

Remember When, FCOA?

1985  1995

While FCOA was busy with:

Increasing Numbers at Training Conferences



The 1985 annual Fall Training Conference, sponsored by FCOA and the Aging and Adult Services Program Office, was the largest conference to date in terms of attendance (nearly 600) and workshops offered (60 total). FCOA's annual conference was held in Ft. Lauderdale in 1987 and had over 750 participants. By 1989, FCOA membership had grown to over 680.

Solidifying the Florida Aging Network



In 1986, a network on aging including the Florida Council on Aging, the Florida Association of Homes for the Aged, the State Association of Area Agencies on Aging and the Association of Service Providers joined together to work on legislation that would benefit the elderly. Florida Power & Light became the new sponsor of the QSLA program in 1989.

Hiring a Management Firm



1990 marked the beginning of Margaret Lynn Duggar & Associates acting as FCOA's management firm. FCOA brought in MLD&A to assist with the joint FCOA/SE4A Conference in Orlando. Eventually FCOA asked MLD&A to submit a proposal to take over as FCOA's management firm and a new partnership was officially born on November 1, 1990.

Partnerships, Grants and Social Outreach



FCOA and the Florida Department of Education began a partnership in 1991 with literacy grant projects targeting elders. On March 1, 1991, the Gerontological Society of Florida merged with the Florida Council on Aging. In 1992, FCOA was awarded a \$50,000 literacy grant by the Department of Education. The goal of the grant was to train tutors for older people and increase the enrollment and success of older persons in literacy programs.

Polishing Its Publications



AgeWise, FCOA's member newsletter, took on a bold new look in 1993. FCOA's first Membership Directory was produced in 1994 and FCOA also released a comprehensive needs analysis of elder education in Florida, funded by the Florida Department of Education, entitled "*The Unfinished Business of Learning.*"

Recruiting Superb Keynote Speakers



Ellen Goodman and Maya Angelou graced the Florida Conference on Aging with their humor, wit and wisdom as keynote speakers in 1988. Such names as Rosalyn Carter and Debbie Reynolds would later headline the conference.

The rest of the country was busy with:

Three Presidential Administrations

Ronald Reagan, 1981-1989; George H.W. Bush, 1989-1993; William J. Clinton, 1993-2001



War

The Cold War: Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan played a pivotal role in the virtual elimination of communism as a dominant influence in world affairs.

The War on Drugs: From 1985 to 1990, the number of cocaine users began declining; Nancy Reagan's Just Say No campaign had a positive influence.



The Gulf War: As a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, 1990, President George Bush declared invasion "will not stand" and ordered U.S. troops to the region.

The Fall of the Berlin Wall

On November 9, 1989, the border separating Western from Eastern Germany was effectively opened.



Challenger Explosion

On January 28, 1986, the space shuttle *Challenger* exploded 74 seconds after liftoff at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Hurricane Andrew

On Aug. 24, 1992, Hurricane Andrew struck South Florida, devastating Homestead, Florida City and parts of Miami. The storm caused \$30-billion in property damage.



Fads



Breakdancing; Nintendo; Gameboy; Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles; mini skirts; "Sweetarts and Nerds candy; Michael Jackson's sequined glove; the "Rachel haircut" from TV Series *Friends*.

Music

1985: Michael Jackson released *Thriller*; the video became a classic; 1990: Madonna releases "Vogue"; Early 1990s: Grunge rock rises in Seattle, featuring band such as Nirvana and Pearl Jam.



Television

Top 10 TV Shows of 1989: *Cosby Show*; *Cheers*; *Roseanne*; *A Different World*; *America's Funniest Home Videos*; *Golden Girls*; *The Wonder Years*; *Empty Nest*; *60 Minutes*; *Unsolved Mysteries*



Movies

TOP GUN, 1986; DIRTY DANCING, 1987; FIELD OF DREAMS, 1989; DANCES WITH WOLVES, 1990; A FEW GOOD MEN, 1992; SCHINDLER'S LIST, 1993; FORREST GUMP, 1994; PULP FICTION, 1994; APOLLO 13, 1995



Do You Remember When, FCOA?

However far back your memory goes, we hope you make a *new* memory with us!

Come to the 2005 Florida Conference on Aging August 22-25 in Orlando!

In celebration of FCOA's 50th Anniversary, this is the fourth in a series of "history pages" designed to celebrate and explore each of the five decades of rich FCOA history. Look for the fifth and final issue in September, when FCOA's 50th Anniversary Celebration at the 2005 Florida Conference on Aging will be highlighted.