



TAFCE Connection

2021 Fall Edition

Newsletter of the Tennessee Association of Family and Community Education
Issue 7.3



Dear FCE members,

Yesterday the country celebrated “Grandparent’s Day” and my prayer is that you had a wonderful day.

Someone once gave me this and I thought I would share:

“Grandmothers love us

Like flowers love sun.

Line raindrops love puddles.

Like kittens love fun—

Their love’s just as big

As the heavens above us

And the world’s a lot brighter

‘Cause grandmothers love us!

I want you to know that my world is a better place because each of you are in it.

Western Region has been so busy planning for conference in November and I trust that many of you are planning on joining us in Franklin. There will be many old friends to see, new things to learn and new places to visit. It combines all that we are: family, community and education.

I want to congratulate our members who took FCL by zoom this year. It was a new experience for each of us—students and teachers. It really demonstrated that FCE members are willing to learn new ways of doing things. Diane Uher and the agents who helped her did an outstanding job.

At the virtual NAFCE conference many of our State were honored and I want to extend my congratulations to each of them. One of the honors received was the Community Service award for our “Masks of Love Project”. My humble thanks go out to each of you who participated in this project. It shows that each of you use your voice for kindness, your ears for compassion, your hands for charity, your mind for truth, and your Heart for Love.

Fall will begin in a few days and vibrant colors will decorate our country. I do hope that you get to enjoy the beauty that will be offered in our wonderful State of Tennessee.

I look forward to seeing each of you at conference

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Remember these are “State” deadlines,
NOT Region or County.

Oct 10-16	National FCE Week
Nov 1	TAFCE and NAFCE membership due– Brenda Johns
Nov 14-16	TAFCE Conference, Embassy Suites, Cool Springs
Jan 10-12	State Board Meeting @ Comfort Suites Lebanon, TN
Feb 14	State Projects Due-Pam Sites
March 1	County Character Counts Winners Due to State President- Gloria Fisher
March 1	Heart of FCE Nominations Due- Gloria Fisher
March 1	Spirit of FCL Nominations Due- Gloria Fisher
March 2	Read Across America
March 15	State Scholarship Applications Due– Pam Sites

Newsletter Deadlines

January Issue– Jan 15

Send Newsletter articles via email to the
Educational Chair Crystal Holt



**PRESIDENT-Elect
Gloria Fisher**



Thanks to all who entered pieces into the Creative Writing contests. All were interesting reads. I wish everyone could be given a prize. The winners will be announced at the Conference next month.

I am looking forward to this year's conference to be able to visit with friends I haven't seen in a long time and I am ready to meet and make new friends.

I am looking forward to perhaps seeing you at this year's conference.

**CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR:
Crystal Holt**



The past year and a half has been hard for us all. I am so excited that conference is right around the corner. I am looking forward to seeing each and everyone of our members face to face and getting caught up on all that has been happening in their life.

I am so happy at all the advances our organization has taken to keep our members involved. From zoom meetings, online retreats, to sending letters checking in with members. Our members continue to improve and broaden their spectrum.

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

VP for Public Policy: Diane Uher

The TAFCE Board had its first face to face meeting in August; we all wore our masks and kept our distance. I believe we accomplished a lot.



We had a FANTASTIC group of ladies for our zoom August, 2021 FCL class. The participants, the teachers and Agents were energetic, knowledgeable and charismatic. We did not have the technical problems we had in April. THANK YOU SHELLY!!!

Our 2021 FCL Graduates will be: Jean Blick, Robertson County, Central Region; Barbara Brackett, Franklin County, Central Region; Faith Goldstein, Montgomery County, Western Region; Evelyn Hilton, Williamson County, Central Region; Maria Howard, McNairy County, Western Region; Ella Parker, McMinn County, Eastern Region; and Leslie A. Sharpe, Union County, Eastern Region. A Graduation Ceremony will be part of the Opening Session. Attend the Conference and support these wonderful ladies!

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 the TAFCE Vice President of Public Policy.

