



# TAFCE Connection

2021 Summer Edition

Newsletter of the Tennessee Association of Family and Community Education  
Issue 7.2



Hello to each of you from Mount Juliet, Tennessee. It is my prayer that each of you are doing well and have a blessed month of May. To me it is a month full of flowers and many celebrations.

I do hope that your FCE clubs have been staying in touch with members during this year. I have heard that some clubs are meeting by telephone, by zoom and in person. Some clubs are planning outdoor activities to enjoy the beautiful weather and each other. This would indeed be a great way to honor "Day of the Family" on May 15<sup>th</sup>.

We celebrate "Mother's Day" this month due to the hard work of Anna Jarvis to fulfill her mother's dream of a day to honor mothers. This work ended in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed a bill designating the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Western Region is working very hard on conference to be held on November 14-17, 2021 at the Embassy Suites in Franklin, TN. Information will be coming out in July and we hope that each of you are making plans to join us. It will be so awesome to see FCE members gather together to learn and enjoy each other.

May begins with May Day and the Kentucky Derby. It ends with Memorial Day and with that in mind I would like to share the following from Emily Toma:

Remember those who served before

Remember those who are no more

Remember those who serve today

Remember them all on Memorial Day

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

Remember these are "State" deadlines,  
NOT Region or County.

July 1	CVU's due- Diane Uher
July 1	New 50 Year Member Apps Due Pamela Sites
July 15	State Conference Registration forms available in County Offices
July 19	FCL class list due-Diane Uher
August 1	Best of the Best Due- Diane Uher
August 1	FCL List and Checks due- Brenda Johns
August 1	State Officer Nominations Due- Pamela Sites
August 1	Creative Writing entries due- Gloria Fisher
August 23-24	State Board Meeting Lebanon

## Newsletter Deadlines

September Issue—September 5th

Send Newsletter articles via email to the  
Educational Chair Crystal Holt



VP for Public Policy: Diane Uher

**Spring FCL**

As you know, for the first in the history of the TAFCE Family Community Leadership Program, the classes for the 2021 Spring Session will be conducted by Zoom. This could not have happened without the total support, guidance, and knowledge of these Agents. Shelly Barnes (Wilson Co.), Mary Draper (Smith Co.), and Carla Bush, Central Region Extension Program Leader have generously volunteered to provide technical support for the Zoom sessions.



In addition to the previously noted UTK employees, the following employees volunteered to print the student materials from the teachers. These Agents are: Linda Hyder (Sevier Co.); Lauren Patterson (Robertson Co.); Mary Beth Henley (Franklin Co.); Patsy Watkins (Williamson Co.); and Alyshia Victoria (Union Co.).

I cannot say THANK YOU enough for all their help, expertise, and positive support for this endeavor. I absolutely could not have accomplished this challenge without them. All of them are the reason we will have 2021 Spring FCL Program.



2021 is starting out GREAT!!! We had a FANTASTIC group of ladies for our April, 2021 FCL class. The participants, the teachers and Agents were energetic, knowledgeable and charismatic. For the first time ever our FCL Session was totally Zoom. Yes, there were a couple of technical problems; however, the agents, teachers, and participants joined forces and successfully conquered and overcame all problems. The Fall Session will be August 24 th and 25 th ; if we meet in person. The State Board does not know the mandates for August yet. If you are interested, please notify your Regional VP for Public Policy as soon as possible.

CVU's, CVU's, CVU's, CVU's, CVU's!!!!!! I cannot emphasize enough how important our volunteer hours are to our communities, our Extension Offices, our University of Tennessee, and our state. PLEASE fill out your hours and submit them to your club, who will submit them to the county, who will submit them to your region. Finally, the region will submit them to me by JULY 1st . I will then prepare the state report and submit it to UT.

BEST OF THE BEST? Who will it be this year? We all know people who contribute a little something extra to every activity. Discuss this at your club meeting and present it to your County Council. Each Region will send me its winner's portfolio by AUGUST 1st . I will submit the Regional winners' portfolios to UT's Selection Committee for the State winner.

