

Greetings to Coaches Wives

By Tracee Norris
President

I'd like to first begin by thanking everyone who helped to make Dallas a wonderful success: Carolyn Allen for putting together great programs, Sally Shannon and Julie Ayers for the great fun in the hospitality room (this pregnant momma really appreciated

the yummys), to Holly Shealy for organizing

our wonderful visit to Dallas Children's Hospital, Kelly Smith for organizing it all with the Dallas Hilton Anatole, to Grant and Donell Teaff for all their support

from the AFCA, and to all the other wonderful AFCWA board members who put in their hard work and dedication throughout the year to make sure everything runs smooth in January. Thank you ladies! I'd also like to thank Kathy Dudzinski for all her leadership and friendship. I know I have some big shoes to fill this next year.

For my first article, I thought it was important to talk about what the AFCWA means to me. To me, the AFCWA represents understanding, support, and friendship. All things we need in our lives. When my husband and I were first married there were no other friends or family in my life that understood what it was like to be married to a coach. They didn't understand the commitment my husband had to his job that caused him to work long hours, miss important events, or be gone from home a lot. I felt like I was constantly having him to defend him for doing something he loves and that he has the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the young men he works with. It wasn't until I joined the AFCWA that I found the acceptance and understanding I had been hoping for. Being able to talk to other wives and learn I wasn't "alone" in what I was experiencing was so reassuring. Even at my very first convention I got some great advice that I think of today about how it was important to be supportive



of my husband, but that it was just as equally important for me to be my own person and independent (thank you Debbie M. and Sue D.) That learning to fix the toilet or sink was something I could do rather than trying to wait for him to do it. Besides the fact it got done faster, it also gave me a great sense of confidence for doing it. The biggest lesson I learned though from the wonderful ladies of the

AFCWA was that I am not alone. That there is always someone who understands what it is I'm going through, whether it is dealing with my coach after being fired from a job or having to transition to a new school or town. There is someone who has been there, done that, or even in the process of doing it at the same time. I know this next season as I try to navigate my first football season with a baby that I can pick up the phone or send an email and another coach's wife will be there to support me, listen to me, and probably offer me some great advice.

That is what I hope for all of you wonderful wives. Even if you don't have the support and camaraderie from the wives on your own staff (which does happen), please know that myself and all the other great ladies of the AFCWA are here for you. We understand these chaotic and exciting lives we lead and we support you! Please don't hesitate to reach out to us when you need it. You can always get in touch with me or any board member or trustee by email at mail@afcwa.org.

I wish everyone a wonderful spring season and a relaxing summer holiday. Before you know it, football season will be here again! Be sure to keep up with AFCWA on Facebook (or join us if you haven't already). Facebook is a great way to keep up with your fellow wives or learn more about our mission or upcoming convention.

Have a great season and I look forward to seeing you all in San Antonio!



**2011 AFCWA
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 1996 LuAnn DeBerry
 1995 Liz Mullins
 1994 Patti Edwards
 1993 Pat Kane
 1992 Jackie Harbaugh
 1991 Susan Keeling
 1989-90 Ellie Mallory

THE SUPPORT STAFF

The Support Staff is published two times per year: post-convention and pre-convention. The deadlines for submissions are February 1 for post-convention, and September 15 for pre-convention. Send your inquiries, letters or submissions for publication to the Editor:

Cindy Johnson
 13 Virginia Drive
 Ellington, CT 06029
 mail@afcwa.org

**AMERICAN FOOTBALL COACHES WIVES ASSOCIATION
2012 REGISTRATION**

(Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Husband's Name: _____

School: _____

2012 AFCWA Dues* **\$30.00** _____

2012 AFCWA Luncheon** **\$30.00** _____

Make checks payable to AFCWA **Total Enclosed** _____

Note: Your cancelled check will be confirmation of your registration

MAIL TO: Nicole Henry 5449 Kingsbridge Winston-Salem, NC 27103

I am willing to help at the convention in San Antonio with:

