



TAFCE Connection

2020 Spring Edition

Newsletter of the Tennessee Association of Family and Community Education
Issue 6.4



Hello from Mt. Juliet,

I trust that this finds each of you safe and enjoying life to its fullest.

It was a very hard decision that the TAFCE board had to make but we listened to you when you said you were fearful of attending conference this year. Please note that the health and safety of our members was very much on our mind when we decided to cancel conference this year.

We are not having meetings but FCE programs are still a part of our lives. CVU's are being earned by those who are making masks of love, volunteering for meals on wheels, checking on others by phone and many other volunteer endeavors. Since you are not turning in those numbers this year please keep track and next year you may turn in for both years with a maximum of 4000 hours.

We wanted to see your creative writing pieces and so that program is still viable to this year. We will announce winners in a different way but you will be recognized.

It is still our plan to select a Best of the Best for 2020 so I do hope your county has entered your "special member" for this honor.

We are accepting applications for 50 year members as in any other year. We will recognize them during the year and again at conference in 2021.

We do have a winner in the Character Counts competition, a Heart of FCE winner and a State winner of the Spirit of FCL award. These will be announced throughout the remainder of the year.

Did you have it on your calendar to attend the NAFCE conference in Oregon during July? Well, I am sorry to inform you that the conference has been cancelled for this year.

As we prepare for bounty from the garden and other summer goodies may we always remember, "Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over it became a butterfly".

Have a blessed day and I look forward to seeing each of you very soon.

Wanda

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DATES TO REMEMBER

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

July 1	CVUs due to VP of Public Policy
July 1	Apps for 50 year members due to VP of Programs– Pam Sites
Aug 1	Best of the Best Due to VP for Public Policy– Diane Uher
Aug 1	Creative Writing entries due to Gloria Holcomb
Oct 11-17	<u>National FCE Week</u>
Nov 08-11	<u>TAFCE State Conference Canceled</u>
Nov 26	Happy Thanksgiving
Dec 25	Merry Christmas

Newsletter Deadlines

February Issue—February 5th
May Issue—May 5th
September Issue—September 5th

Send Newsletter articles via email to the
Educational Chair Crystal Holt



VP for Program: Pam Sites

From VP of Programs,

I would like to remind everyone that the 50 Year Membership is due to me by July 1, 2020. Since there will be no annual conference in 2020, the board will feature the ones who have reached this milestone in the newsletter.

Carol Walker is from Houston County in Western Region. She joined in 1970 and belongs to the BB Club. Carol says that learning cake decorating has been her highlight of fce. She cherishes the friendships and enjoys learning new things.

Martha June Tune Life is from Bedford County in Central Region. She joined in October of 1969 and belongs to the Town and Country Club. Martha has served in various officer positions. Martha needlepointed the piece for Bedford County on the Heritage needlepoint piece project in 1986 celebrating Homecoming '86 project. Along with needlepointing, Martha enjoys going to Retreat, and the state annual meetings. She is thankful for the many things she has learned from all the leaders of fce.

Marjorie Anderson is from Coffee County in Central Region. She joined in 1969 and is a member of the Noah Club. Marjorie says the fce club has been a "monumental influence" in her life. Because of fce she has learned homemaking and leadership skills. She also values the friendships she has made over the years through fce.

I would like to congratulate these ladies who have achieved 50 years. You will be honored at our 2021 conference.

The TAFCE board has chosen the scholarship winner and will be announced in the next newsletter.