FCE Unmasked!!!! Embassy Suites Cool Springs! NOVEMBER 14 TH -17 TH ! I will see you there!

**PRESIDENT-Elect  
Gloria Fisher**



If you have written your submission for Creative Writing Contest(s), great! If not, you still have time.

Categories are:

1. Poetry: any style
2. Essays: any subject or person
3. Short Stories
4. Children's Story (No illustrations)

5. Feature Article/News Article (Only original copy accepted, include cut out name and date of publication when submitting article)
6. Miscellaneous: Any entry that does not fit into above categories.

TAFCE members may submit entries in any or all categories. For additional information, contact your county office

**CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR:  
Crystal Holt**



I am so excited to see the start of things getting back to somewhat of a normal way of life. Over the last year I have to say that I am so proud of the way our members have been willing to learn new ways to keep in touch and stay active as an organization. I know that it was not easy for some to learn how to use technology but the willingness to try something new just so they

could keep up to date on what is going on and also see other members, friends and family since face to face was not possible for some. If there are still things you are not comfortable with or want to learn more about in the technology world please feel free to reach out to me for help or with questions. I am always willing to help.

As a state board we are working hard to keep everyone up to date on Facebook and also through email and newsletters. We are so happy to see all the great things our members have been doing even under the circumstances. Please keep up the great work.

Stay Healthy and Safe  
Crystal Holt

**Please join our FCE Facebook pages.**

**Western:** Western Region Family & Community Education

**Central:** TAFCE Central Region FCE

**Eastern:** Eastern Region FCE

**State:** Tennessee Association for Family and Community Education (TAFCE)



### Secretary: Regina McCathern

### VP for Program: Pam Sites

2021 is under way and TAFCE is coming on strong. As Vice President of Programs, I have submitted the Project Reports to NAFCE. We are waiting with anticipation on getting recognized for our Masked of Love Project.

Scholarships have been submitted and are being reviewed. I have also started receiving the new 50-Year Members. The due date for them is July 1, Please be sure to print legibly so I can get the names on the certificates correct.

My biggest concern is getting applications for state officers. There are two positions opened, VP of Public Policy and treasurer. Please consider one of these positions. Want more information on the responsibilities of either position, please contact me or the current officer. My number is 615-898-8274.

I have been involved with FCE for about 15 years now and the first year there was an actual election of officers. Since then, I have only seen one candidate run for the office that is open. Wouldn't it be fun to have a true election this year? Please let me know if you are interested in either position by the deadline of August 1, 2021.

Regina McCathern grew up in Watertown Tennessee (Wilson County), where she graduated from Watertown High School and then attended Cumberland University to play Basketball. She then went to work at a Manufacturing Company and later worked for CNA Insurance for 20 years.

Regina will be married for 35 years to husband, Harold McCathern in August. They have two children together; Herschal, who resides in Memphis, Tennessee and Heather who resides in Tahoe City, California.

Regina is an Active Member of Dowell Chapel United Methodist Church in Watertown, Tennessee. Where she is the President of the Women's Ministry, The VBS Director, The Chair of the Kitchen Committee, a Youth Advisors, and serves on the Food Ministry Board once a month to help serve the community of Watertown.

Regina was introduced to FCE 14 years ago in her Wilson County Community, and has been active in the program for the last 8 years. Regina is currently the President of her Club (Tuckers Cross Road), co-Assistant County Fashion Revue with Mrs. Robbie Rogers, who has inspired her over the last 3 years. Regina is the TAFCE Central Region Chairperson for Fashion Revue, and is now serving as the TAFCE State Secretary. Regina received her FCL in 2019 and is now teaching classes to many who were once like her. She is also a National Member. Regina has truly allowed her true colors to soar within FCE. She attended her first State Conference in 2019 and just fell in love with all the wonderful new family and friends she has met.

Regina does a lot of volunteer work for her community. She was involved with the Mask of Love organization, volunteers frequently with the Wilson County Fair, and enjoys leading a Toy drive for her Church every year during Christmas time. Regina thoroughly stresses the joys of getting involved in the community! She harps on the importance of getting involved because you will learn to appreciate and love helping others in need and that is still something she is teaching to others today.

