

The Messenger

NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTERN REGION FAMILY AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Greetings from your President

by Joyce Ernst

Can you believe Fall is here? Where did our summer go? I hope that you will take time this fall to enjoy the fellowship of club members as you work together to advance continuing education, leadership development, and community service. Help each new member to find their niche in our organization and thank all those who give so generously of their time.

FCE Day at the Knoxville Fair is September 13 and I hope to see many of our members there. Fall Conference this year will be held at the Keith Memorial, United Methodist Church in Athens on September 19th at which Cultural Arts and Fashion Review winners will be determined. The theme will be "Rock On FCE".

Our annual regional Leadership Day will be held on November 30th at the Sullivan County Extension Office. This year's Leadership Day will focus on Leadership Training for all our County Council members or representatives.

Teamwork has been a strong focus for Eastern Region counties for 2022. We increased our CVU hours from last year by over 250%. Congratulations to all members. The Eastern Region Board was excited with the news. Keep recording those volunteer hours.



What's New

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

.....

COUNTY NEWS

.....

2022 TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE

.....



GREETINGS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT' ***continued***

Lastly, I hope to see everyone at our TAFCE State Conference November 13-16. We have a bus this year so get your reservations into Fran Howard, Bus Chairman. If you like line dancing, you will love this. There will be a "Cowgirl Prom" for the banquet night.

It has been an honor to serve as your Eastern Region President, and I look forward to continued strength and growth of FCE programming on the county and region levels.

Notes from the Bean Counter

by Marti Agler, TAFCE Eastern Region Treasurer

Fall is such a busy time of year, back to school, county fairs, FCE Fall Conference, TAFCE State Conference, and FCE Leadership Day, just hard to catch a breath! And that doesn't even include taking time to enjoy the beautiful colors of our part of the world.

By the time you are reading this Fall Conference will be over. I hope each of you enjoyed the lovely cultural arts exhibits, the fashions in revue, and the inspiring speaker. For those who paid their registration fees by the due date of September 6, thank you. You have no idea how much easier that makes the lives of those responsible for the event! It does not enhance the reputation of our organization when we fail to satisfy our vendors' deadlines for purchasing and preparing food.

Kudos to Cocke County for, once again, being the first of our counties to submit their annual dues report! Remember that your county needs to forward the reports and monies to me by October 1 so we can meet the state requirements.

We hope many of you will be in attendance at the 2022 TAFCE State Conference in November. The list of classes and programs is impressive and should be fun and instructional for all of us.

Please encourage all the FCE leaders in your county to attend the Leadership Day on November 30. We hope the new and improved format will offer true training for use in your club and council and in your communities.

As always, do not hesitate to contact me if I can offer you any assistance.

How's your member recruitment going? If you have had a particularly successful event to increase your membership, be certain to write it up and send to Pat King to include in our newsletter. Good ideas are best shared and membership recruitment and retention are topics near and dear to our hearts. We have such a wonderful organization; we just need to share that news with others in our communities! Welcome back, Fentress County! Outstanding to have you back with us!



Information from VP for Public Policy

by Sharon Clapp

A big thank you to all who sent in your CVU's for Eastern Region! We had a total of 116,500 hours with 135 members reporting their hours in 18 counties.

Eastern Region had more hours than Middle and Western Regions.

Eastern Region will have six graduates of the FCL educational program with 30 hours of instruction in six areas at the State Conference in Franklin this fall (November 13th-16th). They are: Marti Agler, Darla Baird, Leslye Beria, Karen Brockoff, Gloria Fisher, and Joyce Soltesz.

All county Presidents, please think about finding candidates for FCL next year in April and August.

Our nominee for "Best of the Best" in our region is Caroline Bales of Carter County.

Thank you for all your help to fulfill my responsibilities these past 3 years. I have enjoyed meeting many new faces in FCE.



News from the Action Chair

by Ella S. Parker

Spring Camp has come and gone, there was much fun and learning going on in Greenville those 3 days.