Hospitality Registration Book Sales Other

Is this your first time at convention? Yes No

**Dues are non-refundable.*

***Luncheon tickets that are paid for in advance and not picked up by Monday at the close of registration will be subject to resale. Luncheon tickets are non-refundable but may be resold to another active member.*

Thanks for the Memories

By Kathy Dudzinski

What a wonderful convention we all had. Thank you to all who attended. For those of you who couldn't make it, we look forward to seeing you in San Antonio. I so enjoyed serving as your President this past year. I loved the ice cream social with all of our husbands, what a great time that was.. Our breakout sessions were fantastic.

I want to thank once again every member of our Board of Directors not only for the support that they gave me thru the year, but also for the generous donation to

the scholarship fund in my mother-in-law's name. Keith and I will never forget your thoughtfulness and kindness. You touched both our hearts.

Our new President Tracee Norris is fabulous, we have several new Board of Directors who I know are going to be a great help in the next few years. Please keep in mind nominations for the board for the next year. I will be looking around September for names.

Thank you again and keep in touch. Have a great Spring!!

Deep in the Heart of Texas



By Donell Teaff

Greetings to all!!! I am still enjoying the good memories of our AFCWA convention in Dallas.

It was fun; it was informational; it was entertaining; it filled my heart with joy to see the fellowship you all enjoyed; and the participation by so many

of our wives was gratifying... If I had a magic genie, I would ask for another large room in San Antonio like our gathering place at the Anatole...registration, vendors, and hospitality all in one big area. That added a great deal to our programming!!! I may just speak to the genies I know!!!

Our Board is incredibly efficient, and I thank them for their constant good work during the convention. I hope you had an opportunity to welcome Lanier Turner-Frazier (North Carolina Central University) and Jenny O'Brien (North Carolina State) to the Board. They bring resourceful energy and new ideas that help us to be a better organization. Kathy, our Past President, has been an excellent leader, and Kelly Smith has walked with us every step of the way. I hope all of you know that Tracee Norris, our President (Southeast Missouri State University) will be the first sitting President to birth a little one...very soon!!! So excited!!!

Our Trustees are wonderful, and their guidance, especially in the financial area, keeps us on the right track. Thanks to the large number of trustees who joined us in Dallas.

There are many reasons for a successful convention, and I believe that the addition of some activities this year was one. Not only did you stand tall with your memorabilia for the Children's Hospital Visit and Scholarship items, but the shopping trip was eagerly received (imagine that), the trip to Cowboy Stadium was a "Wow" experience, we all loved the Ice Cream Social, and the "Seasoned Wives" get together was a great success. In fact next year, those wives who have been well seasoned over multiple years as coaches wives are planning additional activities. If any of you who are new to this profession need a mentor, this group is where you begin to look. Carolyn Allen brought us exceptional programming and seminars, and lunch with Coach Fisher DeBerry and LuAnn was a delight. My thanks to each of you for being an important part of our Dallas Experience.

Our Board is looking at some options for San Antonio, especially giving you plenty of time to enjoy that wonderful city. Each year I think, "Well, it just can't be any better," But it always is, so don't miss Convention 2012 in San Antonio, January 8-11!!!! Make your plans now !!!



Pictured are (left to right) Donell Teaff, Coach Fisher DeBerry and his wife LuAnn DeBerry

Scholarship Fund

For the person who has everything, next time you don't know what to give to a "Coaches Wife" to say "Happy Birthday", "Good Luck", "Happy Baby", etc., send a donation to the AFCWA in her honor. Your honor to that person will be published in the AFCWA newsletter.

Please send checks to:

Tracee Norris
1864 Bella Vista
Jackson, MO 63755

Checks should be made payable to AFCWA Scholarship Fund and please note who the donation is to honor.

The Deadline for the Scholarship Applications is November 30, 2011.

AFCWA Scholarship

Are you or another wife on your staff looking to go back to school or working on finishing your degree?

