

North Carolina Child Support Council Newsletter

Volume 20 Issue 3

January 15, 2003

NCCSC BOARD MEMBERS



Left to Right Front row: Sandra Chestnut, Renee Picard, Alice McCoy, Kim Kilpatrick, Gayle Johnston, Nancy Kress, Lorraine Jackson, Angela Talley **Back row, Judge Kristin Ruth, Barry Miller, Lillian Overton, Michele McCorkle, John Holcombe, Robin Huss, Russell Lee, Pam Hendren, Steve Garrison.**

Board members unavailable for photo: Barry Burger, Paula Blount, Tony Dalton, John Jablonski, John Kennedy, Russell Odom, Pat Stone Smith

Purpose of the Council is to:

Provide an organizational forum for the exchange of information and communication of those person and agencies involved in the child support process in North Carolina;

Provide articulation and coordination to address the needs and improve and promote the interests of those person working in the child support process since numerous agencies with interdependent functions at the state and county levels are involved in the child support process;

Provide Opportunities for those involved to come together and discuss common administrative and operational problems and to also work together to resolve those problems through greater recognition of, and understanding of each other's role in the system and process;

Improve interstate cooperation and processing of UIFSA (Uniform Interstate Family Support Act) petitions between states to enforce child support through affiliation with NCSEA (National Child Support Enforcement Association).

NCCSC OFFICERS

President: Lillian Overton
President Elect: Steve Garrison
Treasurer: Angela Talley
Secretary: Nancy Kress

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Barry Burger
Paula Blount
Sandra Chestnut
Tony Dalton
Pam Hendren
John Holcombe
Robin Huss
John Jablonski
Lorraine Jackson
Gayle Johnston
John Kennedy
Kim Kilpatrick
Russell Lee
Michele McCorkle
Alice McCoy
Barry Miller
Russell Odom
Rene Picard
Judge Kristin Ruth
Pat Stone Smith



“You Provide the Light
that guides our Children”

North Carolina Child Support Council 20th Anniversary

"A GUIDING LIGHT FOR OUR CHILDREN"

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The North Carolina Child Support Council will recognize individuals and/or agencies for outstanding achievement or meritorious contribution in the area of child support at the 2002 annual conference. A maximum of five awards will be presented.

Achievement at the local level and achievement with statewide significance will be considered for recognition. The factors that will be considered in the selection process include the following:

1. The clear identity of the problem/concern that prompted the need for the project
2. Innovative approaches resulting in more effective delivery of services.
3. Originality
4. Demonstration of effective interaction and cooperation between the various agencies involved in the child support process

5. Implemented programs or procedures *which have* broad application or could serve as a model.
6. Activities that provide the impetus for development of legislation or policy.
7. Demonstration of significant improvement in the provision of services to children.
8. Continuing outstanding effectiveness.
9. Research or studies having a direct impact on the child support process.

If you haven't already considered this year's nominations, the awards committee encourages you to assess all the good things happening in Child Support and submit your nomination.

Nominations must be submitted on the North Carolina Child Support Council Nomination Form enclosed and must be submitted no later than March 1, 2003

If you have any questions, please contact Russell Lee, Sampson County Child Support Enforcement, P.O. Box 879, Clinton, NC 28329, (910) 592-4137

NORTH CAROLINA CHILD SUPPORT COUNCIL 2003 AWARDS PROGRAM

Nominee Information:

Name Of Nominee (Person Or Program)

Title Of Nominee (If Applicable)

Agency/Organization

Telephone No.

Address (Street, P. O. Box, City, State, Zip Code)

Submitted By:

Your Name

Title

Agency/Organization

Telephone No.

Address (Street, P. O. Box, City, State, Zip Code)

Please list the name and telephone number of one person who can confirm the information above and who can provide additional information on your nominee if requested by the Awards Committee.

Name

Organization

Telephone No.

