegate. On the day of the event the room and tables were set up, tables decorated, committee to greet guests and check them in, servers for the meal, assistants during the craft project, and 15 participants in the skit.

Valentine gifts bags were made and delivered for 50 residents in the Oaks assistant living facility. Each bag included collected gift items and sewed tissue pack covers. Also included was a "Friendship Pen" that the club members made.

Several participated in the "Teddy Bear in the Park" event donating and bringing Bears to children even other stuffed dolls and toys were sewed and repaired as needed in this all day event.

A few members were able to do the ZOOM spring and fall combination district meetings.

Two members attended in September the 4-H Volunteer Conference of Southern States that was held near Eatonton, GA at the Rock Eagle 4-H Center. Both were involved in leading and assisting a "Bread" workshop making "Cinnamon Twists" for fifty-one delegates. Fifty-two aprons were made for each delegate and presenters.

Once a month members assisted preparing and serving meals for the homeless in the "Picnic in the Park" event. Approximately 20 members participated in the Coastal Carolina Fair. Two weeks prior to the opening day in October participants helped clean display cabinets, assemble display racks, check in exhibits, judge and assist judges in putting on award ribbons, arranging quilts and hanging them, putting exhibits in show cases, managing an information table during the fair, managing a craft table during the duration of the fair, and releasing the exhibits once the fair was over.

At the Senior Citizen's Day event during the fair, three members made and served over 600 samples of "Cinnamon Twists" to the attending seniors.

One member is a 4-H volunteer leader. Club meetings were held once a month with an occasional event held outside of regular club meetings. One of those events was training a senior team and a junior team to participate in the State Engineering Contest in Columbia. The teams participated in the bridge craft stick bridge building event. Several FCL members attend the meetings, help supply needed items for craft projects and prepare food and serve for refreshments. The 4-H leader and club member also joined with the scouts that gathered over a 1,000 canned food items to be used in a "Blessing Box" at the location of the club meetings.

At the fair, members donated yarn and pens helping assemble kits for the 4-H club in their leadership craft activity. Several have called on shut-ins and given them food/gifts.

One club member wrote the lesson "Working Together- FCL Members and Youth" for the State lesson committee.

One member sings in the church choir which involved one hour practice each Sunday afternoon. The same also presents a special in music once a month.

"Christmas Cards for the Veterans" was an event with several outreach locations. Three members facilitated signing tables in two different hospitals, another outreach was at Charles Towne Landing, and another at the Coastal Carolina Fair. Over 3,000 cards were signed.

For the state project we were able to plant, maintain flower & vegetable gardens to attract & promote pollinators.

One hundred "Walker Bags" were made by one member. These were donated to hospitals and to fair workers.



Charleston County Garrett Club members preparing to receive Open Class entries for the Coastal Carolina Fair.



Sarah Graham teaching "Chair Physical Fitness Exercises" in the Garrett Club meeting.

Foothills District

***Abbeville, *Anderson, *Cherokee, Chester, *Edgefield, *Greenville, Greenwood, Laurens, *McCormick, Newberry, Oconee, *Pickens, Saluda, *Spartanburg, Union and York**

* by a name means no FCL members in the county

SPRING FOOTHILLS DISTRICT MEETING

Hostess: Saluda County FCL

Where: Salem Baptist Church
2226 Denny HWY
Saluda, SC 29138

When: March 16, Register-9:30 Meeting-10:00 am

How much: Registration \$4 Meal \$13 Total \$17.00

Deadline for Registration: Thursday, March 2
(\$5.00 late fee if received after March 2)

Payable to: Saluda County FCL

Mail to: Patricia Berry (864-922-8862 Connie Lake)
515 Bethany Schoolhouse RD
Saluda, SC 29138

Bring: One door prize & one \$10 gift card per county
Indicate allergies or if vegetarian



Newberry County

The good news is that we had too many members to socially distance ourselves at the Clemson Extension building so we now meet at a VFH hut outside of town. It has not affected our attendance.

The sad news is that within a month we lost four active members (3 to death and one to illness). A former member died during that same period. Hannah Davis was our Co-President as well as Treasurer. We had to regroup and everyone we asked to serve readily accepted.

