



President's Tidbits

The Central Region Virtual Retreat was a colossal success! Thank You to Whitney Danhof, extension agent and FCE member in Bedford County, for thinking outside the box and dreaming big! I am so grateful for the support provided by a multitude of extension agents and FCE members who planned and produced Plugged-In to FCE! Thank You to all the instructors for their expertise and preparation, and Thank You to all who attended! I feel we have all "grown with FCE" through this experience.

On November 11, two appointments were announced during the virtual annual business meeting. Sarah Zapatocky, from Rutherford County, has been appointed Central Region Vice President for Programs, for a one year term, due to the resignation of Greta Kirby from Smith County. Emily Gordon, from Marshall County, has been appointed the Conference Coordinator for 2022 and will be serving in this capacity for the next two years. Congratulation ladies!

I want to challenge you to be creative and develop a theme board for our 2022 Conference to be held in Franklin/Cool Springs. (See further details in the newsletter.) We would be thrilled to consider multiple options! The theme boards will be presented at Information Day in January. Voting for the conference theme boards will be online from January 19 until February 1, 2021. If you hold an office of leadership in your county, please save the date, January 19, 2021 for Information Day. As Covid-19 cases continue to rise in our state, it was necessary to hold Information Day via Zoom.

Looking forward to 2021 and Growing with FCE!
Happy New Year! Peace!

Mary Alice Weber
TAFCE Central Region President



IMPORTANT DATES

- **JAN 19**
Information Day
- **FEB 14**
STATE PROJECT REPORTS DUE TO PAM SITES
- **FEB 15**
LEADERSHIP RETREAT INSTRUCTOR FORMS DUE TO KAREN HUGHES
- **FEB 15**
HEART OF FCE DUE TO MARY ALICE WEBER
- **MARCH 1**
STATE PROJECT AWARD FORM DUE TO PAM SITES
- **MARCH 1**
FCL APP DUE TO WENDY DRUMM
- **MARCH 2**
Character Counts "Responsibility" due to Wanda Briddelle

Please Visit our Facebook page:
TAFCE Central Region

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.



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

WWW.TAFCE.ORG



Trousdale County

The Bicentennial Quilt was a project of the Trousdale County Home Demonstration Clubs in commemoration of our nation's 200th birthday. Its purpose was to depict scenes of historical significance in our county, and to capture a part of our past for future generations. The project was proposed to the HDC Council in the summer of 1975, by Jane E. Hundley, Extension agent. At the time of its completion the following summer, Dorinda Gaw was serving as Extension agent.

Plans for the quilt were made at a meeting of HDC members in November, 1975. Mrs. Frances Kyle was chosen as chairperson for the project with Carol S. Oliver as co-chairperson. Representatives from each club attended the meeting and carried the proposal back to their individual clubs.

Each club was responsible for several squares and individual club members chose their own square design and executed their completion. Many of the ladies drew their own designs, while several were drawn by John Oliver, Miss Eddie Brown, and Roger Reed. The complete quilt consisted of forty-nine squares.

When all the squares were completed, a committee of members from each club met to plan the arrangement of the quilt squares. Members of the committee were Mrs. William Stone, Providence Club; Mrs. William Kyle, Ft. Blount Club; Mrs. James Fleeman, Beech Grove; Mrs. Harry Leath, Willard; Mrs. Willie Jane Wright, Trousdale County Club; Mrs. Barry Taylor, Club 13; Mrs. Katherine Tuttle, Temprow; and Mrs. John Oliver, Happy Homemakers. The quilt squares were then sewn together and prepared for quilting. On May 17, 1976, an all-day quilting was held in the activity room of the United Methodist Church, and the final phase of the quilt project was begun. All club members were invited to take part in the quilting under the direction of Mrs. Addie Anthony, Mrs. Ruby Fergusson, and Mrs. Lucille Leath. Many hours went into the quilting project, with the finishing touches of the binding done by Mrs. James Fleeman. By early June 1976, the project was complete.

The quilt was first displayed at a Bicentennial Foods Demonstration given by Reba K. Hendren. On that occasion, a news crew from Nashville's WTVF television station came to Hartsville to do a news story on the quilt project. During the Bicentennial Celebration in July of 1976, the quilt was on public display in Hartsville. In September of that year, it was shown at the Tennessee State Fair where it won a blue ribbon and was named an official American Revolution Bicentennial Activity.