Treasurer: Brenda Johns

Nothing to report

VP for Public Policy: Diane Uher

YOUR CVU HOURS ARE VITAL! True, most of us are serving our communities in new and different ways. For example, I know FCE members who are making phone calls to other shut-ins in their community to keep communication lines open and positive, sending cheerful, cute note-cards, calling people to see if they need anything at the grocery store when they are going, making face masks, making cancer hats, making clothes protectors for nursing homes or praying together on the phone. ALL of these activities are CVU noteworthy. Please record and submit your hours. Next year, ALL hours for BOTH years will be sent to me. That is a maximum of 4,000 hours. **TENNESSEE IS THE VOLUNTEER STATE AND THE TAFCE IS THE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION!! NO VIRIUS is going to stop us!!!!**



The TAFCE State Board had to make an extremely difficult decision about the 2020 FCL Training Program. We cancelled the program for this year because of health and safety concerns. **WE WILL HAVE A 2021 FCL TRAINING PROGRAM!!** I have already received NAFCE approval for the April and August, 2021 classes. I want to say **THANK YOU** to all the members who completed applications for 2020. I sincerely hope to see you in the 2021 program. Those of you who could not come in 2020, please apply for the 2021 program.

BEST OF THE BEST. I need each Region to submit their winner by August 1, 2020. **PLEASE** include a picture of the winner because in the September TAFCE Newsletter each Regional Winner will be featured. **THANK YOU!!!**

Please join our FCE Facebook pages.

Western: Western Region Family & Community Education

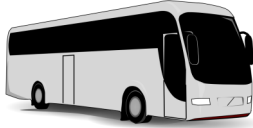
Central: TAFCE Central Region FCE

Eastern: Eastern Region FCE

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



Past President Advisor
Patty Mayhall



Ladies, I was looking forward to our trip on the bus to Eastern Region. I have been in touch with Anchor Transportation and they are in the process of returning the deposit. I should be sending the refunds back to each member that paid the deposit by June 30th. As always you can contact me if you have any questions.

My email is patty.mayhall@gmail.com or my mobile at 731-549-7947. Be safe and may God bless each and everyone.

PRESIDENT-Elect
Gloria Holcomb

During these very difficult times of Covid 19, economic woes, unemployment, and social isolation, many of our members are working hard to provide support to families in need. Members are sewing thousands of masks and providing food items to local pantries and children. Items are still being made to support our hospital NICUs and other organizations.

EASTERN REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR:
Kay Baker

To our understanding there have been no Fashion Revue contest held thus far.

WESTERN REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR
ESTHER BUTTON

To our understanding there have been no Cultural Arts contest held thus far.

CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR:
Crystal Holt

With all the uncertainty lingering with the Covid pandemic we are having to do things a lot different that we have done in the past. An online presence has been vital for us to communicate with our members in the last few months.

I would like to extend my services to any member that is having problems understanding or creating an online presence to stay connected. Please feel free to call me or email me and I will do my best to help anyone that needs it.

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

Stay Healthy and Safe
Crystal Holt



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CENTRAL REGION PRESIDENT
Mary Alice Weber

News about Central Region:

"Growing with FCE" is the new theme for the TAFCE Central Region and we are presently 1539 members strong! The executive board and agents held a successful Information Day in Murfreesboro on January 16 with 113 members, 21 agents, and one guest in attendance. We offered officer training, presented information about four leader lessons, and distributed membership cards and TAFCE Central Region pins. It appeared that we came to a screeching halt with the stay at home orders, as we cancelled our TAFCE Central Region Leadership Retreat and our Annual Meeting. However, the volunteer work has continued as many of our FCE members have been busy sewing face masks for healthcare workers, family and friends; making phone calls or sending cards to FCE members, friends, and neighbors; or donating to the local food drive. The executive board met early May via zoom meeting -- we are growing as we strive to be creative, flexible, and amenable to new technology to meet the challenges of this unusual time!

CENTRAL REGION PRESIDENT
Mary Alice Weber



Mary Alice Weber is serving as the TAFCE Central Region President. Mary Alice and her husband Gail will celebrate 50 years of marriage in August 2020.