Fun Facts and Hobbies: Regina loves to make quilts for her family and friends. She loves spending time in her garden and flowers. Regina was recently introduced to stain glass and now creates the most beautiful pieces, such as lamps and windows. She loves cooking and learning new recipes, but most important Regina Loves spending time with her Family.

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**EASTERN REGION PRESIDENT**  
Joyce Ernst



Eastern Region is gearing up for their first virtue retreat. Our Spring Camp was cancelled in May but the Eastern Region wanted to provide some type of interaction with its members to stay connected during the time of

this continued pandemic. Our extension agents and some FCE members are joining forces for Eastern Region's Camp-a-Long Virtue Event on May 18, June 15, July 20 and August 17th.

Eastern Region is also working on plans for our annual Fall Luncheon at Rothchild Event Center in Knoxville. Usually more than 200 members and guests attend each this, but this year may look a little different depending on the guidelines by the governor. Cultural arts and Fashion Review chairman are ready and our members are beginning to meet again in small groups or still by zoom meetings.

The Eastern Region Board is looking forward to State Conference in November but we will not have a bus this year.

Our emphasis for 2021 is increasing club memberships and supporting our local communities.

We have a new Eastern Region website which is still under construction at

<https://eastern.tennessee.edu/eastern-region-fce/>

I am honored to be the Eastern Region President and work with such wonderful, caring, hardworking members in Eastern Region and across our state of Tennessee

**CENTRAL REGION PRESIDENT**  
Mary Alice Weber



The Central Region Executive Board is thrilled to report we have a new website for our region. You can find us at the URL link: <https://tafcecr.wixsite.com/2020crfce> or <https://tiny.utk.edu/TAFCECR>. We appreciate the assistance and expertise of agent Shelly Barnes for her collaboration to make this happen. Please check it out!

Our Central Region Leadership Retreat was planned by the Retreat Educational Chairperson, Karen Hughes, and the Retreat Committee for a Zoom event on May 25 and 26. Sessions were offered for physical activities, cooking modules, educational sessions, marketable skills classes, and entertainment. Instructors were a mix of FCE members and FCS agents.

The Central Region is exploring the possibility of a watch party to view the NAFCE Conference in July. We are excited to start planning an in-person Annual Meeting September 9, 2021, in Murfreesboro.

**WESTERN REGION PRESIDENT**  
Barbara Beeman

Western Region is excitedly planning our first in person event at Mini Conference in August. We'll follow safety protocols, but it will be great to see all the creativity from the past two years!

Of course, our greatest current project is Convention 2021! The committees have completed all but the last minute planning, and there will be more in this newsletter from our Coordinator Wonder Woman Pat Davison. We are looking forward to seeing everyone in November at the Embassy Suites in Cool Springs!

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Western Region UT Advisor  
Dr. Lynn Brookins



Agents in the Northeast part of the Western Region (Benton, Dickson, Henry, Hickman, Humphreys, Montgomery and Stewart counties) have conducted three regional cluster trainings via Zoom reaching over 150 FCE members.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, these meetings have been a great way to connect with members across the region.

Topics that have been presented include:

- \*“Eye Care”
- \*“How to Use Zoom as a Participant”
- \*“Diabetes and Diet”
- \*“Spring is Coming: How to Beat the Winter Blues”
- \*“Who Gets Grandmother’s Yellow Pie Plate?”
- \*“How Well Do You Know Your Money?”
- \*“Online Shopping”
- \*“Poison Control Awareness”

In addition to the lessons presented, FCE members had a chance to reduce stress and practice being in the moment with the “Mindful Moments” segment, and they have had an opportunity to increase physical activity with the “Fitness Breaks” segment.

**Romance and Ribeye’s was an innovative** virtual cooking class hosted in February for couples to celebrate Valentine’s Day. Participants joined the live zoom cooking class from their very own kitchens along with the agents in their own kitchens. On the menu for the evening was Reverse Seared Ribeye’s, beet salad, red berry trifle, and topped off with a ‘mock’tail drink. Sixteen participants learned new cooking skills, new recipes, as well as the importance of practicing food safety.