In recognition of the Nova Project, we went a different direction. Each month we recognize one of our own and give a brief narration of their accomplishments along with a bright yellow dish cloth. It was surprising how touched each one has been. We meet monthly and have a program.

In October Newberry Major Foster Senn met with us and gave us a report of what was happening in Newberry. Members were able to give suggestions for future projects. We all enjoyed a covered-dish lunch after the meeting.

Every other month we collect non-perishable items for the Living Hope pantry.

Pictured upper right is Dorriece McMorris, newly elected Foothills District Director showing off her Friendship pen made at the Annual Meeting in Charleston.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Foothills District meeting in Saluda in March and seeing you in Newberry in September.

Union County

Our hearts were deeply saddened by the death of Juanita McCullough who had been a member of Union County FCL for 43 years. She was a member of 3 of our 4 clubs, a master canner and Boy Scout and Trail Life leader. She was a member of the Eastern Star for 50 years and along with her husband Marvin delivered Meal on Wheels every Friday as well as a carrier for the Union County News every Monday. Juanita taught school for over 40 years.

She helped with the sewing and quilting exhibits at the Union County Fair each year and also directed the quilt show for the Farm Tractor Show each year. Shortly after the passing of Juanita we lost her husband, Marvin and they both will greatly be missed.

Members made 98 adult bibs for the Ellen Sugar Nursing Center from towels donated by Standard Textiles.

We have been working on ideas for next year, one being making fidget quilts. We also plan to make quilts for the Safe Home. We didn't make quilts before because of COVID-19. We will continue to donate to our local 4-H.

Greenwood County

Greenwood County FCL met for Christmas fellowship and business at a local restaurant for lunch on December 6, 2022. Even though we have had less meetings and activities, we continue with community support. We voted to donate \$300 to each of three local organizations that provide valuable service in the county and region. **CrossRoads Pregnancy Center, Guardian ad Litem, and Pathway House for the Homeless** were chosen for contributions this year. We've had income from our annual day bus trip to Southern Christmas Show and from the sale of Rada products.

Herb Club is our largest and most active remaining club. As a fall project, this group visited Pathway House to shower the 13 new tiny houses on campus with needed supplies, as they open to serve families with children. We presented umbrellas, trash cans and liners, cleaning supplies, paper products, etc. The Executive Director shared the history, goals and service statistics with us. From its meager beginnings in a church fellowship hall, this regional organization has grown to house both homeless men and women, and now in the tiny houses, single parents with children.

We are most impressed with the local support this shelter receives. A **Pathway Thrift Store** provides income, plus employs shelter residents. Additionally, an on-campus workshop (**Furnishing a Future**) helps homeless men learn work ethic through woodworking and refurbishing skills and provides an opportunity for sale of their beautiful wooden objects through Main and Maxwell, an art gallery in Uptown Greenwood that specializes in handcrafted art, pottery and jewelry.

Herb Club plans to install a large planter pot at the entrance to each tiny house this spring, where seasonal color will cheer residents and enhance natural beauty. Again, local support is outstanding, as Lowe's will donate much of what is needed to make these small flower garden spots a reality.



Wisconsin Nicaragua

Partners of the Americas, Inc.

Help get
Clean Drinking Water
to those in need

SCFCL members who want to make donations toward helping communities and villages in need of clean drinking water can make individual donations to Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners (W/WP). When SCFCL participated in the Water Around the World Project in Common with National Volunteer Outreach Network (NVON), Wisconsin sent some of their members to Nicaragua with water filters to teach people how to setup, how to use and take care of the water filters.

Below is a link to make an individual donation to help get clean drink water to those in need in Nicaragua.

Purchase more filters for \$20 at: <https://wisnic.org/donate/>



It's time to elect state officers at the 2023 Annual Meeting for
President, Secretary, Treasurer and Coastal District Director

PRESIDENT is a three year term

- Attend all SCFCL board meetings, district meetings and Annual Meeting.
- Serve with vote in an event of a tie.
- Study and become familiar with SCFCL Bylaws and Policies/Standing Rules.
- Have access to electronic communication.
- Preside at Annual Business Meeting, meetings of The Board and Executive Committee.
- Represent SCFCL at meetings of other organizations, or delegate this duty.