Each year, the AFCWA awards a \$1,000 scholarship to a deserving, qualified football coach's wife who wishes to attend graduate or undergraduate school to further her education. If you know of someone who would like to apply for this scholarship, please have the applicant send a cover letter of why she deserves the scholarship, along with a resume, by November 30, 2011 to mail@afcwa.org or send regular mail to:

LaNier Turner-Frazier, Scholarship Chair
17011 Muddy Spring Drive
Houston, TX 77095

The scholarship recipient will be announced during the 2012 AFCWA Luncheon in January 2012.



LaNier Turner-Frazier Scholarship Chairman



LaNier Turner-Frazier is the wife of Henry Frazier III, head football coach at North Carolina Central University. She is the founder of the Football Wives Network and host of the Football Wives Who Win radio show. She is also the author of *The Football Wives Playbook: 9 Plays To A Winning Life*. LaNier is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and enjoys serving as a Dress for Success volunteer. In her spare time, you can find LaNier working out at a Zumba fitness class or spending quality time with her family and friends. LaNier currently resides in the Durham, North Carolina area with her husband and three children, Brijan (20), BriNia (11), and Henry IV (9). To find out more about LaNier, visit: www.FootballWivesWhoWin.com or www.LaNierTurnerFrazier.com.

New Arrivals & New Locations



Katie and Mike Wood (UMass) are the proud parents of a new baby daughter, Ryleigh Kathryn, born on January 29th, 6:12am, weighing in at 7lbs, 15oz. She is the little sister to Charlie who is 3 years old.



Kathy and Keith Dudzinski (formerly of UMass) are moving to Maryland to join the University of Maryland staff as the new Linebackers coach with head coach Randy Edsall.

Cindy and Lyndon Johnson (formerly of UConn) are moving to Maryland to join the University of Maryland staff as Special Teams Coordinator and Outside Linebackers coach with head coach Randy Edsall.

Thank You, Friends

By Sandy Sabock, Board Member & Wife of Mike Sabock

How great it was to see everyone who joined us at The Convention! Thank you to each of you, Board Members and non Board Members, for every wonderful thing you did to make this convention a success. Thank you to all the ladies who volunteered in the hospitality room, registration, donations of door prizes and gifts for the Hospital Visit. The support that I witnessed was wonderful. Truly this is what we are all about...Camaraderie, Support, and Information.

A big thank you needs to go to Coach Grant Teaff and Donell for the continued support they both give our organization.

We sure did miss Sandi Atkinson, but Janet Robertson did a great job!

A special thank you to the Trustees, and Retired Wives/"Seasoned Wives" for all the knowledge they continue to share and pass down to each of us.

As Program Chairperson I'm very excited to have started working on a program format for 2012.

I am certain that our coaches wives will be pleased about the programs being planned for 2012. Plans are in the works to have programs that will lend support, provide camaraderie and share information. There absolutely will be fun programs filled with laughter, tears, and sharing from new coaches wives to our "Seasoned Wives"

As they say in football, "Let's get back to basics". The programs being planned will indeed lend a hand to camaraderie, support, and information, which is what the AFCWA is all about and has been about from its inception. We are certain that everyone will be pleased with the programs being planned, as well as being excited with the quest speakers and our group facilitators' for our breakout sessions. We have heard from many of you, especially our younger wives, who are seeking help and information. These women have suggested strongly that they would love to be a part of breakout sessions. By incorporating facilitators into our guest speakers we will be able to have a lot of group discussion and sharing.

I feel strongly that we can and should encourage, share and support our wives at each and every level. With that said, I believe each and every wife that attends a session next year will walk away with something that will carry them through another season. We, as coaches wives, at whatever level our husbands coach, go through the same emotions year after year.

Please feel free at any time to contact any one of the Board Members with any questions, concerns or comments. Have a wonderful, beautiful, and winning 2012!