It’s important to note the program reached the attention of Randy Boyd, president of the University of Tennessee. He was intrigued with the idea of ‘Romance & Ribeye’s’ and requested an interview to learn more about the origin of the program.





State Advisor (Assistant Dean)  
Janet Fox



The University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture welcomes Janet Fox as assistant dean of UT Extension and head of the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. Fox has almost fifteen years of experience as an administrator. Fox began her career as a middle school family and consumer science teacher. Being an advocate for outreach, she started her Extension career as a 4-H youth development agent and as the 4-H volunteer and leadership specialist intern with the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service. With more than 35 years of experience, Fox has served at the county, multi-county, district, and state levels in three different state Cooperative Extension systems, including Mississippi, Nebraska, and Louisiana. Now she adds Tennessee to her list.

Fox received a bachelor's degree in home economics and a master's degree in extension education from Mississippi State University. She earned her Ph.D. in adult and vocational education with a concentration in human resource development from the University of Nebraska. Her dissertation is titled *"Balancing family, volunteer, and work roles: The relationship among strategies, situations, and satisfaction."*

On a national level, Fox has been actively engaged in positive youth development programming efforts. She served as chair of the Youth Development Task Force on the National 4-H Professional Research and Knowledge Competency for Youth Development. She also served on the National 4-H Risk Management Task Force that developed nationally recognized and adopted child protection practices, and she currently serves on the THRIVE Model, a positive youth development model, Organizational Adoption Team. She also serves on the National Common Measures Advisory Committee and is one of four regional trainers with the goal of establishing a common core of youth outcomes and indicators consistent with the National Institute of Food and Agriculture Plan of Work system.

State Advisor  
Marth Keel

Congratulations to the Creative Content Team of the Family and Consumer Sciences, UT Extension!

It is acknowledged the new TAFCE logo is outstanding and something to be proud of as it is used to further enhance the work and accomplishments of TAFCE. However, that has been confirmed by the fact it is received a national award.

The Creative Content Team was awarded National Design awards on behalf of your programs through the Association of Communication Excellence!

SILVER: Poster Design; On My Own (scholarly poster)

BRONZE: Logo Design; TAFCE

BRONZE: Marketing Communications Campaign with Budget of \$1k or Above; Shop Smart Tennessee



The Association for Communication Excellence (ACE) is an international association of professionals who practice in all areas of communication. ACE, organized in 1913, develops the professional skills of education, government and research communicators, and information technologists to extends knowledge about agriculture, natural resources, and life and human sciences to people worldwide.

Special thanks go to Cristopher Miramontes, designer of the logo, and Karen Sergent, head of the FCS Creative Content Team.

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2021 TAFCE Conference Coordinator  
Patricia Davison

## **Conference Update**

Our 39<sup>th</sup> Annual TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE will be at the Embassy Suites in Cool Spring ,TN on November 14 – 17, 2021.

Your County Presidents and FCS Agents across Tennessee should have received the 2021 TAFCE Invitation. Our Invitation Committee did an awesome job on it.

Our committees have the speakers, entertainment, learning sessions, snacks from the hospitality room and games and recreation all planned out, and everything sounds amazing. Our walk-in-sessions have some great thing planned for you to make some for yourself or as Christmas gifts. You will love the favors and WOW the gifts from the State Board are great. What can I say about the decorations? You will just have to wait and see how beautiful they will be (and maybe win one of them). And did I say something about the tours? That committee has some amazing places to tour and have lunch. The hostesses are getting into the theme, and you will be able to see them when you need help. The gift shop is working hard for you start some early Christmas shopping. Fashion Revue and Cultural Arts are waiting on you to get your entries in so they can show you off to everyone.

We will be selling Jazzy Jars to help with our service project, Mirror Lake Recovery Center. See the Western Region Family & Community Education Facebook page for more details on what they need in the way of donations.

Paperwork will be in your county offices by July 15th. Dot forget to make your hotel reservations. You can do that now online or by calling code name FCE.