The Environmental Project awards were presented at Camp. The entries were judged based on the guidelines found on page 67 of the FCE Yearbooks, which state "the purpose of this program is to encourage FCE members to become active in their community regarding environmental issues such as recycling efforts, hazardous waste collection, tree or flower planting, etc." A total of five reports was received. The winning projects were:

1st Place (\$25.00) – Midway Club, Sevier County, submitted by Marti Agler. The Effects of Club Education and Conversation on Environmental Efforts and Stewardship, and a handout of helpful hints was created for distribution at club and community events.

2nd Place (\$15.00) – Leesburg Club, Washington County, submitted by Teresa Broyles. All the members of this club participated in the recycling and repurposing of a long list of items.

3rd Place (\$10.00) - Callie Cobb Club, Monroe County, submitted by Patricia Malbrough. They collected and recycled plastic bags into sleeping mats for the homeless.

NEWS FROM THE ACTION CHAIR ***continued***

The Spring Charity items were also brought to camp, I am very thankful for the many items donated to the Holston United Methodist Home for Children, which is in Greenville. We had School Supplies, Personal & Hygiene Items, Bedding Items, Shoes, Socks, Books, Clothes, Art Supplies, Monetary Donations, and much more. The entire bed of my Dodge Ram was completely filled!!!

The Mission Statement reads "Holston United Methodist Home for Children provides hope and healing for a brighter future by sharing the love of Jesus with children and families struggling with life's Challenges".

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

News from the Counties

Bradley County

I am excited about our plans to get rolling again with FCE in Bradley County! We had a productive planning session this month, and plan to meet again for a full meeting in July. We are going to think outside the box and do something different. I'll report more on this later.

Our new agent Kevin Treadway is awesome!

Bledsoe County

Our awards banquet was held on March 17, 2022. Certificates were presented for 100% members, reading certificates, and CVU hours. Homemakers of the Year certificates were presented to Nancy Aiken, Brayton FCE Club, and Ardis Knight, Mountain Top FCE Club. At our FCE county council meeting April 29th, members voted to donate \$100 to the Imagination Library which serves 424 children in Bledsoe County. Following the council meeting Betty Beene brought supplies for everyone to make an air freshener.

In May we had our Spring Fling and Fashion Review. Afterwards, the group had a fun time playing sit down beach ball volleyball, it was hilarious!

At Brayton's FCE Club meeting, we had three guests from Mountain Top FCE Club. Everyone enjoyed making the iris paper folding cards taught by Ellen Sorensen.

We also delivered 10 Easter bag treats to Bledsoe County Nursing Home and 10 to a group home in Pikeville. Mountain Top treated 10 patients to Easter baskets at Bledsoe County Nursing Home. Mallory Christian, agent, held diabetic classes in March which Ellen Sorensen and Shirley Scruggs attended.



McMinn County

Well, thanks for letting us share with you here through our Regional Newsletter!

Our four clubs vary in size so naturally some are more active and involved with projects than others. But, all the clubs participate in the quarterly County Council Meetings and our community service projects, as well as our fun outings.

We were intrigued at the Sequoyah Birthplace Museum in Vonore, TN. Never before, or since, in the history of the world has one man, not literate in any language, perfected a system for reading and writing a language.

Niota is the home of Crescent Sock Factory. Sounds kind of routine until you understand it was founded by James L. Burn in 1902, and continues to operate today, still family owned and now operated by his great granddaughters. You have no idea what all is involved in making a sock until you've been on a tour.

And yes, this is the same Burn family whose 24 year old statesman son cast the deciding vote allowing women to vote in Tennessee. Harry T. Burn from Niota, TN in McMinn County took his mother's advice to "Do the right thing" back in 1920. When it ratified the 19th Amendment, Tennessee was the deciding vote to allow women to vote nationally.

McMinn County continued

Some of our members gladly read Dr. Seuss books to eager ears at Keith Children's Academy. In July, our families joined together for our annual summer indoor picnic spread.

A fun bus load will be heading to Knoxville for the Tennessee Valley Fair for FCE and Senior Day to enjoy all it entails including exhibits, displays, food, programs, prizes, and entertainment.