SECRETARY is a three year term

- Attend all SCFCL board meetings and Annual Meeting.
- Study and become familiar with SCFCL Bylaws and Policies/Standing Rules.
- Have access to electronic communication.
- Keep records of all meetings of SCFCL, the Board, and Executive Committee and submit copy, including the treasurer's report, to the President for approval to print within two weeks of the close of the meeting.
- Call the roll to determine the number of voting delegates present at all Business Sessions to determine if a majority of voting members are present to establish a quorum.
- Maintain a complete file of SCFCL and Board activities to include a copy of each newsletter, meeting program, handbook and SCFCL minutes to be placed in the archives Louise Pettus Archives and Special Collections, Winthrop University.
- Perform any other secretarial duties as assigned by the President.

TREASURER is a three year term

- Attend all SCFCL board meetings and Annual Meeting.
- Study and become familiar with SCFCL Bylaws and Policies/Standing Rules.
- Have access to electronic communication.
- Receive and keep records of all funds of SCFCL and deposit as directed by The Board.
- Pay authorized expenses of SCFCL upon receipt of a signed voucher with receipts from the President.

COASTAL DISTRICT DIRECTOR is a three year term (elected at the Fall District Meeting)

- Attend all SCFCL board meetings, district meetings and Annual Meeting.
- Study and become familiar with SCFCL Bylaws and Policies/Standing Rules.
- Have access to electronic communication.
- Serve as a representative of District on The Board and coordinate activities in District.
- Report at board meeting: hostess county, location, date, time, cost of meal, registration fee, meeting registration due date, who and where to send the check for county registration for upcoming district meetings.
- Serve as a member of the State Education Committee.
- Hold at least one meeting annually of each district. When possible hold a Spring and Fall Meeting to include agenda items with input from SCFCL Board, coordinated by SCFCL President.

2022 Awards and Certificates

New Member Awards

New member certificates are given to counties who have new paid members in one year (January to December). Certificates will be based on previous year's final membership numbers. New members cannot previously have been a member of SCFCL (or its previous names).

Beaufort	1
Charleston	3
Chester	1
Lexington	4

County President's Awards

Each year the County President's Award is presented during the Annual Meeting to County Presidents who demonstrate leadership, represent their county with enthusiasm, attend district and state activities and meetings, submit documentation requirements on a timely basis and accomplish items listed below by the County President or designated representative with a positive attitude.

The person who served as County President from January to December shall receive the certificate representing their County.

Bamberg	Chester
Kershaw	Laurens
Lexington	Newberry
Richland	Union
Williamsburg	

Individual Membership Awards

Individual members certificates are given each year at the Fall District Meetings to members for the total length of years as members of SCFCL (or its previous names). Certificates are presented to members when they are in the 25-30-35-40-45-50-55-60-65-70+ year of membership.

Allendale	50 years	Alma Connelly
Bamberg	50 years	Josephine Caldwell
Laurens	50 years	Bobbie Earle
Charleston	45 years	Patsy N Bryant
Charleston	40 years	Elma M Harris
Laurens	40 years	Bonnie Burton
Richland	35 years	Violet Tucker
Greenwood	30 years	Donnie Perkins
Kershaw	30 years	Maxine Baker
Kershaw	30 years	Sheila Bracey
Kershaw	30 years	Nancy Hilton
Kershaw	30 years	Doris Horton
Kershaw	30 years	Sandra Wood
Hampton	25 years	Pearl McGill
Kershaw	25 years	Elizabeth Pate
Lexington	25 years	Phyllis Anderson
Lexington	25 years	Beverly Kleckley

For complete 2023 NVON Conference details visit: nvon.org



2023 NVON Conference Registration

"Planting Many Seeds — Brightens Our Future"

July 18-20, 2023 The Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg, WV

Hosted by: West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service

Name (one form per person) _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone (include area code) _____
E-mail address _____
Member _____ Guest _____ First Time Attendee _____ E-mail Registration Confirmation _____ Y _____ N

Include a self-addressed stamp envelope if you would like a written registration confirmation.