They recently built a new home in Primm Springs and have two children, four grandchildren and two step-grands. Mary Alice graduated from Indiana University/Purdue University at Indianapolis (IUPUI) with a B.S. in Physical Therapy. She is a retired physical therapist of 42 years who worked in a variety of settings; pediatrics being her favorite! She is a member of Franklin First United Methodist Church and Sewing Sisters, Fairview Stitches, and the Friends of the Fairview Library, in addition to the Fairview FCE Club. Mary Alice enjoys reading, all types of needlecrafts, quilting, sewing, genealogy, and collecting Santas! She has served as vp for public policy, secretary, and membership/communication chairperson on the Central Region Board; president and secretary of the Williamson County Council; and president, vp for programs, and secretary of her local club. She received her FCL Leader and Trainer badge in 2013.

SECRETARY: Eileen Horton

I was born and raised in Los Angeles California. Graduated from Rosemead High School in 1960, got married and soon after went to England for three years. I have 5 children. I worked for the Los Angeles County Public Works in their Personnel Department until I retired from there in 1993 and moved to Fayetteville Tennessee. I joined the Moore County FCE in October of that year with my Mom and both my sisters. I began my time with either the District/Region or the State in 1994 and have held almost every possible office at the Region level and am now on the State board. Other activities that I participate in is the monthly Second Harvest food give away and during the months of January through April I volunteer with AARP to do income taxes for free. My five children have given me 12 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren to enjoy.

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**EASTERN REGION PRESIDENT
Clara Nell Breeden**

Following the exciting FCE State Conference we had at Franklin, our FCE leaders got together for a Leadership Training Program in December with 68 FCE leaders,

20 agents and our region advisor attending representing 24 counties. We set this date so that the dates and information gathered from State Conference could be given to counties in time for their 2020 Planners.

At this training session, Dr. Lisa Washburn gave an excellent presentation about becoming a Master Health Improvement Volunteer which is patterned after the Master Gardner program. She encouraged members to become trained in the new program when it is available to counties. It was an excellent day.

During the fall season, some of the success stories of counties helping their communities were in Union County "Under the Tree" where toys and clothes were distributed for 500 underprivileged children; Greene County made duffle bags with personal items for their local Children's Center; McMinn County provided needed items for four nursing homes and an Alzheimer's Facility, and Meigs County selected a limited-resource family with gifts for the children.

All in all 2019 has been a wonderful year for the Eastern Region, and we are involved now in the planning of 2020 State Conference at Kingsport. We invite (no we urge) Western and Central FCE members to head EAST in November.

In the early months of January, counties are participating for Character Counts and planning for Read Across America in their local communities.

We are looking forward to Spring Conference (Camp) at Greeneville at the Clyde Austin 4-H Center May 19-21 under the leadership of Pat King our VP for Programs. Information will soon be forthcoming. I encourage our County Council Presidents and leaders to continue to share with your membership the opportunities available on the region and state levels.

**EASTERN REGION PRESIDENT
Clara Nell Breeden BIO**

Born in Weakley County to a farm family, I graduated from Dresden High School and The University of Tennessee Martin with a Degree in Home Economics Education. I was employed by University of Tennessee Extension in 1966 and began a 38 year employment in Meigs County, focusing on the 4-H youth and adult home economics audiences.

My first remembrance of FCE (the earlier organization being Home Demonstration Clubs) is attending the New Salem Club in Weakley County with my grandmother in the summer. Also my mother was the secretary in Weakley County to the first county and home agent Mr. and Mrs. Ellis. As a 4-Her I looked forward to the summers showing dairy animals in the County Dairy Show, and also participated in Food and Nutrition and Fashion Revue. Extension programs have always been part of my life.

It has been a very rewarding experience working with the Meigs County youth and adults and their families.

In 2004 I retired and began being a volunteer for various programs in the area. Of course with my love of FCE, I've been active in several levels and have enjoyed making new friends and conducting the educational programs. Thanks to the genealogy that my mother completed in the 1970's, I have been active in the local Daughters of the American Revolution. For many years, I've volunteered to raise funds and provide support to our Relay for Life program as we work to raise funds for research to eliminate cancer. I got my first introduction to county fairs, as my neighbor family and best friend in those early years raised horses for harness racing in Illinois, and Kentucky. It was a highlight of my summer to attend the fairs with them and view the exhibits and programs offered. In 1980 we revived the Meigs County Fair, and many of us spend a lot of time planning and conducting the county fair.

