



# Conference Comments

Louisiana Conference of Health and Social Services (LCHSS)  
February 2007

## State Conference 2007



The LCHSS State Conference 2007 will be held March 21-23, 2007 in Marksville. This year's theme is *"Kick It Up A Notch with LCHSS"*.

A tentative agenda for State Conference can be found on page 6. State Conference begins with a Board Meeting on Wednesday afternoon, where Board members will vote on the best student applicant for the LCHSS Annual Scholarship. The Scholarship is now \$1000. The President's Reception and Dance follow on Wednesday evening.



Thursday morning begins with DHH and DSS Agency Updates followed by keynote speaker Bert Fife. Through her innovative, dynamic delivery, Bert Fife can help you make the most of your work and personal life. Her topics include customer service, building business skills, and workforce improvement. Her humor and experience will make the event memorable and enjoyable. The topic for

Bert's presentation is: "I Am FIRST for You".

F - Friendly  
I - Interested  
R - Resourceful  
S - Supportive  
T - Thankful

A light lunch will be provided in the Mari Center compliments of Eagle Louisiana Federal Credit Union. After lunch, Eagle Louisiana Federal Credit Union will make a presentation. Regional presentations will follow. The Chairperson in each region will tell us what has been going on the past year in his region. You know what goes on in your region but now you can find out first hand what makes LCHSS tick across the state!



Those running for elected office are on the agenda, so you can meet the candidates. Sometimes you know a face, but not the name. This will give you a chance to put the face with the name.

Wrapping up the afternoon is Michael Brunet. Michael Brunet is an Assistant Professor and Program Director of the Louisiana College Athletic Training Educational Program. Currently he

teaches multiple Athletic Training and Physiology classes in conjunction with covering men's and women's soccer at Louisiana College, and serves as the Medical Coordinator for Crossroads Soccer Association. Mr. Brunet has given multiple national symposium presentations on Sports Nutrition, the Female Athlete Triad, and Human Body Composition and Assessment, with Eating Disorders as his area of specialization. He will speak to us about Common Myths Regarding Weight Loss.

The silent auction ends at 3:15 Thursday afternoon. Association meetings will be held after the general session is complete.

Wake up Friday morning to learn about healthy financial living with Ameriprise Financial. Awards will be presented to those who are worthy enough to be chosen. Drawings for the 3 \$100 bills and free conference will take place. The election results and door prizes will wrap up State Conference.

State Conference will be held at the Paragon Casino located at 711 Paragon Place, Marksville. We have blocked off 100 rooms. The rate for a room is \$52 + tax per night and the rate for a cabin is \$49.95 + tax per night. You can stay in the hotel, a chalet, or in the RV park. Call 1 (800) 946-1946 or (318) 253-1946 by March 14 to make your reservation and receive these rates. See you there!

To pre-register for State Conference 2007, you can complete the registration form on page 7 or download the registration form from our website at [www.lchss.org](http://www.lchss.org) and mail it to LCHSS Conference, Rayetta Thompson, Rapides Parish OFS, P. O. Box 551,

Alexandria, LA 71309 or e-mail the form to Rayetta at [rthomps@dss.state.la.us](mailto:rthomps@dss.state.la.us).



You may be able to attend State Conference Free!!! What is the catch? You have to attend conference and you have to be there when we draw the winning name. The winner will be reimbursed for all conference fees paid and the price of the hotel room. It could be you.

### **Scholarship**

It is not too late to apply for the LCHSS Annual Scholarship. The deadline is March 1, 2007. To qualify the applicant must be a full time entering freshman attending a Louisiana university, must have a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4 point scale, must have a minimum ACT score of 20, must be a child of someone who is an active member of LCHSS and must be of good character as shown by recommendations and participation in church, school and community activities. An application form can be found on page 5. You must send the following with the completed application form: 1. A complete high school transcript through 12/15/06. 2. A copy of ACT score. 3. List of all clubs, offices held, awards, honors and activities in which the student participated. List should be verified by school officials. 4. A list of all community and church activities and any employment positions held. 5. Two (2) letters of recommendation.

Completed Applications can be mailed to:

LCHSS Scholarship  
P.O. Box 1686  
Ponchatoula, LA 70454



There have been some changes in LCHSS lately. The Thibodaux and Orleans Regions

have merged and are now called the Thibodaux/Orleans Region. The Lake Charles and the Lafayette Regions have also merged and are now simply the Lafayette Region. The scholarship award has been increased from \$500 to \$1000. Make sure you buy your raffle tickets. Your continued support with the \$100 bill raffle has made it possible to increase the scholarship award. Elections will be a little different this year. Voting will occur on the last day of Conference. Be sure to be there to meet the candidates.

### Elections



Elections will take place at State Conference for State President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President. The following regions will also be electing new officers: Baton Rouge, Shreveport, and Thibodaux/Orleans. Members will be given an official ballot upon payment of all applicable dues and registration fees at the annual State Conference. To vote, the member must complete the ballot and place it in the ballot box no later than 9:00 A.M. on the final day of the State Conference. Those members who will not attend the annual state meeting may request an official ballot from the State Treasurer, Wendell Young, no later than March 2, 2007.

Such absentee ballots must be returned to Wendell no later than March 11, 2007.

### Regional News

The **Alexandria** Region is hard at work getting ready for State Conference!

