



AFSA International Family Matters Trustee

May 2018



Hope you all are doing well and enjoying life to the fullest. Take time to smell the roses and cherish every moment with family and friends.

I've been thinking about changing my reports to quarterly or maybe every other month. What are your thoughts? If you want me to continue doing these monthly, that's okay with me. Please send me your thoughts as soon as possible.

RECRUITING

Right now, every Chapter should be recruiting via the **Family Focus Membership Campaign** where you recruit a new Chapter member for two years for \$50 and the Family Member's two-year membership is FREE! This runs through the end of July.

<http://www.hqafsa.org/familyfocus.html>

Recruiting new Family Members is critical to AFSA, but do not underestimate the importance of Retaining our existing Family Members. We need to find projects that will keep them excited and engaged. Engaged members participate in Chapter meetings, special projects and leadership opportunities, so be sure to have a variety of ways for them to be involved.

FUNDRAISERS

No matter what type of fundraiser you do, please be sure to involve your **Family Members**. I guarantee each Chapter has at least one Family Member who is great at organizing, creating and coming up with new ideas. Go out and find them!

- **Pie Throwing Contest:** A pie-throwing contest can be a great mid-afternoon fundraising event that's sure to draw a huge crowd, lots of laughs and some extra money for your Chapter. Create simple whipped cream pies in tin foil plates and charge a few dollars per pie. Your Chapter's Executive Council could serve as volunteers to have a pie in the puss!
- **Pizza Bingo:** Pizza Bingo is a night of food and fun! You would first need to check on the bingo laws in your state and the types of bingo licenses offered. You can host a community pizza night where attendees pay a fee to eat unlimited pizza and play plenty of rounds of bingo. You'll need to provide small prizes to your winners. You'll also need an emcee to announce numbers and rile up the

crowd. You can find bingo supplies on-line. Check out www.amazon.com for bingo supplies.

- **Patriotic Merchandise:** T-shirts, hoodies, and sunglasses are all items that you can customize and sell as a way to raise funds for your Chapter. Patriotic t-shirts are a huge hit with the 4th of July coming up in a couple of months. In fact, I've designed some that I'll be selling in a couple of weeks at an American Legion Craft Fair. Here's one that is very easy to do, layering Heat Transfer Vinyl and Glitter Vinyl. The picture doesn't do it justice, though.



You can also use a wholesaler or work with a local manufacturer. Just make sure you advertise your merchandise and for what the proceeds will be used.

- **Dinner & A Movie Cards:** Sell the cards for \$10 each and make a 65% profit. Check out the site below.

<https://www.justfundraising.com/discount-cards/dinner-movie-card.html>

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Here are some ideas on how your **Family Members** can help the community –

- Collect unused makeup and perfume to donate to a center for abused women
- Donate stuffed animals to children in hospitals
- Donate used children's books to a school library
- Make birthday cards for nursing home residents or the veterans at your local VA Hospital
- Donate old eyeglasses to an organization that collects that and distributes them to people in need

- Volunteer to take photos of these activities to post on your Facebook page
- Plan a thank-you reception for fathers on Fathers' Day
- Organize a community-wide cleanup event
- Plant a community vegetable patch
- Run a canned food drive and donate the proceeds to a food bank or homeless shelter

If you have any suggestions, ideas or comments, please let me know.

Until next month, thanks so much for all you do for our country and for AFSA!

Take care and God Bless!

Patti Dalzell

Family Matters Trustee

pdalzell@hqafsa.org

5/10/2018