BEST OF THE BEST? Who will it be this year? We all know people who contribute a little something extra to every activity. A reminder, the 2020 Best of the Best Nominations were: Eastern Region, Ernestine Haun, Hamblen County; Central Region, Phyllis McKinney, Smith County; and Western Region, Alice Poole, Dickson County. The 2020 Regional winners' portfolios in 2020 were sent to UT's Selection Committee. Now, the 2021 Best of the Best Nominations are: Eastern Region, Marilyn Berends, McMinn County; Central Region, Kathryn O. Bush, Cannon County; and Western Region, Delinia Storr, Montgomery County. I submitted the 2021 Regional winners' portfolios to UT's Selection Committee for the 2021 State winner. The State 2020 and 2021 winners will be announced at the 39th Annual TAFCE Conference in Cool Springs. Attend the Conference and support these wonderful ladies!

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

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)



EASTERN REGION PRESIDENT
Joyce Ernst



First, I want to share the sadness of the recent death of Clare Nell Breeden. She was a staunch supporter of FCE and past Eastern Region President. We will all miss her smiling face. A Clare Nell Breeden 4-H Fund has been established in her memory. Donations can be mailed

to TN 4-H Foundation, 2621 Morgan Circle Drive, Suite 205, Knoxville, TN 37996

On a lighter note, Eastern Region's Camp-a-Long Virtue Event on May 18, June 15, July 20 and August 17th was a success. Members enjoyed programs on health and fitness, cooking, education and crafts. A big thank you goes out to Eastern Region agents and the FCE members that provided the programs.

One high school senior, Lila McConkey from Monroe County received a \$500.00 college scholarship at Camp-a-Long.

The Eastern Region Board is busy making plans for our Annual Leadership Day on November 29 in Knoxville. This year we plan to hold a concurrent meeting of Leadership Day and Fall Conference.

We hope to see all of you at the 2021 State Conference in November.

WESTERN REGION PRESIDENT
Barbara Beeman

TAFCE Western Region had its first face to face meeting at Mini Conference on August 10 at the West TN Research and Education Center in Jackson. Our theme was "Bee Kind". We elected 2021 President Pamela Albaro, Montgomery County, Vice President of Public Policy Pat Woods, Montgomery County, and Treasurer Emma Shupe, Humphreys County.

Our guest speaker, Sheila Arnold, spoke with passion about Sue Shelton White and her humble beginnings on a Chester County farm where her father was an award winning share cropper and her mother, widowed early, taught piano and voice to children both Black and white. White's background fueled her passion for equality and eventual affiliation with the radical National Women's Party, running it in TN. As a silent sentinel before the White House, she was among the women arrested in the fight for woman suffrage and then rode the prison train continuing the fight. She was in Nashville for the final round and later was instrumental in the beginning of Social Security.

We observed that our choosing boxed lunches, with attendees able to place their individual orders, worked especially well as we brought the lunches into the meeting hall and called out names. There were no lines or real waiting, and members enjoyed visiting and dining. Clean up was minimal and we saved a great deal of time.

Our Fashion Revue presentation of clothing on hangars was well received. We had a basket auction to raise money for the conference hospitality room and raised \$1100.00! Also our leftover packaged snacks had a good shelf life and could be used in hospitality.

We finalized some conference needs and will have our Regional Board meeting and then the final conference meeting on September 20 in Humphreys County. We're also happy to report that our FCE members in Humphreys and Houston counties had storm damage but no personal disasters.

CENTRAL REGION PRESIDENT
Mary Alice Weber



The Central Region Annual Meeting was held on September 9 in Murfreesboro, following the theme of "Growing with FCE." We had 137 FCE members in person, 6 FCE members via Zoom, 20 agents, and 11 guests for a total of 174 in attendance! It was a thrilling day as we elected new Central Region officers and announced multiple winners!

Two of our members, Grace Harville and Cassidy Holt, were announced as our Kate Bagnall Scholarship winners and were present to accept their awards. They shared their individual stories related to their education and occupational goals.

Chris and Elaine Whitney from One Generation Away were our speakers. One Generation Away distributes healthy foods to families throughout Middle Tennessee that currently do not have access to food sources due to economic and physical barriers. Chris shared that Onegenaway will be providing food in Dickson and Humphrey County to those affected by the recent flooding. We also held a food drive for their non-profit agency as a state project, collected 366.5 pounds of food (equating to an estimated \$623 value in donated food) and received \$320 in monetary donations, reaching an estimated 3,772 people that will be fed with this donation.

We look forward to hosting the TAFCE Conference in 2022. We have scheduled an October planning meeting for all committee chairpersons!