We openly share our resources, money, and goods with local ministries and nonprofits such as Clean Living Athens and Women at the Well, both drug and alcohol freeing residential places for women; Isaiah 1:17 for children, Full Circle Medical Center for women and unplanned pregnancies, as well as the Hope Center, a place of help and hope for battered women.

Our Agent, Sarah Kite, arranges multiple programs open to the community and us such as Tai Chi for arthritis and diabetes prevention, walking, exercising, and cooking classes. Also, individuals and teams of 4 are "Walking Across TN" right at home.

Two of our clubs have been blessed with a couple of new members. Each of the women are interesting and delightful additions that we warmly welcome.



McMinn County continued

Claxton, our largest club, is seemingly the most active. It has been meeting continuously in our community for at least 103 years. Originally the Agent helped the farm women survive. Now we do service projects for the community. We collect personal hygiene and assorted items such as shampoo, word search books, bingo prizes, purses, activity aprons, lap throws, etc. for health facilities where there is a need.

Just this year we have given 134 plush fleece blankets and throws (each with a machine embroidered picture on it) to fire stations, county police cruisers, Veterans Office, the Shower Bus, and Children's Advocacy Center. Including last year's distribution, we've given a total of 554 of the awesome throws.

The county Health Departments were thrilled when we delivered 150 Boo Boo bags for children getting shots.

So far this year, we have gathered and used sewing scraps and foam pieces to make 91 cat and dog beds for animal shelters. We try to make use of everything we get and have fun doing it.

Award Presented to FCE Club

The Athens Optimist Club held their annual awards and installation banquet recently. The Heart and Home FCE Club of Athens was the recipient of the George R. Price Award, named for one of the founding members of the Athens Optimist Club. The Family & Community Education (FCE) Club, was organized under the direction of the University of Tennessee Extension and is dedicated to the purpose of helping persons become better homemakers and community members. Members of Heart and Home are: (L-R) Nancy Hicks, Ann Dill, Darlene Robison, Carol Jones, Elaine Newman, Dale Eaves, and Sandy Hill. (Submitted Photo)



Meigs County

Ten Mile FCE brought home a blue ribbon from their fair booth "Spreading Joy in Your Garden". Garden Rules: Enjoy the Beauty Relax Listen to the Birds - greeted you as you began to view the booth. The creative members repurposed items, including old items from the kitchen and rain boots. An old mail box on a post in the garden is used to hold garden hand tools so they are ready for garden work.

Hand painted rocks add a special touch of color from green frogs to lady bugs, gnomes, cacti, stepping stones, and stone pillow with the invitation "come to my garden and sit with me among the flowers and honey bees".

The members are now busy planning a county wide Fall Achievement Day that they will host in early October.

Decatur FCE, in the January planning session, voted to make a quilt to raffle at the Meigs County Fair to replace the yard sale previously used for the annual 4-H fundraiser. Under the guidance of Becky Haney and Helen Leigh, each member pieced a different 12-inch block using fall colors January through June. The resulting 42 squares were set together and sent to a long-arm quilter. The money from the sale of raffle tickets was donated to the 4-H college scholarship in memory of Clare Nell Breeden.

FCE presented a Quilt Turning at the Meigs-Decatur Public Library. Members displayed 12 quilts, giving a brief history of each quilt, new quilts and heirloom quilts.

Meigs County continued

The Decatur FCE fair booth "Shout Out to Our First Responders" was dedicated to recognizing our EMS, 911, Fire Department, and Health Care workers, and all the work they do for everyone in the county and thanking them for a job well done. A poster board was available nightly for individuals to say "thank you" or write a special message. These message boards were presented to our first responders.

Welcome baskets are being prepared to present to new residents in the Decatur area.



Meigs County continued



Our members who attended Fall Conference in Athens

Sullivan County

Hello to all in FCE and hope all are doing well as we come to the end of a long hot summer. I'm sure that you are looking forward to seeing all the beautiful colors of autumn as the leaves begin to turn.

The ladies in Sullivan County have had opportunities to attend some activities to enjoy, to learn, and to keep active in the organization.