I grant the IEHA and/or NVON, the right to use, publish and copyright my image for educational program and publications, web sites and promotion of IEHA and/or NVON programs.

Signature _____

**List Special Dietary or Health Needs _____

Choose a seminar/craft workshop you would like to attend by placing a 1, 2, or 3 in the space before the selection. Omitting the 2nd or 3rd choice does not guarantee placement in 1st choice. Tours, seminars and workshops will be filled as registrations are received. **Please include payment with your registration.**

TOURS

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

- _____ Tour #1: 9 a.m., Blennerhassett Island —\$28
_____ Tour #2: Noon, Blennerhassett Island—\$28

SPOUSE/FRIENDS TOURS

Wed. & Thurs.—Spouse/Friends plan their activities

CRAFT WORKSHOPS

Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 9:00 - 10:15 a.m.

- _____ Photography
_____ Folded Fabric Ornament, \$8

Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 10:30 - 11:45 a.m.

- _____ Photography
_____ Folded Fabric Ornament, \$8
_____ Tour of Hotel

Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 2:00—4:00 p.m.

- _____ Bunco

Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 2:00—3:15 p.m.

- _____ Variety of Greeting Cards, \$10
_____ String Art, \$5

Tuesday, July 18, 2023, 3:30—4:45 p.m.

- _____ Variety of Greeting Cards, \$10
_____ String Art, \$5
_____ Tour of Hotel

SEMINARS: All Seminars are free unless noted

Wednesday, July 19, 2023, 2:00 - 3:00 p.m.

- _____ My Hometown is Cool!
_____ Railroads that Carved West Virginia
_____ Paired Wine and Food (\$5.00)

Wednesday, July 19, 2023, 3:30 - 4 :30 p.m.

- _____ Understand You to Understand Others
_____ Basic Genealogy
_____ Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention

Thursday, July 20, 2023, 2:00—3:00 p.m.

- _____ Health Motivators
_____ Appalachian Heritage Cooking
_____ Crazy Quilts

Thursday, July 20, 2023, 3:30—4:30 p.m.

- _____ Discrimination Simulation
_____ Self Defense for Seniors
_____ Financial Literacy

How many NVON
Conferences have you
attended, including this
one? _____

(This will be #24)

Lodging Information can be located at
<https://www.nvon.org/nvon-conference>

EMERGENCY CONTACT

Name _____

Relationship _____

Phone # _____

REGISTRATION FEES - Deadline: June 17, 2023

Full Registration\$200 \$ _____

One Day Registration

Tuesday, July 18.....\$90 \$ _____

Wednesday, July 19.....\$90 \$ _____

Thursday, July 20.....\$90 \$ _____

Late Fee (postmarked after June 17).....\$15 \$ _____

****Registration Fee REQUIRED to participate in tours****

Tour Fees:

Tuesday, Tours #1& #2 - Blennerhassett Island\$28 \$ _____

Craft Workshops and Seminars

String Art\$5 \$ _____

Greeting Cards\$10 \$ _____

Folded Fabric Ornament\$8 \$ _____

Paired Wine and Food\$5 \$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION, TOURS, AND FEES \$ _____

I will be attending the following:

_____ Tuesday, July 18, Dinner, West Virginia Night

_____ Wednesday, July 19, Lunch

_____ Wednesday, July 19, Dinner

_____ Thursday, July 20, Lunch

_____ Thursday, July 20, Dinner

Meal price is included in registration fee.

Make checks payable to: **WVCEOS**

Mail check or money order with registration form to:

Nancy Parsons

1590 Grapevine Ridge Road

Cameron, WV 26033

Email: Nancy976@aol.com

Phone: 1-304-686-3717

Registration due by June 17, 2023

Late fee after June 17, 2023 of \$15

Registration Fees transferable,
NOT refundable after Late Fee deadline.