Of most importance to me is my personal walk with the Lord, and I am a member of First Baptist Church of Decatur. I am the mother of two sons, Billy and Tommy and my pride and joy is spending time with my four grandchildren, Jacob, Anna, Elijah, and Titus. In my spare time I enjoy UT Sports, being outside in my yard (I love daylilies), my border collies, Molly and Nikki, and connecting with friends and family.

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WESTERN REGION PRESIDENT
Barbara Beeman

“These are sad times for the whole world, grown unexpectedly sadder by the sudden and sweeping epidemic of influenza,” wrote Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Women Suffrage Association, in a letter to supporters in 1918.” (National Geographic, April 20, 2020)

The women who worked for our right to vote faced the same situations we face, and they, like we, are “lemonade” makers! When they couldn’t gather because of restrictions, they found another way. They didn’t have computers or internet, but they had a network of friends and neighbors and knew how to reach them. They knew how to identify opportunities and overcome obstacles!

On June 14, 1919, Congress passed the Nineteenth Amendment, requiring ratification by 36 states. Women in Tennessee had already been hosting meetings in their parlors and neighborhoods. Tennessee’s first suffrage association was formed by Lide Smith Meriwether in Memphis in 1889. In 1893 Maryville organized and Nashville in 1894. There were 10 groups by 1897, so when 35 states had ratified by May, 1920, and the focus turned to Tennessee, the women moved into gear!

The summer of 1920 is legendary at the State Capitol and the Hermitage Hotel. There were many right thinking men working diligently for ratification, but so was one well informed mother. Widowed Phebb Burn of Niota was college educated, a subscriber to four newspapers, and an avid book reader. She was keeping up with events in Nashville, and just to be certain her son, state representative Harry, was on the right page, she wrote him a now famous encouragement “to be a good boy” and vote for suffrage! Her words trumped Harry’s fiery “Anti” mentor Sen. Herschel M. Candler. His “aye” vote on August 18, 1920, was only the first hurdle, but when the document arrived in Washington on August 26, the Secretary of State immediately signed it without pomp—just to be on the safe side!

Many Centennial celebrations have been cancelled or postponed, so we can continue to party for another year! There are some wonderful online resources available now. The Tennessee State Museum and Archives has readied an exhibit “Ratified! TN Women and the Right to Vote”, but until it’s open, enjoy their website TNMuseum.org. The official celebration website is tnwoman100.com. Also tnwomensuffragetrail.com can link you to statewide historic sites. Check out thehermitagehotel.com, the Parthenon at nashville.gov > parks and recreation > Parthenon, fristartmuseum.org, your local art galleries, and especially your local library—usually accessible online. Check out the juvenile section for overviews and quick reads. Read books to your children and grandchildren—stir them up! Put on your hat and have a celebratory tea party! There’s even a Girl Scout patch to be earned! Some other websites are herflag.com, voxgrata.com, suffragecoalition.org

Central Region UT Advisor
Shelly Barnes

TAFCE Masks of Love

The TAFCE Masks of Love project began as a response to community level needs in Tennessee to provide homemade sewn masks to Tennessee healthcare workers and those on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Extension agents, Dr. April Martin (DeKalb County) and Shelly Barnes (Wilson County) began seeing social media posts about making sewn masks at home. Family and Community Education (FCE) members and health care leaders contacted both agents to see if this could be a community wide effort. At some point, April and Shelly discussed with each other their experiences and felt the need make this a statewide FCE project.

After talking with Wanda Briddelle, TAFCE President (Wilson County), the team worked with Dr. Lisa Washburn, FCS Community Health Specialist, to develop a statewide plan including best practices for working with healthcare facilities as well as recommended patterns approved by hospitals in each county. The project was shared with all FCS and 4-H Agents across Tennessee.