Mail Completed form for receipt by March 1, 2003

Russell Lee
Sampson County Child Support Enforcement
PO Box 879, Clinton, NC 28329
(910) 592-4137

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2002 NCCSC "EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE" AWARD ENTRY FORM

- I. NAME OF PERSON OR PROGRAM NOMINATED

- II. 2002 NCCSC "EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE" AWARD SUMMARY *(Provide a brief summary of the nomination describing the problem that was addressed, the cost involved, and the results achieved.)*

- III. PROBLEM/CONCERN *(Describe the problem, need, or concern that prompted the outstanding achievement and contribution in the area of child support.)*

- IV. Solution *(Describe the steps that were taken by the nominee to remedy the problem or to address the concern. Explain how the achievement impacted the delivery of child support services.)*

- V. INDIVIDUAL OR AGENCY ROLE *(Describe the specific resources - time, personnel - that were committed to the project and how they were used.)*

- VI. COST *(Describe the amount and the source of funds used for the project.)*

- VII. RESULTS AND BENEFITS *(Describe the tangible results of the project/task: cost savings, service improvements, etc. Explain how the project/task was beneficial to the county or state.)*

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NCCSC'S Golf Tournament Re-named

On December 14, 2002 the Board voted to re-name the annual golf tournament “The Roy Godwin Invitational Golf Tournament” sponsored by the North Carolina Child Support Council.

Mr. Roy Godwin is employed in the Cumberland County Child Support Enforcement office in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Roy was the force behind organizing and launching the first golf tournament in 2000, which raised over \$3,000 for the Council’s scholarship fund. He has continued to work with the golf tournament each year, dedicating much of his time throughout the year to ensure the success of the tournament. Roy is dedicated to the mission of the Council, the children of North Carolina, and for that, the Board felt it appropriate that the golf tournament be named in his honor.

The Roy Godwin Invitational Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday May 17, 2003 at the Baywood Golf Club in Fayetteville, NC. The start up time will be at 12:00 noon with lunch and a tee time of 1:00pm. Cost per player is \$50 or \$200 per team. Prizes will be awarded for the top three teams and for the women’s team champion. NC State assistant basketball coaches, Larry Harris and Larry Hunter are scheduled to play this year. We also hope to have other coaches from the ACC participating.

For Sponsorship information contact, Roy Godwin-910-486-1632 ext.262 or George Shepherd-910-486-1632 ext.229

GOLF TOURNAMENT APPLICATION

DATE: MAY 17,2003 ***INCLUDES LUNCH*******

TIME: 12:00 NOON

PLACE: BAYWOOD GOLF CLUB Fayetteville, NC

COST: \$50.00 PER PLAYER

\$200.00 PER TEAM

FORMAT: CAPTAINS CHOICE/SUPER BACK

NAME

CITY

HANDICAP

SOFT SPIKES AND COLLAR SHIRTS REQUIRED

“A GUIDING LIGHT FOR OUR CHILDREN”

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Significant Donations Made to Scholarship Fund

SEVERAL PEOPLE HONORED WITH DONATIONS

Slowly, but surely, donations to the NCCSC scholarship fund are beginning to come in. Harriet Miller and the staff of the Guilford County, Greensboro Child Support office planned a silent auction and set an office goal of \$200 in honor of Bob McGuire. When the bell sounded, they had collected a whopping \$550. Kay Wallace and staff from the Cleveland County office held a cheese grit breakfast and they had a business donate a couple of lamps that they auctioned off. With this effort they collected an impressive \$300. We recently received word from Joe Crook in Wake County that \$150 is on the way from his office.

Donations are also coming in from staff not associated with a county office. STRT Team Supervisor Frances E. Bryan recently presented a donation of \$100 from the Area Supervisors, IV-D Consultants, and the STRT Team in honor of Mr. Barry Miller and Mrs. Elizabeth Harris. We also received a donation from IV-D Consultant Carole Allen. She made a donation in honor of her children, Michelle and Jeff. Just a reminder that if all 100 counties can donate \$100, \$10,000 will be earmarked for the scholarship fund. The Charity Functions/Raffle Committee members are asking that all donations be submitted by May 7, 2003. Donations can be mailed to NCCSC, PO Box 20421, Raleigh, NC 27619.