Planting Many Seeds — Brightens Your Future
2023 NVON Conference
July 18-20, 2023

Monday, July 17

3:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.	Registration
3:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.	Receive Silent Auction Items
3:00 p.m.— 7:00 p.m.	Setup State Displays
3:00 p.m.	Financial Review
6:30 p.m.	NVON Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 18

8:00 a.m.— 6:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00a.m. — 6:00 p.m.	State Displays
8:00 a.m.— 6:00 p.m.	ACWW Silent Auction
9:00 a.m.— 2:00 p.m.	Blennerhassett Island Tour #1
9:00 a.m.— 10:15 a.m.	Craft Workshops.... Photography.... Folded Fabric Ornament
10:30 a.m. — 11:45 a.m.	Craft Workshops.... Photography.... Folded Fabric Ornament... Tour of the Hotel
LUNCH ON YOUR OWN	
12:00 p.m.— 5:00 p.m.	Blennerhassett Island Tour #2
2:00 p.m.— 3:15 p.m.	Craft Workshops Greeting Cards String Art
2:00 p.m.— 4:00 p.m.	BUNCO
3:30 p.m.— 4:45 p.m.	Craft Workshops Greeting Cards String Art.... Tour of the Hotel
6:00 p.m.	West Virginia Night Dinner Sounds of the Mountains

Wednesday, July 19

8:00 a.m.— 6:00 p.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.—11:00 a.m.	NVON Conference Opening Session & Business Meeting
12:00 p.m.	Luncheon Marty Walker-Owen
1:30 p.m. — 6:00 p.m.	ACWW Silent Auction
2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.	Educational Seminars...
	My Hometown is Cool... Railroads that Carved WV... Paired Wine & Food
3:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.	Educational Seminars...
	Understanding You ... Basic Genealogy ... Tai Chi for Arthritis
6:00 p.m.	Dinner.... Logan M. Soho

Thursday, July 20

8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.	ACWW Silent Auction
8:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.	State Displays
9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.	NVON Business Meeting
12:00 p.m.	Luncheon Pat Gruber
1:30 p.m. — 3:30 p.m.	ACWW Silent Auction
2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.	Educational Seminars
	Health Motivators... Appalachian Heritage Cooking... Crazy Quilts
3:30 p.m.—4:30 p.m.	Educational Seminars
	Discrimination Simulation.... Self Defense for Seniors ... Financial Literacy
3:30 p.m.	ACWW Silent Auction Closes
6:00 p.m.	Banquet... Jim Forshat a Tribute to Elvis Presley

The Blennerhassett Hotel
320 Market St, Parkersburg, WV 26101
(304) 422-3131



Use code: **NVON ONLINE** Registration code: **22825**
Double **\$109.00** Standard King **\$119.00** Deluxe King. **\$129.00**
Book by **June 24**

Hotel amenities: Free parking, Free Wi-Fi, Baggage storage, Fitness Center, Conference Facility, Hotel Restaurant, Library & Books, Garden on property, Terrace on property, Bellhop & Porter service, Valet parking – Free, Smoke free property, Wheelchair accessible – may have limitations

Getting There: Mid-Ohio Valley Regional Airport 12.5 mi; Yeager Airport 61.8 miles

FYI: Blennerhassett Hotel Does Not offer a shuttle service to or from Airports; Taxi Cabs and Uber are available

In loving Memory



Lexington County
Linda Cassidy
Martha Vansant

Newberry County
Anne Graham
Mary Pulley
Hannah Davis
Henrietta Shealy



If your county has a member that passed away, have someone send their name to newsletter editor.

2023 State Project in Common with NVON



WHY ARE POLLINATORS IMPORTANT?

Many fruits and vegetables, nuts, oilseed crops, herbs and spices, animal forage, medicinal plants and ornamental plants benefit from insect pollination.

The produce section of grocery stores would be rather empty without the hard work of bees, birds, butterflies, bats, and other pollinators. More than 80 percent of the world's plants need pollinators to survive, including many that provide the food we eat. But today, many pollinators are in trouble.

Somewhere between 75% and 95% of all flowering plants on the earth need help with pollination – they need pollinators. Pollinators provide pollination services to over 180,000 different plant species and more than 1200 crops.