Members took the 8-week session of "Matter of Balance" which took place in May and June. It was for anyone who was concerned about falls or who had fallen in the past. We know that older adults have concerns about falling and that causes many to restrict their activities. It was taught by our extension agent Lydia Hoskins along with Tracy Buckles who is with First Tennessee on Aging and Disability. One session was taught by David Mooney who is the director of rehab at Ballad Health.

Three of our ladies along with one gentleman are taking advantage of staying fit by participating in "Walk across America". As of September 22 they have walked 9572 miles. Four ladies read children's books on video when "Read across America" was observed.

Sullivan County continued

Another opportunity for our ladies was an 8-week session "Eat Well, Feel Well". It was very informative and was taught by Linda Jones who is a program assistant for TNCEP nutrition education. Some of our ladies got together recently and made Christmas ornaments for a local nursing home. This is an opportunity to help brighten the tree during the holidays for the patients to enjoy.

A jewelry class using REX lace was taught by Vickie Clark.

We participated with each of the Camp-a-longs and one that everyone in particular seemed to enjoy was painting the rocks.

It's fall U'ALL so be blessed.

Jacquie Dishner, secretary



If you were not at the fall conference, you missed an exciting speaker, program, and lunch. We want to thank McMinn County for hosting the event! It was excellent!

Fashion Review and Cultural Arts winners:

Cultural Arts- Categories- First Place & Second Place

Basketry - Cindy Mishtal McMinn Co., Pam Perry Jefferson Co.

Beadwork- Diane Macko, Cumberland Co., Carolyn Thomas, McMinn

Ceramics- Tammy Rikard, Bledsoe Co., Cary Richardson, Bledsoe Co.

Crochet (thread) - Carolyn Thomas, McMinn Co., Oleta Presley, Washington Co.

Crochet (yarn)- Pam Miller, Campbell Co., Oleta Presley, Washington Co.

Decorative Painting- Carol Pratt, Union Co., Carol Brady, Cumberland Co.

Dolls- Barbara Nuckols, Washington Co., Carolyn Thomas- McMinn Co.

Embroidery (hand)- Nancy Martin, Campbell Co., Barbara Nuckols, Washington Co.

Fine Arts Painting Acrylics- Robyn Murray, Greene Co., Barbara Nuckols, Washington Co.

FAPainting (Drawings and Charcoal)- Barbara Binns, Bledsoe Co., Barbara Nuckols, Washington Co.

FAPaintings (Pastels)- Barbara Binns, Bledsoe Co., Barbara Nuckols, Washington Co.

FAPainting Oil- Jackie McGrady, Cumberland Co., Carol Brady, Cumberland Co.

FA Painting- Watercolor- Barbara Nuckols, Washington Co., Carol Konkol, Cumberland Co.

Handcrafted Toy- Betty Peabody, Blount Co., Nancy Martin, Campbell Co.

Hand Stitching- Pam Miller, Campbell Co.

Holiday Decorations: Christmas- Nancy Martin, Campbell Co., Konnie Woods, Jefferson Co.

Holiday Decorations: Non Christmas- Patricia Malbrough, Monroe Co., Betty Cutshall, Greene Co.

Jewelry:non-beaded- Joyce Seltesz, Campbell Co., Carolyn Thomas, McMinn Co.

Knitting (hand)- Tammy Rikard, Bledsoe Co., Nancy Busbee, Cumberland Co.

Needlepoint- Pam Perry, Jefferson Co.

Paper Crafts- Joyce Soltesz, Campbell Co., Caroly Thomas McMinn Co.

Photography-B&W-Person- Nancy Akins, Bledsoe Co., Jenna Brownfield, Cumberland Co.

Photography-B&W Place- Nancy Akins, Bledsoe Co., Sharon Clapp, Anderson Co.

Photography:B&W- other- Jenna Brownfield, Cumberland Co., Nancy Akins, Bledsoe Co.

Photography: Color (Person)-Nancy Akins, Bledsoe Co., Diana Forrest, McMinn Co.

Photography:B&W- other- Jenna Brownfield, Cumberland Co., Nancy Akins, Bledsoe Co.