Pictured above (left to right) are Dan Sabock of Rutgers University, son of Sandy and Mike Sabock, Western Michigan University.

Newsletter Articles

We invite you to be a contributor to our AFCWA newsletter! We are always looking for articles that would be of interest to our membership...personal accounts of how being part of the football family has changed your life, helpful tips for living in the public eye, advice for those just starting this journey, etc.

Please direct all articles to Cynthia Johnson at cynthia.johnson2755@gmail.com and be sure to put AFCWA somewhere in the subject line so it is not discarded as spam. We would love to hear from you!

Celebrating Twenty Years of Service

By Susan Keeling and Gae Best

"Each January [for the past twenty years] the AFCWA visits a children's hospital in the convention's host city, bearing gifts: t-shirts and caps from our various schools across the country, signed footballs, mascot toys, and a monetary donation. This is one of the most important and fulfilling missions of our organization." Taken from *MARRIED TO THE GAME* p. 76.

How did it all begin? In 1991 the board voted and the membership approved to make this worthy service project a reality. In 1992 Jackie Harbaugh wrote in the newsletter: "The highlight of the convention for me and several others was our visit to the Dallas Children's Memorial Hospital. Thanks to the efforts of Susan Keeling and Sally Francis, Director of Child Life at Children's, we were able to bring our gifts to the many children there." The article was accompanied by a photo of a young boy, a Chicago Bears fan, holding a football donated and signed by Jim Harbaugh who at that time was the QB for the Bears.

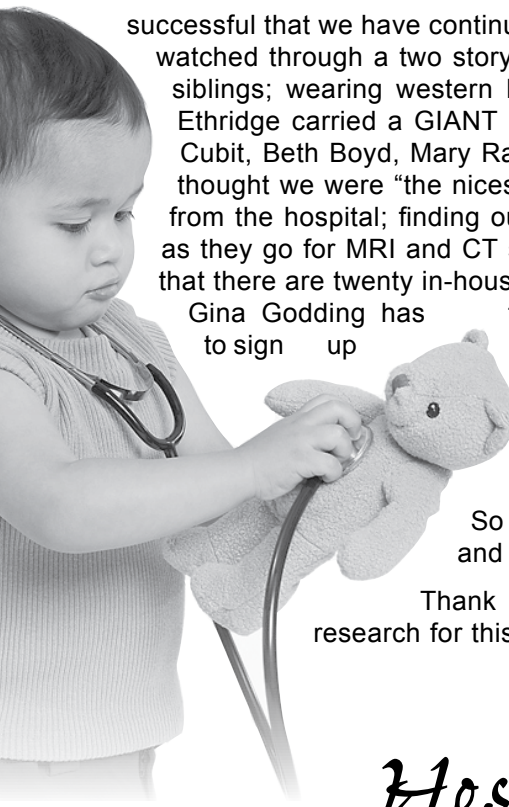
Since that time we have visited ten different hospitals in eight different cities: Emory University and Scottish Rite in Atlanta in 1993; Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) in Anaheim in 1994, 2000, and 2008; Children's in Dallas in 1992, 1995, 1998, 2006, and 2011; Children's Hospital in New Orleans in 1996 and 2003; Children's Hospital and Women's Center in Central Florida (CHWC-CF) in Orlando in 1997; Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville in 1999; Children's Health Care of Atlanta in Atlanta in 2001; Christus Santa Rosa in San Antonio in 2002 and 2007; Arnold Palmer Children's Hospital in Orlando in 2004 and 2010; Kosair Hospital in Louisville in 2005; AND Monroe Carrell, Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt in Nashville in 2009. We have donated thousands of caps and t-shirts, hundreds of stuffed animal mascots and balls, myriads of books, games, puzzles, art supplies, "play" jewelry, as well as a total of over \$15,000 in checks! In the past six years, we have also taken a great number of toiletry bags for parents.

