



Southwest Region

Michigan Family Support Council

32nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

On behalf of the Southwest Michigan Family Support Council welcome to beautiful Boyne Highlands! We hope everyone has an enlightening and enjoyable conference.

Our annual conference was held Thursday, May 15, 2014, at Doster Lake Country Club. The weather was very dodgy which wiped out our planned golf outing. Despite the less than favorable weather, we had quite a wonderful turnout with 70 attendees. Our morning presentations began with Legislative Updates presented by our own lovely and talented Jennifer Granzow. Next up was OCS Director Erin Frisch to give an overview on happenings in the Child Support arena. Ms. Frisch was dazzling as always. We then had the crew from Ottawa County Friend of Court presenting us with a custody/parenting time program. My thanks to Peter, Stephanie, Ben, and Julie who expanded their presentation to cover the time slot, as their co-presenter from OCS was unable to make it. Lunch was grill buffet followed by yummy cookies for dessert. After lunch, Sean Bodell from OCS rocked the crowd with his IVR presentation followed immediately with a presentation on Administrative Hearings. As always, our speakers were engaging and enlightening. The board worked very hard to make this an enjoyable and instructional day with a variety of topics, and judging by the positive evaluations we received, it certainly was a successful day sans the disappointing weather. (I blame the Polar Vortex we were held hostage by for a good many months!!)

Our Silent Auction enjoyed its most successful year. For 2014, the Katty Shack/Domestic Violence Coalition was our chosen charity recipient. Thanks to attendee participation and generosity, we were able to make our largest monetary donation to date. Matt Schmid as the Silent Auction Chair, along with Kyle his right hand gal, did an outstanding job obtaining donations for bidding and organizing the presentation of biddable items. And a HUGE Thank You to all who donated items from around the region. Thanks to the donators and bidders, Matt was able to present a check in the amount of \$1,000.00 to Katty Shack. This year we bid adieu to yet another board member as Jeff Radike of Ionia County FOC left our board. But not to worry, we welcomed Tami Hewitt from Ionia County PA office and she dove right in with participation and enthusiasm. We were also pleased to welcome Erin Stender from Allegan County FOC and Donnella Kujawa from Cass County FOC. All three lovely ladies have been an excellent addition to the board.

As always, I would like to thank the board for all the hard work they do throughout the year and the wonderful support I have received during my tenure as President. The board continues to amaze me with their dedication to the organization and the wonderful ideas they bring to each meeting. Thanks to Sheila, Terri (who still participates from afar), Erin, Jennifer, Jeff K, Matt, Sherry, Nancy, Donnella, Tami and Jo Ann.

The Board of Director's for 2013/2014 are as follows: Monica Morris-Moats (President), Calhoun County PA, Jeff Koteles (Vice-President/OCS representative to State Board), OCS, Sheila Waldrop (Treasurer/FOC representative to State Board), Berrien County FOC, and Nancy Schultz (Secretary), St. Joseph County FOC, and Jennifer Granzow (PA representative to State Board), Kalamazoo County PA. Have a great time at Boyne!!

Sincerely,

Monica A. Morris-Moats
President, Southwest Region
Michigan Family Support Council