

CFA'S CONSUMER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

CFA's Consumer Research Institute (CRI) will undertake research that, most importantly, helps us better understand the marketplace experience, needs, and concerns of consumers. This research will both inform and help ground our advocacy and program outreach. Surveys that reach out to a broad range of consumers will be an important part of its work.

CFA staff will manage the work of the (CRI). We anticipate creation of an advisory board with a broad range of expertise and plan to undertake much of this research with outside partners. We are very grateful to the organizations below who have made a special contribution to the dinner to help launch this new research initiative.

CFA thanks the following founding contributors for their support of the Consumer Research Institute:

Amazon	Fitzgerald Auto Malls
American Association for Justice	Microsoft
American Express	National Cooperative Bank
Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards	National Credit Union Foundation
Consumer Reports	Navy Federal Credit Union
Consumers' Checkbook/CSS	Quicken Loans
Credit Union National Association	Smith Dawson & Andrews
CUNA Mutual	U.S. PIRG
Facebook	VantageScore

MEMBERS OF THE DINNER COMMITTEE

Katrinka Smith Sloan, <i>Chair</i>	Willard P. Ogburn
LeadingAge	National Consumer Law Center
Larry Blanchard	Charles E. Snyder
CUNA Mutual Group	National Cooperative Bank

CONSUMER FEDERATION OF AMERICA'S

50th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

June 20, 2018

50 YEARS OF CFA

The Consumer Federation of America was conceived of as a broad-based organization that would give consumers a stronger voice before Congress and the Executive Branch. In 1966 at the first Consumer Assembly, Esther Peterson, consumer advisor to two presidents, called for the formation of such a group. Consumers Union, other consumer groups, consumer cooperatives, and trade unions responded to her call. In 1968, they organized a federation to champion needed protections for consumer pocketbooks and health and safety.

For the past 38 years CFA has been led by Steve Brobeck. An academic and community activist from Cleveland, Brobeck was elected to the CFA Board in 1976 and was selected its executive director in 1980. During his tenure, Brobeck unified a diverse set of consumer and co-op organizations, built a strong financial base, recruited leading advocates as staff, and took the lead in developing various advocacy campaigns. He also proposed and helped establish new organizations including Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety and successful programs including America Saves and Consumer Lobby Day. He has served on numerous boards including that of the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond.

Today, CFA remains a strong voice in Washington, but is also heard in state legislatures and regulatory agencies. CFA's effectiveness largely reflects the effectiveness of CFA staff and the participation of a broad range of national, state, and local organizations – consumer advocacy and education groups, consumer cooperatives, trade unions, community organizations, social justice groups, and state and local protection agencies. We also maintain open communication lines to business groups and, when interests are congruent, work with them on pro-consumer initiatives.

At this 50th anniversary celebration, we are pleased to celebrate the entire CFA community and its many accomplishments. We also look forward to continuing our work within that community to advance the interests of consumers.

PROGRAM

Katrinka Smith Sloan

Chair, 50th Anniversary Dinner Committee
President and CEO, LeadingAge
Vice President, Consumer Federation of America

Janet Domenitz

Executive Director, MASSPIRG
Vice President, Consumer Federation of America

The Honorable Ed Markey

United States Senate

Marceline White

Executive Director, Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition
President, Consumer Federation of America

Marta Tellado

President and CEO, Consumer Reports

The Consumer Federation of America: 50 Years of Research, Education, and Advocacy

Larry Blanchard

Consultant, Corporate & Legislative Affairs, CUNA Mutual Group
Secretary/Treasurer, Consumer Federation of America

Barbara Roper

Director of Investor Protection, Consumer Federation of America

Steve Brobeck

Executive Director, Consumer Federation of America

Jack Gillis

Incoming Executive Director, Consumer Federation of America