Each hospital has been impressive in its medical and technological expertise, attention to patient (and parent) needs, and of course, the dedication and the love shown by the Child Life Specialists, doctors, and nurses. They are truly a blessing in their communities.

Under the leadership of Kelly Smith and the hospital visit coordinators over the years...Susan Keeling, Jackie Harbaugh, Pat Kane, Pam Helton, Maria Daniels, Kim Franchione, Gae Best, Holly Shealy, and the newly appointed Julie Ayers...the service project has thrived and flourished. The generosity of the membership in bringing gifts, the benevolent monetary decisions of the board, and the dedication of many of you to commit yourselves each year to going on the hospital visits should make each of us proud to be members of AFCWA.

I hope you will humor us as we randomly recall a few STAND OUT memories of some of our past hospital visits: husbands going on the 1993 and '96 visits; two Tulane football players accompanying the group one year; the impressive neo-natal intensive care unit at Children's and at Arnold Palmer; seeing the computer donated by our sponsor Robinson-Humphrey at Children's in Dallas in '98; knowing that our checks were so very often given in memory of or gratitude for some wonderful folks; AFLAC providing our transportation in Atlanta; the thank you card created by the patients of Children's in Atlanta; Maria Daniels's twelve year old daughter carrying the HUGE AFLAC duck into Santa Rosa in San Antonio in '96; being able to double our donation in 2005 and every year since from \$500 to \$1000; Smith Barney adding \$1000 to our donation in New Orleans one year; taking flowers from the luncheon to the nurses' station at Kosair; beginning the toiletries for parents project in 2006 and finding it so





successful that we have continued it; seeing ZIPPY the robot filling some of the prescriptions as young patients watched through a two story window; the wonderful inter-faith chapel there; often giving caps to dads and siblings; wearing western hats on the visit in Dallas in 2006; laughing as beautiful and petite Jeannie Ethridge carried a GIANT PANDA one year; crying when the little girl Monique insisted on giving Nancy Cubit, Beth Boyd, Mary Ramseyer, and me bracelets SHE had made; our hotel shuttle driver Archie who thought we were “the nicest ladies he had ever met” giving us a quick tour of Anaheim on the way home from the hospital; finding out that the stuffed mascots are especially comforting for patients to hold on to as they go for MRI and CT scans; the vibrancy of the hospital in Nashville, its music therapy, and the fact that there are twenty in-house accommodations for parents there (free of charge); the wonderful photos that Gina Godding has taken through the years; knowing that Mary Via would almost always be the first to sign up for the hospital visit; the fun we had with Jeff and Wes from the development office at Arnold Palmer in 2010; the great laugh we had in Dallas the year I (Gae) made a dramatic presentation of the hospital check, but it was the one made out for the bus driver! (I think that was also the year that I discovered I had my boots on the wrong feet just before meeting Barbara Bush!)

So there you have it...twenty years of hospital visits! Pat yourselves on the back and stay caring and generous!

Thank you, Cathy Hofner, Kelly Smith, and Janet Roberts for helping us with the research for this article.

Hospital Visit By Holly Shealy

Our visit to the Dallas Children’s Medical Center was very moving and informative. We were greeted at the entrance of the hospital by Julie Adams, who is a specialist in the Child Life Department. She was so helpful in planning our visit. We were honored to be able to present to the hospital our gift of \$1000.00 on behalf of the AFCWA. We also delivered all the t-shirts, hats, stuffed mascots, toys, balls and toiletry bags sent by all of our generous members!

Julie then divided us into two groups. Half of our group went to tour the amazing facilities and the other half was taken to a playroom to see some children. Kyra Barnett, also from the Child Life Department, led the group on the tour and was assisted by Sheila Long. Kyra was so passionate about the hospital, it was very interesting to learn about all that they do to try and make a child’s stay as positive an experience as possible. After a half an hour, the two groups switched so that both groups were able to interact with the children in the playrooms. We also were able to pass out some of the t-shirts, hats and balls to the children and we received some sweet smiles in return!