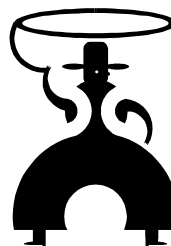


The **Baton Rouge** Region held a Regional Meeting on February 14, 2007 at the Ione Burden Conference Center located at 4560 Essen Lane. The theme was "Healthy Hearts". There was a



yoga instructor who got the morning started. We learned how to breathe and stretch to relieve stress. It worked! There were DHH and DSS Agency Updates. There was a speaker from Deferred Compensation, a speaker about healthy lifestyles from Pennington, and a speaker from the Food Stamp Nutrition Education program. Eagle Federal Credit Union made a presentation and brought healthy snacks. A heart healthy breakfast and lunch were also enjoyed. 35 people were in attendance, including 12 new members. A drawing was held for a free Regional Meeting and membership dues which Brandy Bonney won.

The new and improved **Lafayette** Region had its Regional Roundup Thursday, January 25, 2007 at the Ville Platte Civic Center.



Speakers focused on healthy lifestyles including mental and financial health. There was a speaker from Edward Jones, one about organ procurement, and one who

spoke about mental health. There was a Cajun humorist and a guy playing music. A yummy lunch of stuff pork loin and Todd's famous green bean casserole was enjoyed. Eagle Federal Credit Union sponsored the price of the meal. Don't you wish you can attend one of these meetings with the Lafayette Region? Evangeline OFS did a wonderful job in decorating and hosting this year's conference. A total of 102 people were in attendance. Next year, the Lafayette region looks forward to having conference hosted by Acadia OFS in Crowley, LA.

The **Shreveport** Region had their Regional Meeting February 7, 2007 at Louisiana Technical College in Shreveport. The theme was "Let's Get Healthy, Wealthy, and Wise". Speakers were from the LSU Cancer Center, LSU Ag Center, and a speaker from Robinson Film Center. A local attorney also spoke on estate planning. The luncheon was catered by the school's culinary arts department with a healthy menu. They had door prizes and a silent auction. 30 people were in attendance, including eight new members. Tilda Revelett won the paddle ball contest. Her prize was a \$25.00 gift card to Red Lobster. Everyone is looking forward to state conference!



The new **Thibodaux/Orleans** Region held their Regional Meeting December 7, 2006. There were 31 people in attendance. 4 new members joined. The meeting was held at the family center of Christ the Redeemer Church in Thibodaux. There was a speaker from Louisiana Recovery Association, from



OFS Fraud and Recovery, Santa Claus, and a speaker who talked about trans fat and saturated fat. Luckily the last speaker talked about fat after a hearty meal of BBQ brisket and potato salad.

### Membership Report

Alexandria	61
Baton Rouge	69
Hammond	26
Lafayette	148
Monroe	31
Shreveport	35
Thibodaux/Orleans	48
Statewide Total	418

### A Message from the President



Greetings to everyone! It is hard to believe another year has come and gone! It seems like it was just the other day that we gathered in Shreveport for State Conference! I know everyone is making plans to come to Marksville for State Conference 2007! The Alexandria Region is working very hard on the conference, and it should be great! Each Region is unique, and it is always interesting to visit different parts of the state. We are electing state officers this year. You will be able to "meet the candidates" at conference. It is my honor to serve as your president. Thank you for your support! I look forward to seeing everyone in March!

*Virginia*



## **LCHSS STATE CONFERENCE AGENDA**

### ***"Kick It Up A Notch with LCHSS"***

**Paragon Casino, Marksville**

**March 21-23, 2007**

#### **Wednesday, March 21, 2007**

3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Board Meeting  
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. President's Reception  
8:00 p.m. - 12:00 p.m. Dance

#### **Thursday, March 22, 2007**

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. - 9:15 a.m. Opening Session, Welcome, Invocation  
9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m. DHH Agency Update: Dr. John Naponick, Administrator/Medical Director, DHH-OPH, Alexandria region  
9:45 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. DSS Agency Update: Adren Wilson, Assistant Secretary, OFS  
10:15 a.m.- 10:30 a.m. Break  
10:30 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. I Am FIRST for You: Bert Fife  
11:30 a.m.- 12:45 p.m. Lunch in the Mari Center-Compliments of Eagle Federal Credit Union  
12:45 p.m.- 1:30 p.m. Eagle Federal Credit Union  
1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. LCHSS Regional Updates  
2:00 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Break  
2:15 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. Meet the Candidates  
2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Common Myths Regarding Weight Loss: Dr. Mike Brunet  
3:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Silent Auction Ends and Door Prizes  
3:45 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. Association Meetings

#### **Friday, March 23, 2007**

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Registration  
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Healthy Financial Living: Ameriprise Financial  
10:00 a.m.- 10:15 a.m. Break  
10:15 a.m.- 11:15 a.m. Louisiana Spirit Stress Management  
11:15 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. Award Presentations  
11:30 a.m.- 11:45 a.m. Door Prizes and Drawings  
11:45 a.m.- 12:00 p.m. Election Results  
12:00 Adjourn

**Registration for LCHSS State Conference 2007  
Marksville, LA**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

LCHSS Region \_\_\_\_\_  
(see map on our website)

You must be a member to attend Conference. You may become a member when registering at Conference. See the fee schedule below. You do not need to be a member to attend the dance only.

New membership	_____	\$ 15
Renewal	_____	\$ 13
Retiree/Full time student	_____	\$ 7
<b>Full Conference</b>	_____	\$ 50

**or**

**Daily rates:**

Wednesday includes reception and dance	_____	\$ 20
Wednesday - Dance only	_____	\$ 10
Thursday	_____	\$ 20
Friday	_____	\$ 15
<b>Total</b>	_____	<b>\$</b>

**Louisiana Conference of Health and Social Services  
926 Hwy 190  
Eunice, LA 70535**