For Details, Contact: Steve Garrison (828) 232-0427

Flash: Pat Stone Smith has donated a fur coat to be raffled off at the conference. Proceeds will go to the Scholarship Fund. More information to follow.

Commoratives to be sold at the 2003 Conference

- *In honor of the 20th year anniversary, the Council has chosen a Commorative White, soft pique knit Golf shirt embroidered in color with the Council logo (red, blue & gold) surrounded with the “20th Year Anniversary” in Red, located in the upper left chest area approx. 2 ½” in diameter. The shirts will be available in sizes med to x-lg for \$20, and xx-lg for \$22. These will be sold at the Conference in Wilmington on a 1st come basis. A picture of the shirt may be available by the next newsletter.*
- *A dark blue Ironstone 11oz. Challenger Mug with the Council logo and the “20th Year Anniversary” imprinted. These will sell for \$4.00 each. A great inexpensive gift for yourself or someone at the office. 250 will be sold on a 1st come basis at the conference in Wilmington. It’s been 10 years since our a commorative mug has been offered. Plan to get a new one!*
- *A Pocket Coolie, royal blue with white logo, foam beverage holder that folds flat, fits easily in a pocket. These will sell for \$2.50. 250 will be for sale at the conference. These are very inexpensive gifts for anyone whether they are affiliated with child support or not and a great way to support our council. Everybody needs at least two.*
- *As an added bonus for conference attendees: The first 300 paid “conference” registrations received by the Council (pre-registered or on site) will receive a spacious zippered tote bag, a16”x19” with 5” sides and bottom gussets, handy outer pocket for pens, bus. cards, keys, phones, etc. also bearing the conference logo and “20th year anniversary”. These nice big totes are being furnished by Child Support Innovations (CSI), a dedicated sponsor.*

Angela Talley, Chairperson
Public Awareness Committee

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Barry Miller, Chief Child Support Enforcement
Legislative Committee, Chairman



Legislative Report

Prior to each session of the North Carolina General Assembly NCCSE has the opportunity to make recommendations for legislation to apace the efforts of the child support program. After careful consideration of a number of suggestions Child Support Enforcement's legislative proposals for the 2003 session of the NC General Assembly have been submitted to the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department of Health and Human Services will review Child Support Enforcement's proposals. The proposals will then be reviewed by the Governor's Office. If approved by the Governor, the legislative proposals will be presented to the NC General Assembly by DHHS legislative liaison staff who will work with legislators toward presentation of the department's legislative agenda for all programs.

This year's CSE initiative topics include:

- **Administrative levy of funds in financial institution accounts -**
This initiative builds on the FIDM process established by PRWORA. It provides a streamlined method of collection of child support arrears similar to those already being utilized quite successfully in several other states.

Once FIDM processing identifies assets and a case meets an established eligibility criterion, the financial institution is notified to freeze funds in the account. The NCP is given an opportunity to contest or rectify the arrearage. Absent a challenge or satisfactory payment, the financial institution is advised to submit payment, up to the total arrears if available, to NC CSE.
- **Liquidation of arrears at termination of support obligation -**
While on-going child support payments are owed, payments toward liquidation of arrears are often set at minimal amounts. When the support obligation ends, orders are frequently amended to increase the arrears payment and collect the balance as quickly as possible.

This proposal will require the payment amount to remain the same as the combined obligation plus arrears payments, with the total amount being applied to arrears until the debt is paid or an alternative order is entered. No service of process, modification hearing or order would be required.
- **Notification to CSE by licensing board of revocation occupational license -**
Existing legislation provides the administrative process for revocation of occupational and professional licenses for failure to pay child support. If the NCP fails to make satisfactory payment arrangements following a notice of intent to revoke from the board, CSE advises the board to complete the revocation. Currently, there is no requirement for licensing boards to notify CSE that the revocation has been completed.