Photography: Color (Person)-Nancy Akins, Bledsoe Co., Diana Forrest, McMinn Co.

Photography: Color (place)- Ella Parker, McMinn Co., Jenna Brownfield, Cumberland Co.

Photography: Other- Jenna Brownfield, Cumberland Co., Betty Beene Bledsoe Co.

Quilts-Applique & Cathedral Window- Glenda Cooke, Union Co.

Quilts- Baby & Lap – Helen Leigh, Meigs Co., Betty Peabody, Blount Co.

Quilts-Embroid. Hand- Janice Chapman, Campbell Co.

Quilts- Hand pieced & Hand Quilted- Betty Cutshall, Greene Co.

Quilts- Machine Pieced & Machine Quilted- Donna Eaton, Meigs Co., Betty Peabody, Blount Co.

Quilts- Hand or Machine Pieced and Professionally Quilted- Sandy Swynenberg, Sevier Co.,
Jackie McGrady, Cumberland Co.

Quilts- Pillow- Ruth Ann Stuart, Jefferson Co., Linda Kurzenberger, Bledsoe Co.

Quilts- Wall Hanging- Helen Leigh, Meigs Co., Pam Perry, Jefferson Co.

Quilt Other- Donna Eaton, Meigs Co., Barbara Nuchols, Washington Co.

Repurposing- Carol Konkol, Cumberland Co., Leslie Beria, McMinn Co.

Rug Making- Ruth Ann Stuart, Jefferson Co.

Sculpture- Suzy Soltesz, Campbell Co., Barbara Nuchols, Washington Co.

Tatting- Katie Davis, Anderson Co.

Weaving- Hand- Linda Kitchell, Cumberland Co., Sharon Clapp, Anderson Co.

Weaving Loom- Linda Kitchell, Cumberland Co.

Woodworking- Konnie Woods, Jefferson Co.

Best Of Show!!! Was Cindy Mishtall -Basketry!!!

Everyone who participated did an excellent job! We are proud of everyone who entered. Thank you for your participation and we hope to have even more next year!

Fashion Review by Jean Cross

Categories	First Place	Second Place
Adult	Jane Stapleton, Jefferson Co.	
Recycled	Gail Stewart, Meigs Co.	Jane Stapleton, Jefferson Co.
Accessory	Jane Stapleton, Jefferson Co.	Gail Stewart, Meigs Co.
Purchase Casual	Ruth Ann Stuart, Jefferson Co.	Ella Parker, McMinn Co.
Purchase Dressy	Cynthia Mishtall, McMinn Co.	Wanda Crocker, Sevier Co.

Creative Writing by Carolyn Thomas

Category	First Place	Second Place
Poetry	Jan Newman, Bledsoe Co.	Jean Cross, Bradley Co.
Essays	Glenda Huff, Sevier Co.	Bettye Beene, Bledsoe Co.
Short Stories	Pam Miller, Campbell Co.	Teresa Williams, Sevier Co.
Children's Stories	Jean A. Campbell, Sevier Co.	



I would like to thank all the counties who have supplied news about their clubs. There are still many we have not heard from. Take a minute and write down the exciting things your club is participating in and drop it to me at: pat.king.fce@gmail.com, so we can get your news in our next edition. Thank You for sharing with us.



Pat King, Communication Chair



40TH ANNUAL TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE



2022 TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 13 – 16, 2022

FRANKLIN MARRIOTT – COOL SPRINGS, TN



TAFCE Board would like to encourage all of our Tennessee FCE members to join NAFCE (National Association for Family and Community Education). NAFCE is our parent organization, that writes The Heart Fire Series, FCL educational materials, and FCE Today. NAFCE needs the support of ALL FCE members.

The 2022 NAFCE membership form can be found on the state website. This form with the original signature (not a form with a copied signature), along with appropriate dues, should be sent from the county treasurer to the region treasurer, Marti Agler.



TAFCE Mission Statement:
To strengthen the home and community by improving the quality of life of individuals and families through continuing education, leadership development, and community service.

All dates, forms, contacts and information can be found on the TAFCE Website.