### **New Logos**



**TAFCE**

We are so pleased to have our new logos. At this point, it is just to be used on state-wide documents, newsletters, promotional items, etc. As soon as the board determines the guidelines for its usage, and it is under copyright protection, instructions and suggestions on how county and regional clubs and groups can use it will be communicated



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# Unmask FCE Stories

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*You are cordially invited to the FCE State  
Conference*

*November 14-17, 2021*

*At the Embassy Suite, Cool Springs*

*Come unmask our FCE stories*

*For more information see the state website*

*[ag.tennessee.edu](http://ag.tennessee.edu)*





Extension Explores Food Preservation is a monthly program combining internet-based learning using the zoom platform, how to videos, quick tips and recipes using preserved food. Each live session will be offered on the third Friday of the month at 10am beginning in May. To register for the monthly classes, go to <https://tiny.utk.edu/ExtensionExplores21>. This link will register participants for all sessions and send a verification email including the link for the zoom sessions. Registered individuals will receive reminders and resources that accompany each session. Extension Explores was created by Middle Tennessee Family and Consumer Sciences Extension Agents.

Shelly Barnes  
Extension Agent  
Family and Consumer Sciences  
Wilson County

**EXTENSION  
EXPLORES**

**FOOD  
PRESERVATION**

**THIRD FRIDAY  
BEGINNING IN MAY  
10 AM VIA ZOOM**

**UT EXTENSION**  
INSTITUTE OF AGRICULTURE  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

**TSU**  
COOPERATIVE  
EXTENSION  
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE  
TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY



### **2022 TAFCE Conference**

Franklin Cool Springs Marriott is the destination for the 2022 TAFCE Conference, November 13-16. In August, the state board will choose the theme from our three entries. President Mary Alice Weber will announce the winner at our Central Region Annual Meeting, September 9<sup>th</sup>.

It is Central Region's time to shine. Please step up, volunteer, and make memories. To choose your committee, email me at [egordon.tafce22@gmail.com](mailto:egordon.tafce22@gmail.com) or call 931-359-7074.

Emily Gordon  
Conference Coordinator

Committee	Chair	Co-Chair
Hospitality	Peggy Richmond	Myra Fisher
Bd&Exec Alum Gifts	Charlene Budd	
Instructors Gifts	Mary Sue Young	Norma Stone
Creative Craft Clas-	Linda Prince	Deborah Foster
Tours	Glenda Palmar	Carol McClure
Decorations		
Hostesses	Frances Baker	
Registration	Wendy Drumm	
Banquet favors		
Attendee Gift Bags		
Gift Shop		
Walk-In Craft Classes	Carolyn Binkley	
Educational Sessions		

### **NEW TAFCE Board for 2020 & UT Advisors**

Office	Name	E-Mail
President	Wanda Briddelle	bnawjb@tds.net
President-Elect	Gloria Fisher	gloriafisher00@gmail.com
Vice President for Programs	Pam Sites	pfsitesfce@gmail.com
Vice President for Public Policy	Diane Uher	uherdj@gmail.com
Secretary	Regina McCathern	mrsmccathern@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Brenda Johns	gailmayjohns54@gmail.com
Eastern Region President	Joyce Ernst	jimandjoyce@gmail.com
Central Region President	Mary Alice Weber	maryaliceweber49@gmail.com
Western Region President	Barbara Beeman	mamabee@twotzus.com
Eastern Educational Chair Fashion Revue	Carolyn Thomas	bsomom72@comcast.net
Central Educational Chair ITT/Communications	Crystal Holt	crystalholtfce@gmail.com
Western Educational Chair Cultural Arts	Esther Button	buttonjar1960@yahoo.com
State Advisor (Assistant Dean)	Dr Janet Fox	jfox35@utk.edu
State Advisor ( <i>part-time</i> )	Dr. Martha Keel	mkeel@utk.edu
Eastern Region Advisor	Justin Bryan Thomas	jthom120@utk.edu
Central Region Advisor	Carla Bush	cybush@utk.edu
Western Region Advisor	Dr. Lynn Brookins	dbrooki1@utk.edu