It was determined the best way to connect with local sewists would be to establish a Facebook group called *TAFCE Masks of Love* that would help link them with county agents, offer tips, tricks and troubleshooting. To date, over 850 individuals have joined the Facebook group. More are added each day. Agents offer daily sewing tips as well as information related to FCE and Extension.

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Central Region UT Advisor
Shelly Barnes (CONT)

Several thousand masks have been distributed to healthcare facilities all across Tennessee. What began as an Extension outreach in DeKalb and Wilson Counties has now grown to 50 counties and over 850 FCE members, 4-H members and community volunteers.

This project mirrors efforts made by FCE members 80 years ago during WWII. FCE, then known as Home Demonstration Clubs, participated in a nationwide mattress-making project, designed to provide decent bedding for low-income families. The healthcare workers are in many ways like soldiers at war-time and are on the front line to take care of our citizens. They have been very grateful for receiving a face masks from Extension volunteers.

Several stories about the TAFCE Masks of Love project have been featured in local newspapers. A few are listed below.

The news video that aired can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xkKVMMNVi78>.

DeKalb County: <https://www.wjle.com/news/dekalb-county-sews-kindness-with-masks-of-love/>

DeKalb County: <https://www.smithvillereview.com/lifestyles/masks-love/>

Wilson County: https://www.lebanondemocrat.com/lebanon/lifestyle/masks-of-love-project-making-impact/article_72e32673-dc65-5a15-9bfa-61d2b3e69d97.html

Wilson County: https://www.wilsonpost.com/news/fce-members-sew-for-a-cause/article_c485edae-742c-11ea-8afc-9bf11534bedb.html





TAFCE Central Region Advisor
Carla Bush

“As a child I recall going to the Home Demonstration Club meetings in the homes of ladies in our community. I continued to visit these clubs as a 4-H member giving talks and demonstrations about my 4-H projects and trips.” Carla Youree Bush shared these memories of her growing up living on the family farm on in Readyville, Tennessee. She began her role as an Extension Program Leader for Family and Consumer Sciences and 4-H Youth Development Extension for the 31 counties of the Central Region on Monday, June 1, 2020. She served Rutherford County Extension as a FCS agent for five years, five months with the majority of her educational programs involving to local foods, families dynamics, and volunteer development. Bush has worked for The University of Tennessee Extension for 25 years. She graduated from Middle Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in Education for Human Sciences and Master of Vocational-Technical Education with emphasis in FCS Education. Carla served in rural Cannon County for sixteen years where she met her husband, Matt who works for Swisher International, Inc. They have two sweet, teenage daughters, Julie and Josie. She enjoys traveling, reading, shopping, movies and playing card and board games.

NEW TAFCE Board for 2020 & UT Advisors		
Office	Name	E-Mail
President	Wanda Briddelle	bnawjb@tds.net
President-Elect	Gloria Holcomb	holcombgd@gmail.com
Vice President for Programs	Pam Sites	peanut1450@bellsouth.net
Vice President for Public Policy	Diane Uher	uherdj@gmail.com
Secretary	Eileen Horton	ehorton194272@gmail.com
Treasurer	Brenda Johns	gailmayjohns54@gmail.com
Eastern Region President	Clara Nell Breeden	wwcthouse@aol.com
Central Region President	Mary Alice Weber	maryaliceweber49@gmail.com
Western Region President	Barbara Beeman	mamabee@twotzus.com
Eastern Educational Chair Fashion Revue	Kay Baker	birdk@charter.net
Central Educational Chair ITT/Communications	Crystal Holt	pageantmom2002@gmail.com
Western Educational Chair Cultural Arts	Esther Button	buttonjar1960@yahoo.com
State Advisor	Dr. Matt Devereau	
State Advisor (<i>part-time</i>)	Dr. Martha Keel	mkeel@utk.edu
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Central Region Advisor	Carla Bush	cybush@utk.edu
Western Region Advisor	Dr. Lynn Brookins	dbrooki1@utk.edu