

NEAFCS Hall of Fame

A Member Recognition

Dr. Kobbe has served as an invaluable role model, mentor, colleague, and friend to many. Her significant leadership accomplishments and contributions to the field of Family and Consumer Sciences, NEAFCS, and the Land-Grant University System make her a natural candidate for this award.

Following a 37.5-year career with USDA's Land-Grant University System, Dr. Anna-Mae Kobbe retired from her position of Director of Family and Consumer Sciences and Nutrition at NIFA-USDA in 2006. In this position, she provided national leadership for Family and Consumer Sciences programs while supervising a staff of 15. Prior to her employment with USDA, she served as an Extension Home Economist/Area Family Life Specialist with Missouri Cooperative Extension, followed by her service as a tenured professor with the University of Tennessee Extension as a State Family Life specialist. Dr. Kobbe joined NEAFCS in 1969, the year she was first hired at the University of Missouri, and continues to be a fully engaged member to this day through NEAFCS Life Membership, as well as attendance at national conferences. She has missed very few since she joined in 1969!

In each of the positions outlined above, Dr. Kobbe served as an advocate for NEAFCS, its mission, and the importance of its role in professional development. Upon moving to USDA, she served as official liaison to NEAFCS, and worked diligently throughout her tenure to strengthen ties between NEAFCS and NIFA leadership while advocating for Extension Family & Consumer Sciences as a profession and a program that made a difference in lives across the US every day.

Dr. Kobbe came up through the ranks of NEAFCS, serving in numerous leadership roles. After serving on numerous state committees, she served as President-Elect of the Missouri NEAFCS affiliate in 1974, then President in 1975. Her official leadership with NEAFCS at the national level began in 1976 when she served as Research & Studies Chair. This was followed by service as Regional Director (1978-1980), National First Vice-President (1980-1982), National President-Elect (1983-1984), National President (1984-1985), and Life Member Chair, 2010-2013.

Not only has Dr. Kobbe served as a positive voice advocating for the NEAFCS and Extension mission, she also takes action to facilitate change. One example of her commitment is the fact she was an early donor to the NEAFCS Endowment, and currently is a Diamond Level Donor. She believes in Extension FCS's role in facilitating change through education, and is willing to invest in its future. In addition to numerous state level recognitions for her leadership and programs, Dr. Kobbe was also awarded NEAFCS's Distinguished Service Award in 1981, Continued Excellence Award in 1994, and Friend of NEAFCS Award in 2009. She was also

NEAFCS Hall of Fame

A Member Recognition

recognized for her work through AAFCS and Epsilon Sigma Phi, not to mention accolades she has earned through her community service through Rotary International, where she served as District Governor.

Dr. Anna-Mae Kobbe has served the land-grant system and NEAFCS for more than 37 years with passion, humor, professionalism, and dedication to excellence. It is impossible to outline the breadth and depth of her contributions to NEAFCS on a single page, but hopefully the information here will demonstrate her dedication to making a difference in every undertaking.