Although some licensing boards voluntarily provide the information, Inclusion of this element in the process would allow CSE to regularly update records, avoid duplicate case activity and better proceed with additional remedies.
- **Release of child support payment history & income/expense information -**
Rules for confidentiality of child support case information have prohibited release of certain information for legitimate purposes. This proposal clarifies that payment records may be released to the court, case participants or their designees and that income and expense information of either parent may be shared with the other in the process of establishing or modifying a support order.
- **Challenge of signed Affidavit of Parentage by Rule 60 -**
Current statute provides that an admission of paternity has the same legal effect as a judicial paternity determination in the support obligation process, subject to the right of rescission of either signing party. This proposal clarifies that a challenge of this admission after the 60-day rescission period may be made only when based on fraud, duress, mistake or excusable neglect, as provided by Rule 60 of NC Rules of Civil Procedure.
- **Entry of prospective orders for health insurance coverage -**
This proposal clarifies that if employment-related health insurance is not available to the parent at the time that a support obligation is entered, an order requiring that coverage be obtained when it becomes available must be entered.

NC CSE will be providing information and assistance with these initiatives to DHHS and legislators as the session moves forward. We will continue to monitor the progress and keep you abreast of this and any other legislation relative to our program.

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NC Child Support Council Archives Committee



DOES HISTORY REPEAT ITSELF?

From the Archives of NC CSC

From minutes of Council board meetings and other documentation, we take you through time back to 1995.

The 12th annual conference of the NC Child Support Council was held at the Wilmington Hilton on March 29-31, 1995. The 505 attendees were keenly aware that the conference theme “Set Your Sails For A New Beginning” was more than mere words. This glimpse of workshop topics will remind those of you were with CSE in 1995 of some of the new beginnings in the program.

- *UIFSA vs URESA* - comparison of the old and the new federal interstate laws
- *The Paternity Partnership* – the new hospital based paternity establishment
- *Medical Support-Overcoming a \$3.4 M Audit Penalty* - federal legislation & audit impacts on medical support services
- *ACTS – As the October Deadline Approaches* – conversion data maintenance, help desk, training, equipment rollout

In his letter of welcome, Governor Jim Hunt included “I have asked the General Assembly to pass a tough child support enforcement law that will make sure parents meet their obligations. If they don’t, the law would allow us to take away their drivers licenses, their hunting and fishing licenses, their professional and business licenses. We’re going to see that parents support their children in North Carolina.”

Council officers installed for the 1995-96 year were:

President - Elizabeth Harris
President-elect - Barry Miller
Secretary - Carole Allen
Treasurer - Lillian Overton

A chance to win a 4-day Bahamas cruise produced the sale of over 2900 \$1.00 raffle tickets. All 500 membership pins were given away and more had to be ordered.

After attending the Wednesday evening poolside President’s Reception, attendees boarded the Henrietta II for a cruise on the Cape Fear River. Then came shagging to the music of the Fantastic Shakers at the traditional Thursday night dance.

On May 7-9, 2003, the NC Child Support Council returns to the Wilmington Hilton for the 20th annual conference. Committees are busy planning for speakers, exhibits, workshops, food, entertainment and all that makes our conference the superb event that it has become during the past 20 years. It is too early to know how much history will be repeated in Wilmington, but not too soon to begin making plans to be a part of it. The NCCSC Archives Committee will be there to record and preserve its newest chapter and hope that you will be too!

Sandra Chestnut, Chairman
(919) 255-3892
Sandra.Chestnut@ncmail.net

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North Carolina District Court Judge Kristin Ruth, Named 2003 American Business Woman of ABWA

One of our own Judge Kristin Ruth has received one of the most prestigious honors awarded by the American Business Women’s Association. She was chosen from hundreds of businesswomen nationwide in competition for this coveted distinction. The award was announced at the Opening Session of the Association’s 2002 National Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

“Hearing my name announced was truly a surprise,” says Ruth. “After meeting the incredible Top Ten women, I realized that just being associated with this elite group was an honor in itself.

