



# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

First Quarter 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

## The President's Corner by Judge Leta Parks

### Special points of interest:

- 2005 Annual Conference set for September 30 and October 1, 2005 in Houston at the Hotel Derek
- HB 252 on Parent Coordination introduced in the Legislature
- Your time needed to accomplish 2005 Chapter goals
- Debbie Higgs will coordinate the Quarterly Newsletter. Please send information to [dchiggs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dchiggs@sbcglobal.net)
- BE SURE AND CHECK OUT NEW WEB SITE [www.texasafcc.org](http://www.texasafcc.org)
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Family Law has always been a multi-disciplinary arena, whether acknowledged as such or not. For decades, lawyers and judges have sought the advice and opinions of mental health and financial professionals to resolve the complicated family issues that simply can't be addressed in a legal vacuum.

In addition to being the only formally recognized forum for family professionals from different disciplines to exchange ideas and information, AFCC has traditions that preserve its diversity and balance among the professions. For example, in Texas we

make an effort to insure that all geographic regions are represented on our Board of Directors as well as different professions. In a state as large as ours, it is imperative that we have representation from all areas as practices vary widely. Finally, we rotate both geographically and professionally the Office of the President of our chapter each year.

I want to acknowledge the tremendous strides we took

as a chapter under the leadership of Dr. Lynelle Yingling. Our chapter was formally recognized in May at the International AFCC Conference and we received our charter. Chapter Board Members were instrumental in helping draft legislation for a Parenting Coordinating bill that has been introduced into the Texas Legislature. Continued progress was made on the Chapter Toolkit and the Service Models Project. And of course we had a very successful conference in Austin. GREAT JOB LYNELLE.

I want to challenge each of you to join us in our efforts to increase membership.

## Board of Directors Establishes Priorities at the First Meeting of 2005

The Board of Directors met on January 21, 2005 with Judge Leta Parks presiding. Many issues were addressed in the three hour meeting.

A statewide initiative, to increase member enroll-

ment and participation, was outlined. The Board has agreed to present at regional group meetings of collaborative attorneys, county family law bars, divorce recovery programs, etc. If any member has additional information on

other ideas to get the Texas and International AFCC messages out to other groups please advise Debbie Higgs for the next quarterly newsletter.

Conference is scheduled for 09/30/05-10/01/05.