A special thank you to the members who joined me on the visit: Gina Gooding, Nicole Henry, Kristi Malony, Lisa Dorazio, Judy House, Tracie Wimberly, Courtney Stamm, Jeanne Etheridge, June Cross, Chandra Brown, Julie Ayers and Gae Best. Here are a few comments about the visit. Tracie said, “The hospital visit was such an inspiration to see! The facility clearly aims to provide adequate resources, for children and their families, for a more comfortable stay at the hospital.” Courtney said, “I was impressed with the number of activities available

for the children who are mobile and their siblings. The Resource Library for the parents was a great addition to help them learn about their child’s illness or condition.” Chandra mentioned, “The opportunity to tour the facility was a great experience, however the opportunity to interact with the children and see what a difference the medical team and volunteers make in their lives was an AWESOME experience. Their attention to the “little” details helps ease a part of the stress families have while their loved one is being treated.”

I would like to thank each and every one of you for your support of our service project. Our gifts will certainly touch the lives of many children and their families throughout the year. An extra special thanks to Gina for her role as our photographer! We look forward to continuing our friendship with the Dallas Children’s Medical Center for many years to come!



In Transition

Please contact the AFCA with your address/job changes.

All address updates should include coach's name (and wife's name, of course!), former school, new school, coaching status (HC, Asst, GA, etc.) and all the phone, fax, and email information available.

If you are 'In Transition' we need your home address, as most of our members have their mail sent to the school.

All information should be sent via email to: membership@afca.com or mailed to:

Membership-Address Update

AFCA
100 Legends Lane
Waco, TX 76706.

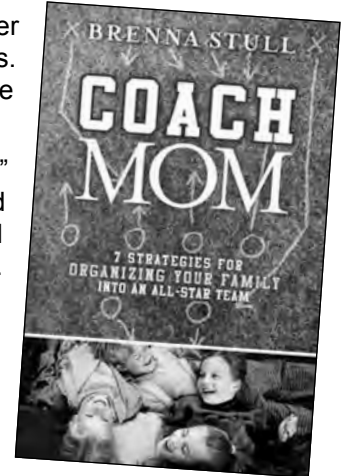
Makeover Heaven

By: Carolyn Allen, Program Chairperson

We were all looking for renewal in January, and Makeover Heaven was the theme for our Monday morning programs. Even on a cold Dallas day that saw many flights cancelled, we had over 120 ladies join the fun.



Our kickoff speaker was "Coach Mom" author Brenna Stull who motivated and entertained as she told us How to Build Our Dream Team within our own family. Talk about Strategies! The coaches wives were lined up to purchase her book, *Coach Mom: 7 Strategies for Organizing Your Family into an All-Star Team* (New Hope Publishers, 2007).



Next we had two sessions:

The Hopes (Dr. Sally, Dr. Janet, and Dr. Elizabeth) brought fresh research on our lifestyle as coaches wives. Their makeover theme was *Putting on a Good Face: Life in a Fishbowl*. It was a fascinating interactive session discussing the pros and cons of the media, fans, websites/message boards, and public appearances.

Author and Speaker Verdell Davis Krisher brought a wealth of experience and understanding in her session: *Overworked and Overwhelmed: My Lifestyle*. Verdell is a delightful person. She provided handouts for everyone and talked about facing diverse situations in life. She gave hope to the wives assuring them that things happen for a reason. Yes, it is a stressful journey but everyone had their feelings validated. It was uplifting.

For our final session, we all gathered for a Nordstrom Makeover with two of our lovely members, Rona Fello and Lauren Horton. Nordstrom personal stylist Rebecah Petree inspired the audience with her practical charm. She showed a variety of looks with only a few accessory changes. Gilda Briscoe, Beauty Stylist, added her talents to show off the beauty of Lauren and Rona. Many questions and comments came from the audience.

It was Makeover Heaven at AFCWA!