As District court judge in Raleigh, Judge Ruth concentrates most of her work in the child support enforcement area of the Wake County court system. Through her efforts, she has been able to obtain desperately needed financial support for children and their custodial parents.

Ruth balances her demanding career and active philanthropy with a full home life, raising her eight-year-old son, Kenan, alongside her husband, Preston. “Having my son is what I’m most proud of in my life,” she says. “I look at him every day and want him to be a good person and want him to be happy.” Lucky for those innocent children, whose names pass through her courtroom, Ruth also wants them to have the means to be happy.

Early Bird Membership

Win 2 Free Airline Tickets

Become eligible to win 2 free airline tickets to anywhere in the continental US by sending in your \$10.00 NCCSC Membership fee between January 1, 2003 and February 15, 2003. A drawing to determine the winner will be held at the April 11, 2003 NCCSC Board Meeting.

All memberships must be post-marked no later than February 15, 2003 to be entered.

Return completed form to:

NCCSC
P. O. Box 20421
Raleigh, NC 27609-0421

Anyone with an interest in Child Support Enforcement is Eligible to become a Council Member

Attn: Gayle Johnston

COUNTY _____

First Name Middle Initial Last Name Title/Profession
Agency/Company

**NC Child Support Council 2003-2004
Membership Form**

Address City State ZIP

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Child Support Conference Motivational Speaker

Denise Ryan has agreed to speak at our 2003 Child Support Conference. Denise is a magna cum laude graduate of the University of South Carolina where she obtained both her undergraduate and graduate degree. As a professional speaker, she has addressed audiences from executives to volunteers, from upper management to front line people. She has spoken to Fortune 500 companies as well as nonprofit and government agencies and is a member of the National Speakers Association.

Her infectious enthusiasm, her big smile, and her candor are her trademarks. When combined with her education, experience, and relentless preparation, the result should be a great presentation.

Confirmed workshops for the conference include:

- *Hot Topics & Best Practices*
- *Critical Thinking for Enforcement*
- *Worklist Management*
- *Time Management & Setting Priorities*
- *Tackling the Review & Adjustment Process*
- *Business and Communication*
- *Security Awareness in the Workplace*
- *Diversity in the Workplace*
- *Legislative & Program Updates*
- *CSE in the Judicial Process*
- *Process Service.*

Hopefully more workshops will be confirmed soon.

News from the Charity Functions/Raffle Committee

The committee has been hard at work trying to secure prizes to be raffled off at the NC Child Support Council Conference (May 7th – 9th in Wilmington). The list of prizes that have been secured are a fur coat, 4 tickets to the NC Zoo and a country ham. We plan to have at least one or two additional prizes to be raffled. The tickets will cost \$1.00 and each county will be mailed some tickets to sell prior to the conference. Please remember the money raised from the sell of the raffle tickets goes into the scholarship fund. I hope each county will participate with the sell of these tickets. If you need additional information concerning the raffle or if you have an item to donate for the raffle please call Renee at 704-736-8619 or email her at Rene.Picard@ncmail.

Rene' E. Picard
Lincoln County

Guidelines for Submitting Material for the NC Child Support Council News:

“The North Carolina Child Support Council News” is published periodically. Articles will focus on trends, problems, research, and information of interest to child support practitioners. Topics of discussion may include, but are not limited to, child support legislation, case law, related issues and problems. Announcements of related training and programs, which will enhance professionalism in the field, is welcome. Our Editorial Board will review all papers submitted. We will include the article in our next edition if space allows, or we may choose to publish the item at a subsequent time. Opinions expressed in the “N.C. Child Support News” are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the North Carolina Child Support Council.

*John. W. Holcombe, Patricia A. Holcombe, Co-Editors
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