

FALL ISSUE 2024



The Messenger

Newsletter of the Eastern Region Family and Community Education

A note from your Eastern Region President- Cindy Mishtal

I just came home from Fall Gathering in LaFollette, and what a wonderful day we had. If you get a chance, please check out the Eastern Region FCE Facebook page for photos. The winners should be posted in this Newsletter.

Our next event on our agenda is the TAFCE State Conference, hosted by the Western Region on Sunday, November 17th through Wednesday, November 20th. Remember the deadline is Tuesday, October 1st.

What a year we have had with our Spring Fling, Leadership Day and Fall Gathering. I truly feel we were successful in all our events. Your ER board have read the surveys and will do our best to improve next year.

I want to give a huge THANK YOU to all the counties that hosted the events and the churches we were able to hold our events in. Also, to all the folks that brought beverages, breakfast food, desserts, door prizes, crafts, educational classes, store workers and the items you donated to the Spring and Harvest Stores. Thank you to ALL the folks behind the scene.

I would also like to THANK the Eastern Region Board for all their hard work planning and executing these 3 events. Without our wonderful team and region, we could not have these events.

Our next ER Board meeting will be held in McMinn County at the UT Extension: 2345 Denso Drive; Athens, TN 37303. The meeting will begin at 10 a.m. EST. County Council Presidents are invited to attend the meeting. If you have any questions, please contact me. Also, please let me know if you are attending so that we have enough food.

Thank you again for an amazing year. See you in November in "Paris" Tennessee.

Hello from McMinn County! From Leslye Beria, County Council President

Many of our McMinn County FCE Club ladies attended Monroe County's FCE Derby Day Luncheon in May. What fun!

June was a lovely time in McMinn County with the beautiful flowers and weather. Several of our ladies attended a Book-Folding Lesson hosted by Monroe County. We also had a great county attendance at Leadership Day in Strawberry Plains in July.

Also, on the same day in July at 6 PM our County Council Meeting was a Picnic where our husbands were invited. Instead of a Tea Cup Auction, we took a donation from our husbands who are very glad we aren't bringing home more Tea Cup Auction items. We had a BBQ supper with all the fixings! It was yummy!

In August, the Claxton Club had their club program, given by Perry Riden, who told about the history of the "Home Demonstration Club" and how it began across America, in TN, and in our own Claxton Club. This club has been in existence since approximately 1919.

5 ladies from the Claxton Club attended the TN Valley Fair Sept. 10 on Senior/FCE Day. The FCE Day theme was Everything Pumpkin. It was a beautiful day with loads of fun!

Our Heart and Home Club went to a Let's Read 20 program. They helped process books, had their meeting, and gave out books to the children. The program is to encourage parents to read to their children every day so that they become lifelong readers. Great program!

All of our three FCE Clubs are very busy preparing for the fall and holiday seasons. Happy Fall!

Blessings,
Leslye

Meigs County from Barbara Mills

The Meigs County Ten Mile FCE has been busy this spring and summer doing service projects.

In May, our group went to Athens and helped serve lunch at the Grace and Mercy Ministries to the homeless and the low income families in the Athens area.

In June, we had a joint county meeting with the Decatur FCE. The Full Circle Medical Center for Women was invited to speak with both the Decatur and Ten Mile Clubs about their mission in helping women with unplanned pregnancies. The FCE ladies from both clubs contributed monetary donations and other items (such as formula, diapers, etc) to help support these women and their babies.

Tammy Halliburton results from Cultural Arts

Hello Friends,

As always it was great seeing everyone at the Fall Conference. The ladies and agents from Campbell and Anderson Counties were very welcoming. They provided a wonderful place to meet and fellowship. I was so excited that all used the new forms and cards. This made my job easier.

VIEWERS CHOICE: Nicola Briddon - Category 1: Basket Pine Needle Basket

Category	First Place	Second Place
1. Basketry	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Sandy Forman Greene
2. Beadwork	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Suzy Soltesz Campbell
5. Crochet: Thread	Danna Wagner Campbell	Shirley Watson Hawkins
6. Crochet: Yarn	Myra West Sevier	Karen Rohr Cumberland
7. Cross Stitch: Counted	Ella Parker McMinn	Debbie Connors Cumberland
9. Decorative Painting	Veronica Miller Monroe	Pat Malbrough Monroe
10. Diamond Painting/Art	Betty Been Bledsoe	Kara Cooke Union
11. Dolls	Tracey Smith Sevier	Martha Hudgens Cumberland
12. Embroidery: Hand	Sharon Clark Greene	Myra West Sevier
13. Embroidery: Machine	Tammye Miller Monroe	Marlene Cumming Union
14. Fine Arts Painting- Acrylics	Veronica Miller Monroe	Lesley Beria McMinn
17. Fine Arts Painting- Oil	Veronica Miller Monroe	Carol Pratt Union
19. Floral Design	Lesley Beria McMinnroe	Denise Cooke Union
20. Handcraft Toys	Bredgetta Lyon Monroe	Betty Peabody Blount
21. Hand Stitching	Nancy Martin Campbell	
22. Holiday Décor: Christmas	Sharon Clark Green	Nancy Martin Campbell
23. Holiday Décor: Non- Christmas	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Sharon Schmitt-Matzen Campbell
24. Jewelry: Beaded	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Dianne Macko Cumberland
25. Jewelry: Non-Beaded	Cynthia Mishtal McMinn	Tammy Miller Monroe

