



# REGIONAL NEWS

*Exciting News From Central West 1, Central 2, South East 1 and North West 1 Regions*

## Henry County Central West 1 Region



Henry County DFCS in partnership with Henry County Adoptive and Foster Parent Association, held their first annual Foster Parent / Agency Awards and Appreciation Picnic. There were over 100 people present, including 11 DFCS employees and their families. We had several special visitors including Christy Martinez, Director of "A Friend's House" along with the children currently residing there. We also had some of our Board Members and Commissioners present.



Foster Parent goody bags were given out which included items donated by BellSouth and Oriental Trading Company.



There were fun-filled activities for the children, which included a large playground, volleyball, and a special visit by two Henry County firemen who brought an ambulance and their remote controlled dog and fire truck.



There were hamburgers, hotdogs, various snacks and desserts. Subway also donated a 6 ft. party sub.



The highlight of the picnic was the awards ceremony given by Risè Wampler, the county Association President. The Foster Parent of the Year award, a 1 night getaway in a bed and breakfast, and the Dessert Contest award, a home-made wooden strawberry basket, went to Lynn Evans. The Case Worker of the year award, a home-made wooden drawer shelf went to Carla Wells.



The Caring award, another one night getaway, went to Jill Holder, a



very special caseworker in Henry County DFCS. Overall, the picnic was a huge success!

Special thanks go to Phyllis Schrader, DFCS Director, and Chris and Amy Painter, who reserved the park, arranged the firemen visit and helped out above and beyond the call of duty.

## Wilcox County Central 2 Region



On August 31, 1999, Stanley Bennett, Sub Regional VP for Central 2 Region, met with the

Foster and Adoptive Parents of Wilcox County in Rochelle, Ga. and after giving a presentation on the Adoptive and Foster Parent Association of Georgia, established a local association there. There were 15 in attendance and along with a great time of fellowship, the following officers were elected: Ms. Georgia Teague, President; Ms. Leola Cantella, Vice President; Ms. Marilyn Reid, Secretary-Treasurer; Ms. Mary Francis West, Chaplain; Ms. Patricia Bloodworth, DFCS Liason. Altogether, 9 new members signed up for the State Association. Good Job Stanley!



## Bleckley County Central 2 Region



On September 2, 1999 Stanley Bennett also met with the Foster and Adoptive Parents of Wilcox County in

Rochelle, Ga. and after giving a presentation on the Adoptive and Foster Parent Association of Georgia, established a local association there. There were 14 in attendance and along with a great meeting and fellowship, the following officers were elected: Ms. Dorothy Walker, President; Ms. Trendie Spires, Vice President; Ms. Malendy Jackson, Secretary; Ms. Georgia Blash, Treasurer; Mr. Johnnie Blash, Chaplain; Mr. Joe Jackson, Media Specialist; Ms. Debbie Butler, DFCS Liason. Altogether, 12 new members signed up for the State Association. Great Job Stanley!



## Chatham County South East 1 Region



On June 24, 1999 the Chatham County Foster Parent Association took a weekend trip to King's Dominion in

## Chatham County continued...



Richmond VA. This was a fun-filled weekend. We left Savannah at 6 AM on Friday and stopped at a Shoney's for breakfast somewhere in South Carolina. Then onward, tired Foster Parents and happy children arrived at our hotel in downtown Richmond at 6:00 PM. There was a pool party where everyone was treated to hot dogs, hamburgers, soft drinks and other snacks. The kids enjoyed playing in the pool while the exhausted adults slept with one eye open to make sure everyone was safe. Saturday at 10 PM everyone boarded the bus for King's Dominion Theme Park. It was all wide eyes and loud mouths because everyone was excited. After a fun day at the park it was time to settle down for an evening's rest. Sunday it was time to pack our bags and check out. Before we left Richmond, we went on a tour of Monumental Drive and then worked our way onward towards home.

In July the Regional Foster Parent & Staff Development Institute was held in Savannah at the Civic Center. Our hats go off to Ms. Betty Wright and her staff for a job well done.



## Catoosa County North West 1 Region



On August 2nd, the Catoosa county Foster Parent Association held their annual Association picnic. Several awards were given. Many thank-you cards and gifts were presented to one of the best caseworkers in Northwest Region #1. Deanna Baker resigned her position at the Catoosa DFCS and now works in the Catoosa County School System. Her devotion and tremendous commitment to Catoosa's Foster/Adoptive families and to the children in Foster Care will be missed. Two of Catoosa's High School graduates each received a fifty dollar scholarship from the Catoosa County Foster Parent Association as they entered into college. These two terrific young adults are Angie and Ray. Congratulations to both!!!

*If you would like to contribute to the Regional News column, please label your entry with the region you are from and send it to: Richard Wampler, Editor • 110 Southern Court • McDonough, GA 30252 or E-Mail to: wampler@earthlink.net*