A Big Thank You to Critical Illness Insurance Advisors

By Cindy Johnson

What a wonderful time we all had at the ice cream social in the Emerald room on Sunday January 9th. Thank you so much to Tom Lawton and his staff at Critical Illness Insurance Advisors for a night out with our husbands. What a rare treat! It was great catching up with friends we have not seen since the convention last year "dishing" the latest "scoop". You can reach Tom Lawton with any questions at www.gociaa.com



Critical Illness 
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Protecting your Blindside



Some of My Thoughts By Nancy Cubit

Some people have asked me what the difference is between being a Board Member and a Board of Trustee for the AFCWA. The Board of Trustees consists of past Presidents of the AFCWA. The President is a one-year term which is preceded by being a 4-year board member and then voted by the current Board Members to move up to President. After serving as President, you are then permanently on the Board of Trustees with that said, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank Kathy Dudzinski and her Board for all their hard work this past year. Also, congrats to Kathy and her husband, Keith, as they move on to the University of Maryland!! And the transitions never end!!

As a past President of AFCWA and having attended Convention for the past 19 years, I feel so blessed to have met so many dear, life-long friends by being involved with AFCWA. We encourage everyone to please let your wives on your staff know what they are missing by not attending convention. It is a great time to reunite with wives you've been on other staffs with and meet new ones, as well... not to mention a very nice get-away with your husband to reunite during the crazy recruiting season!

We were excited to have our own daughter-in-law attend convention for the first time. (Our son is our QB Coach.) They told me if I would write an article, I could bring family into it. Those of you who know me definitely know that I wouldn't pass up that opportunity! You may remember my article a few years back about all three of our kids getting married within the same year. Now the babies have begun, and we are so blessed to have two beautiful granddaughters and another one due in May. And the new one is from our son and daughter-in-law, who know how to time having babies perfectly in the coaching business. Their 1st was born in July and now May. I will leave you with a picture of my two adorable baby dolls. Now, see, if any of you ever want to write an article, you get to brag or post a picture, too!



Looking forward to seeing you all in San Antonio, my favorite convention place!

Friends, That's What We Are

Here's a fun way to connect with old friends, make new ones and share our experiences as coaches wives. A college basketball coach's wife created a social networking site for wives of college coaches. It is similar to Facebook, is very user friendly and easy to set up your own profile page. There are groups you can join such as a book club and a hostess club. I have set up a group for the AFCWA for football wives. It would also be a great way to continue the discussions that were started at the convention! Check it out at: MarriedToTheGame.Net

By Holly Shealy

Hospitality

By Sally Shannon

There were NO beds to make, NO meals to cook, and NO dishes to wash.....only three wonderful days of relaxing, visiting with dear friends, meeting new friends, shopping, and dining out! I look forward to the convention each January, and I hope you will too! This past year's convention in Dallas was no exception! The Hospitality room was a great place to meet, share stories, encourage one another, have a cup of coffee and some chocolate, and talk to other wives who have experienced the ups and downs of being a "coach's wife". We are a unique breed of strong, resilient women who love our men and their football coaching profession!

I'd like to thank each and every one of you who attended, and for those who volunteered in the Hospitality room with Julie Ayers and me. The room had a beautiful view of the outdoor courtyard, and weren't we all surprised when it snowed huge snowflakes on Sunday morning!! The breakfast on Monday morning, provided by Family Relocation was delicious. Our kickoff and breakout session guest speakers were fantastic, and lunch with Coach Fisher DeBerry and his lovely wife, LuAnn, was insightful and entertaining.

Next year's convention is in San Antonio, and it's not too early to begin collecting small gifts to bring as door prizes (such as note cards, bath and body goodies, etc.) We all love to "win", and your contribution is greatly appreciated!

Enjoy your family time this summer! Wishes for a successful football season this fall, and Paige Speir and I will see you in San Antonio in January 2012!



If you have relocated since the last newsletter or convention, please fill out the form below. It is important to have your updated information so you don't miss a newsletter!