If we want to talk dollars and cents, pollinators add 217 billion dollars to the global economy, and honeybees alone are responsible for between 1.2 and 5.4 billion dollars in agricultural productivity in the United States. In addition to the food that we eat, pollinators support healthy ecosystems that clean the air, stabilize soils, protect from severe weather, and support other wildlife.

- More than 75% of flowering plants depend on animal pollinators.
- In the US, over 100 crop plants depend on animal pollinators (Value \$15 billion).
- Most natural ecosystems would collapse without animal pollinators.
- Some plants are endangered because of diminished pollination.
- Chocolate depends on pollinators!

State Project Report Forms can be found on SCFCL's website: scfcl.com

Notes from SCFCL President, Pat Breznay

As I am sitting in front of my computer looking out the window into our front yard, I saw clumps of King Alfred daffodils that had hints of blossoms forming even though we've had some very cold mornings with temperatures into the mid teens. And yet the daffodils were slowed from blooming and every sunny, warm day the buds open just a little more. Today we saw the first blossom pop open. Others are waiting for more sun and more warmth.

Members seem to be waiting for more sun and more warmth before moving into full gear. In 2023 we hope to bring increased activity and more participation in club and district meetings. All three districts will meet in person. Central will meet in Lexington on March 14, Coastal will meet in Kingstree on March 15 and Foothills will meet in Saluda on March 16. Hostesses for the district meetings are selected in alphabetical order from counties with members in that district. Since some counties are smaller now, it might work for several counties to host together and share meeting responsibilities. Hosts for the Fall are already planned but we'll be planning for spring 2024 which will be here before you know it.

The Annual meeting will be hosted by Sumter County October 26 at historic Concord Presbyterian Church so mark your calendar and plan to attend.

The state project is Bee-Cause Pollinators Feed the World continues again this year. You may not be interested in having a beehive or growing plants that attract birds and bees but we can't live without pollinators. Spread the word and do your part to promote pollinators.

We had several requests about how to continue to support clean water for those in need. Wisconsin-Nicaragua Partners, Inc is a Christian, non-profit organization that supports efforts by taking water filters to Nicaragua, teaching how they're used and mission to them in addition. On our SCFCL website: scfcl.com we have included a link where you may make your personal donation as SCFCL no longer collects for this cause.

At the April Education Committee meeting, we select lessons for the next year. If you have ideas or suggestions for future lessons, please either send or e-mail to the Vice President or me. We appreciate any input from members.

My term expires December 31, 2023 so does the Secretary, Treasurer and Coastal District Director. We will need for members to step forward and apply for these positions. Current officers have served this organization well and will be glad to help new officers as they take on leadership roles, we're just a phone call away if needed.

I'm available if members have questions or need help. I hope your members will blossom as the weather warms and each county will blossom into a bouquet filled with lots of enthusiasm, energy and motivation.

SCFCL's mission is to improve the quality of life for individual, families and communities through fellowship, education and service by encouraging each club to increase membership, publicize through the use of media, public forums and (visual and video) promotionals, and educate members on FCL issues and focuses and reporting.

Keep SCFCL on the front page of people's minds so it will continue to make a difference for the next 100 years.

"TEAMWORK, Coming together is the beginning, Keeping together is progress, Working together is success."
Henry Ford



Message from your State Advisor, Connie Lake

Now that Christmas is over, it gives us a chance to reflect on our year. 2022 was different from any other year in history. With Covid, our lives were changed. Changed the way we attended public events and reminded us of the importance of our health.

In my church family, we lost a healthy man to covid. He was a man that gave a lot to the church by volunteering at almost every church event.

I know each of you has a person in your life who is like that. Take the time to show your appreciation for how much they do for you and your community. In the aftermath of his death, many individuals in the church stepped up.

Don't wait until someone dies to step up and volunteer. Don't wait to be asked. Just step up!

Be the person that you were meant to be.

Be the one that our FCL creed says that we are: "... we strive to promote the quality of life for all citizens in our communities through dedication, education, and service."



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Be sure to invite your friends!

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