Mary Alice Weber

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Western Region UT Advisor
Dr. Lynn Brookins



Western FCS agents continue to work with families and youth solving real life problems through innovative programs that help improve their overall livelihood. Since returning back to the office, they have been busy reconnecting with local partners & friends of Extension. Below are a few educational programs that have been implemented throughout the region.

- FCS agents hosted “Financial Fridays” sessions that were held via Zoom on Fridays to promote financial wellness and America Saves. They featured UT FCS faculty and local leaders as subject-matter experts. 110 participants attended at least 1 of the 4 sessions, and over 72,000 contacts were reached through social media, newspaper, and radio efforts.
- Agents promoted an emergency preparedness social media campaign called “Prep Steps”. They produced videos, handouts, social media posts on emergency preparedness and what individuals and families can do to prepare now to be ready in the event of an emergency.
- FCS Agents have conducted professional development days for teachers and staff with Obion & Gibson County Schools. Poverty Simulations were conducted allowing school officials to experience life as members of limited-resource families, sensitizing them to issues related to child care, transportation, household bills, and more. The point of the simulation is to give participants the chance to slip into the shoes of those living in poverty and to feel the sting and pinch of what these families endure every day.
- Many agents partner with Senior Centers throughout the region teaching Tai Chi a program designed to improve the quality of life for people with arthritis. It is especially suitable for people with arthritis because its movements are slow and gentle and the level of exertion can be adjusted to suit each person’s physical condition. Agents are certified as Tai Chi for Arthritis Instructors by the Tennessee Arthritis Foundation and Dr. Paul Lam, world renowned master trainer.

Be sure to check out the Region’s various Podcasts in the region...

1. Bringing it Home Podcast – *Tennille Short – Madison Co. & Sarah Poole – Crockett Co. (airs 2nd and 4th Thursdays)* [Bringing it Home, with Sarah and Tennille by UTIAg \(anchor.fm\)](https://anchor.fm/ppitk)
2. Parachute for Parents – *Ashley Harris, Lake Co. (airs on 3rd Thursdays)*
3. Penny Pinchin in the Kitchen - <https://anchor.fm/ppitk> *Tamera Adjei – Montgomery Co., Michele Atkins, Henry Co., Janet Cluck, Dickson Co., Annette Cole, Stewart Co., Denise Schaeffer Humphreys Co., Arianne Price, Hardeman Co., Heather Smith, Benton Co., Lacy Yeley, Carroll Co., Beverly Shelby, Weakley Co., Ashley Harris, Lake Co., Shelly Ray, Lewis Co., Cymone Merritt, Shelby Co.*



2021 TAFCE Conference Coordinator
Patricia Davison

Conference Update

We are getting closer and closer to seeing all of you at FCE Unmasked TAFCE State Conference. All our committees have been hard at work and have an amazing time planned for you. From our Speakers, Learning Sessions, Walk-In-Sessions, Decorations, Gifts, Music, Tours, Photo Area it is going to be a fanatic conference. Don't forget your donations for the Mirror Lake Recovery Center our Service Project this year.

Decorated Mask Contest: Would you like to show off? Well, here is your chance. Each county may enter 1 hand painted mask and then decorate it up. It can be either the Mardi Gras or Superhero's themed mask. We will have you come in groups and walk around to be judged. This will be done during the Monday evening Opening Session. Your county will receive a certificate and bragging rights. **SOMEONE FROM YOUR COUNTY MUST BE PRESENT IN ORDER TO ENTER THE CONTEST.**

PARADE OF FLAGS: THERE IS NO NEED TO BRING A FLAG. For safety, the County Flags will be presented with a Power Point presentation. **PLEASE BRING A 3 X 5 INDEX CARD WITH YOUR REGION, COUNTY, AND NUMBER OF CLUBS IN YOUR COUNTY. ALSO, INCLUDE SOMETHING INTERESTING ABOUT YOUR COUNTY ITS KNOWN FOR. PLEASE HAVE YOUR COUNTY MEMBERS STAND WHEN YOUR FLAG IS SHOWN. PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR CARD AT THE REGISTRATION DESK BY MONDAY MORNING.**

The TAFCE Board encourages the wearing of masks at TAFCE Conference November 14-17, 2021. We are also subject to policies of University of Tennessee, Williamson County, and corporate Embassy Suites. Masks, hand sanitizer and wipes will be available as needed.