Name _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (____) _____ Email _____
Husband's Name _____ School (Full Name) _____
Mail to: Tracee Norris, 1864 Bella Vista, Jackson, MO 63755 –or– Email above info to mail@afcwa.org

Jennifer O'Brien New Historian



I was born in Cleveland but grew up a Navy brat so spent my childhood moving from coast to coast every three years or so from Virginia to California and back. I graduated from Indiana University with a degree in Nursing and spent the next five years as a Navy nurse. While stationed at the Naval Hospital at the Academy in

Annapolis, I met my husband Tom, who was in the Marines at the time but working on the football staff.

After resigning from the military, Tom joined George Welsh's staff at Navy and then followed him to the

University of Virginia where we spent the next 15 years. In 1996, Tom was hired as head coach at Boston College and we enjoyed ten years in New England. We migrated to the South and NC State University and have just completed our 4th season with the Wolfpack.

We have three children, all graduates of Boston College: Colleen - an associate producer for ESPN; Dan- who has spent the past 4 years working for the football program at Alabama but has just been hired as an assistant at Elon; and Bridget- Museum Coordinator for Historic Charleston Foundation in South Carolina.

I manage to stay busy volunteering with local non-profits as well as serving on several boards and committees. I look forward to serving on the AFCWA board and hope to see you all in San Antonio in 2012.

Silent Auction & Team Work By Joyce Rose

Thank you to all of you who donated to our silent auction and to those of you who made the bids.

A special thanks to the Family Relocation Company for their most generous items donated to the auction.

To Susan Keeling, a BIG thank you for donating an autographed football by the Dallas Cowboys.

And finally, thanks to Sally Shannon who took over the silent auction for me in my absence. I passed the ball to Sally and she and her staff ran for a touchdown.

Your continued support of the silent auction allows us to add to the coaches wives scholarship fund each year.

Have a great spring!



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- Rebate to Football Coaches Wives Association

For more information please e-mail the Relocation Coordinator at: rapryor83@verizon.net



The Support Staff

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...what we are all about is Camaraderie, Support, Information and Service.



Honor a Coach in The PLAZA OF INFLUENCE®

The Plaza of Influence, located on the grounds of the AFCA headquarters, is an attractive area surrounded by beautiful trees and landscaping. It was inspired by countless coaches who, on a daily basis, encourage, motivate and influence thousands who participate in or just enjoy the game of football. The gardens and flagstone walkways inside the stone walls honor men of influence – football coaches. A coach can be honored or memorialized on bricks, tiles and capstones. Inscriptions on the items vary from donor to donor, however, it is evident that their lives were touched, and forever changed by a football coach.

Is there a special coach who has touched your life that you would like to honor?

The Plaza of Influence presents a tremendous opportunity for coaches, players, family, friends, or anyone to honor football coaches through the American Football Coaches Foundation. It is a chance to memorialize the contributions of special coaches in a way that will be remembered as part of the permanent American Football Coaches Association headquarters and be on display for future generations to admire and pay homage.

The American Football Coaches Foundation is dedicated to furthering the education and support of football coaches everywhere. In addition to supporting a foundation devoted to the enrichment of football coaches, you also have the unique opportunity to personally honor a coach who has influenced your life.

A COACH'S INFLUENCE

by Grant Teaff

I dreamed a dream, but I had my doubts.

"You can do it," he said.

"I'll teach you how."

I tried and tried, he said I should.

I gave it my best, he knew I would.

Lessons taught on the field of strife,
Have been invaluable, as I've faced life.

When challenges come my way,

I always think, what would he say?

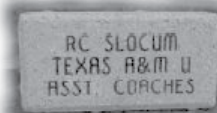
His inspiring words I hear even now,

"You can do it. I taught you how."

Now, others dream, and have their doubts.

I say, "You can do it, I'll teach you how."

The influence continues.



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American
Football
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Foundation

PLAZA OF INFLUENCE
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