



AFSA International Family Matters Trustee

August 2019



How's everyone doing these days? I rarely hear from anyone, with the exception of IP Carton and a few Family Members. I've been in this position for three years now and, as most of you know, I have submitted my Letter of Intent to run for this position. If elected for this two-year term, it will be my last as I will have served five years as your International Family Matters Trustee. It's time for some younger Family Members to step up. I just turned 63 and, to our younger generation, I am considered "old as dirt".

Before I go into some ideas for fundraisers, I feel the need to voice my thoughts of the last three years. I will apologize up-front if this ruffles anyone's feathers. It's not my intent to do so; I just really want the Family Matters Program to be more than what it is today and find new ways to entice more Family Members into AFSA, which will help out the Chapters. Family Members are great volunteers with some awesome ideas!

I am extremely passionate about AFSA and what we're all about – and it goes without saying that our Family Members are near and dear to my heart. Personally, I have seen little change in the involvement and recruiting of our Family Members over the past three years. I have provided numerous ideas on recruiting, retention, fundraising, social events, etc. Rarely do I see Chapter Facebook pages depicting Family Members in action and, if it wasn't for Andy Sanford and myself, the Family Matters Facebook page would hardly have any postings. This page was set up to showcase our Family Members and to post ideas on anything relating to Family Matters, successes, failures (we all learn from these), photos of Family Members getting together, etc. Anyone can post on the Family Matters page.

Each Chapter should have a Family Matters Trustee and, as of today, there are about 12 Chapters with this position for which I have their names and email addresses and they are part of my Family Matters email address group. There may be more, but when I sent out the request to the Division Presidents for the Chapters to provide me with that person's name and email, the responses were minimal. I will send that request out again in the hopes that it will be passed down to the Chapter Presidents and they, in turn, will respond to me whether or not they have a Family Matters Trustee and, if they do, provide me with their name and email address.

Now I totally understand how busy everyone is – I am definitely guilty of not following through on some Family Matters projects requested of me due to my hectic schedule. Also, I have not fully utilized my Family Matters Committee as I should have over the past year, but I do want to give a huge thank-you to Debby Oesterreich (Chapter 615), Karin Staats (Chapter 779) and Candice Kazmir (Chapter 972) for their help when I needed it. On top of my International duties, I serve as Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Newsletter Editor, Welfare Chair, among other assignments, for our Chapter. Also, I recently started an on-line craft business, but had to cancel it due to the fact that I didn't have the time to devote to it.

Anyone who truly knows me knows that I always speak from my heart, but I don't mince words – and sometimes I'm a little blunt – okay, maybe more than a little! If elected at the PAC, I'm going to do my level best to put our Family Matters Program in the forefront and will be seeking ideas from my Committee. I'm here to help you all out with whatever issues you're having as it relates to this program.

Now on to some fun fundraisers –

- **Trivia Night** – Host a themed Trivia Night. Charge an entry fee per table and have food, snacks and drinks on hand for additional fundraising. Reward the winning group with useful items from your local Dollar Tree store.
- **Guessing Game Fundraiser** – This can be done at a meeting, in your office or any event you are hosting. Whether you use gumballs, your favorite candy or something unique that relates to your cause, fundraising with a guessing game takes very little time to organize and doesn't require many volunteers. Now that's a good thing!
- **Heads or Tails** – All you need is a coin and some willing participants to put this fun twist on your next raffle. First, select an item for your raffle that will appeal to a broad audience in order to get as many people as possible to participate. The value of the prize itself can vary, but pick something that costs relative in relation to the ticket sale price. Generally, 20-25% of your guests will participate in a raffle—so the more guests you have, the more tickets you'll sell. The price of your raffle ticket should be reasonable, like maybe \$10.

How this works – When it's time, your auctioneer should ask all Heads or Tails participants to stand up. Then participants select either “heads” or “tails” by putting their hands on their heads—or their tails!

The auctioneer flips a coin and announces whether the coin came up heads or tails. Those participants whose choice matches the coin flip get to stay standing—everyone else sits down.

The auctioneer continues asking participants to select “heads” or “tails,” then flipping the coin, eliminating more players until only a handful are left.

Ask these few finalists to come to the stage for the last few coin tosses, until only one player is left standing. This is your raffle winner! Watch this video to see how it's done - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEL3uXE9r6Y>

Thanks for all you do – take care & God Bless – see you at the PAC!

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