Western Region is looking forward to seeing everyone at Embassy Suites in Cool Springs.

2021 Conference Coordinator

Pat Davidson



TAFCE

New Logos

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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UT Agent/Advisor
Shelly Barnes

In response to the recent flooding and last year's tornadoes, Wanda Briddelle-TAFCE President, would like to challenge each FCE county program to participate in a meaningful project to wrap support around our own FCE members that have experienced loss and tragedy. The Q.U.I.L.T. FCE theme empowers members to strive for the best as its meaning is "Qualified Unique Individuals Learning and Teaching FCE." The goal is to make a sampler quilt for individual FCE members that have been affected by these natural disasters. In total, there are 5 FCE members statewide that have been affected by these natural disasters.

We have calculated that we will need **5 unfinished quilt blocks from each county** that wants to participate in the Q.U.I.L.T. FCE Project. The details as well as deadline are listed below:

- Size: 12 ½ inches by 12 ½ inches unfinished (½ inch will be used as the seam allowance, so please make sure that the design fits into the 12inx12in area)
- Type of Fabric: 100% cotton, prewashed
- Design: All 5 blocks can be the same or different. Please use your creativity! We will be blending with shades of Blue. Please do not add any unwastable items such as paint, etc.

Deadline: Bring to TAFCE Conference in November or mail to the address below no later than November 19, 2021.

Shelly Barnes
925 E. Baddour Parkway, Suite 100
Lebanon, TN 37087

Please let me know if you have any questions!





2022 TAFCE Conference

‘Saddle Up with FCE’ is the theme selected by the state board for our 2022 Conference. Ideas are swirling as committee chairs are being put in place, banquet entertainment has been secured, Tuesday morning speaker possibilities, attendee gifts, banquet favors, so many decisions. Fun, busy times!

Because Central Region has the reputation that we want to keep, we have to get busy. Items that are pressing at the moment are: volunteers for hostesses, volunteers for hospitality, Walk-In Craft Class volunteers, Creative Craft Class volunteers, Learning Session volunteers, handmade items for the country store, and tour ideas.

The Committee Chairs will meet at the Williamson County Extension Office on October 14th at 1 p.m. to pool all our ideas. Then we will get the word out to you.

Thanks for your excitement and offers.

Emily Gordon
2022 TAFCE Conference Chair
931-359-7074
egordon.tafce22@gmail.com

Committee	Chair/ Co-Chair	Email	Walk-In Craft Classes	Carolyn Binkley, Wilson	cbinkley0@gmail.com
Hospitality	Peggy Richmond, Grundy	prichmond09@aol.com	Banquet Favors	Alda Bandy, Warren	abandy@blomand.net
	Myra Fisher, Smith	myra111@comcast.net		Frances Hobbs, Warren	fphobbs@blomand.net
Bd. & Exec. Alum Gifts	Charlene Budd, Giles	cfbudd82@gmail.com	Attendee Gift Bags	Sue Lance, William-son	snlance@comcast.net
Instructors' Gifts	Mary Sue Young, Rutherford	marvsueyoung@msn.com		Liz McNew, William-son	jilzpi53@comcast.net
	Norma Stone, Moore	stonenor-ma4246@yahoo.com	Gift Shop	Connie Smith, Bedford	conniesmith@blomand.net
Creative Craft Classes	Linda Prince, Marshall	sliprince@gmail.com		Whitney Danhof, Bedford	wdanhof1@utk.edu
	Deborah Foster, Marshall	fosterdkb@gmail.com	Education Sessions	Patty Priest, Franklin	pattypriest@gmail.com
Tours	Glenda Palmar, Williamson	glen-da.f.palmer@comcast.net	Decorations	Regina McCathern, Wilson	mrsmccathern@yahoo.com
	Carol McClure, Williamson	carolmcclure@att.net	Invitation Committee	Shelly Barnes, Wilson	sbarnes@utk.edu
Hostesses	Frances Baker	sbarnes@utk.edu	Games/Line Dance	Crystal Holt, Putnam Co.	crystalholt-fce@gmail.com
Registration	Wendy Drumm, Smith	wfldust@nctc.com		Tammy Guess, Putnam Co.	hankandtamy@yahoo.com
	Brenda Hannah, Moore	bhannah1@utk.edu			