(Cultural Arts Continued)

Category	First Place	Second Place
27. Mosaic Art	Leslie Sharp Union	
29. Paper Crafts	Donna Florom Monroe	Debbie Connors Cumberland
30. Photo: B & W Person	Pat Malbrough Monroe	Tammye Miller Monroe
31. Photo: B & W Place	Tammye Miller Monroe	
32. Photo: B & W Other	Tammye Miller Montro	Pat Malbrough Monroe
33. Photo: Color Person	Janice Reeves Hawkins	Marlena Cummings Union
34. Photo: Color Place	Perry Riden McMinn	Marlena Cummings Union
35. Photo: Color Other	Martha Hudgens Cumberland	Cherye Elliott Monroe
37. Quilts: Applique	Jackie McGrady Cumberland	Glenda Cooke Union
38. Quilts: Baby & Lap	Myra West Sevier	Sharon Clark Greene
39. Quilts: Hand Embroidered	Myra West Sevier	Sharon Clark Greene
41. Quilts: Machine Pieced Hand Quilted	Betty Peabody Blount	Sharon Clark Greene
42. Quilts: Machine Pieced Machine Quilted	Donna Roberts Monroe	Sharon Clark Greene
43. Quilts: Hand or Machine Pieced/Professional Quilted	Sandra Fuller Campbell	
44. Quilt: Pillow	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Perry Riden McMinn
45. Quilts: Wall Hanging	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Sarah Ussery Sevier
46. Quilts: Other	Nicola Briddon Monroe	Betty Peabody Blount
47. Repurposing	Tracey Smith Sevier	Nicola Briddon Monroe
48. Rug Making	Debbie Connors Cumberland	
49. Sculpture	Suzy Soltesz Campbell	
52. Weaving: Hand	Judy Leatherman Sevier	
54. Woodworking		Judy Cohan Anderson

Treasury Notes from Marti Agler

Welcome Eastern Region FCE Members to Fall in our beautiful part of the world.

Our Region has had a busy time with Leadership Day and Fall Gathering. We are conducting Surveys from the attendees at each of our regional events to improve the service given by your Regional Board and the events held. If you did NOT attend either event, can you give us a one line response to "Why did you not attend Leadership Day and/or Fall Gathering?" Please send your response to me so we can see why we did not present something to interest you! We serve at you pleasure and need to make certain we are performing to your standards.

Our membership is continuing to decrease. Please share any thoughts you might have to stop this decline. Since you are a member, you must be finding value in spending your time with FCE. What can we do to share that with the general public and solicit interest in our clubs?

The 2025 Proposed Budget was presented to the members at the Fall Gathering. It will be discussed at the October Board Meeting in McMinn County, the resulting one voted on at the Regional Breakfast Meeting at State Conference in November at Paris Landing State Resort. (You are attending State Conference, aren't you?!?!)

Our declining membership applies pressure on our ability to continue to fund all the important programs, scholarships, and camp support we have been able to pay in the past. Thank you for shopping our General Stores at both the spring and fall events to help pay for all that is needed to present these programs and for donating goodies, etc. to help our money stretch.

In the absence of a VP of Programs, we sincerely thank those counties who have stepped up and hosted events with greater involvement than would normally have been required. So...do we have a member who would like to take on the role of VP of Programs??? This would be for one year to complete the open term. Who knows, you may like it so well you want to stay for the second term!

Note that the President, Treasurer, and VP of Public Policy positions are open for the 2025-26 term. Also, after the election, the President will be searching for members to fill some of the Education Chair positions. The responsibilities for each of these can be found in the Bylaws and Spending Policy. If you are unable to see them, let us know, we will send you a copy so you can educate yourself on them.

Thank each of you for all you do to promote this worthy organization. We have the potential to be a mighty force with our mission of education.

If you need me: Marti Agler, martiava@att.net, 865 428 1472

Creative Writing Winners

Short Story

- 1st Perry Riden-McMinn County
- 2nd Ella Parker-McMinn County

Essay

- 1st Betty Beene-Bledsoe County
- 2nd Wanda Crocker-Sevier County

Poetry

- 1st Ann Marie Knight-Cumberland County
- 2nd Perry Riden-McMinn County

Miscellaneous

- 1st Barbara Binns-Bledsoe County

Feature Article/News Article

- 1st Blenda Huff-Sevier County

Thank you to all of those who entered Creative Writing.
Congratulations to the winners.

Jean Cross - Bradley County
Educational Chair

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.