The quilt is now on permanent display in a glass case at the Trousdale County Court House. Thousands of hours, and the work of over one hundred ladies went into the making of the Bicentennial Quilt.



September 9, 2021

**Central Region Annual Meeting
Cultural Arts and Fashion Revue
can be entered if made since last
Annual Meeting.**

****Introducing Viewers Choice for
Fashion Revue.****

IMPORTANT DATES

- **March 2**
Spirit of FCL Due to Wanda Birdelle
- **March 2**
Read Across America/Dr Seuss Birthday

Visit our Facebook page:
TAFCE Central Region



Officer Spotlight

Wendy Drumm

I have been married to my wonderful husband for 48 years—he is also an FCE member. We have a daughter and a son. I've been an FCE member for 14 years. When we first bought our home in Tennessee, I was invited to an FCE meeting and joined that day. I knew being from New York, it would be hard coming into a new state and finding people I have things in common with, so I thought FCE would be a great opportunity to meet new people.

Over the years, my role in this organization has not only been a member but I have also had the pleasure to serve in several leadership positions. I am currently serving as secretary/treasurer for our local club and I have also had the opportunity to serve as our club's president. I have served on the Smith County Council as vp for public policy, vp for programs, and president. I completed FCL training at the state level and I am proud to serve as an FCL instructor for the FCL training twice a year. I serve on the Central Region Board as VP for Public Policy. In this office, I am responsible for reporting CVU's, Best of the Best, and FCL registration for the Central Region to the TAFCE VP for Public Policy.

I also like to stay involved in my community by participating with my new church teaching children's Sunday School and directing VBS. I belong to our community center and help serve at fundraising events such as the fish fry and the Fall Harvest Festival.

The FCE members that I've met over the years are truly like family. It's been a pleasure and honor to be involved in such an organization as FCE. Thank you for this opportunity.

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Special Report

Membership 2021 Update

Virtual retreat recap:

We plugged-in! We zoomed! We learned how to cook a few things and learned to craft a few things! We heard about women's right to vote and how to stay safe during these crazy holidays and how to use our favorite instant pot! We played games and won prizes. But best of all, we got to see each other's smiling faces and hear each other's voices and feel like we weren't alone! More than 100 attended during the live sessions. (And I have a cute mug as a souvenir! But the delicious cookie is long gone).

If you missed it, I'm so sorry, because it was a great time. But you can catch "reruns" on YouTube! Check it out on the Central Region Web site:

<https://tafcecr.wixsite.com/2020crfce>. Thanks to all that made this virtual adventure possible!

**** Just a quick plug for our 2021 May Leadership Retreat (that will hopefully be in person!) Please be thinking about teaching an educational or skills/craft class and consider sending the retreat committee your early teacher form to fcere retreat@gmail.com.

Karen Hughes

Retreat Committee Chair

Thank you to all our club treasurers and our county agents who have assisted in our membership drive this year. Thank you for meeting our deadline and the professional way you responded to instructions and submission of information.

The Central Region FCE club membership decreased overall by 10% over 2020 with 26 counties submitting membership lists. Our Region membership as of November 1 is 1,443. Our National (NAFCE) membership increased by 10% to 24 within the Region.

Looking ahead, I believe we are in a positive position to welcome back members of clubs who for various reasons were not able to meet the Membership deadline on October 1. Due to COVID-19 and adhering to safe practices may have hindered our efforts this year, but, moving forward into the new year, let's continue to encourage one another with cards, emails, letters and telephone conversations, and even zoom meetings! God bless you and wishing all our members, wherever you are, a healthy and happy holiday season!

Peggy Richmond

Central Region Treasurer

The Extreme Food Makeover

The Extreme Food Makeover was a fun and healthy challenge that lasted 6 weeks. Each week the judges gave us our guidelines, and we practiced food safety. We used a weekly theme, and created a new recipe each week to go along with that theme.

We started week 1 with our favorite beverage. While creating this drink we had to focus on lower added sugar. My drink was a White Grape Tea Hot/Cold. Week 2 we focused on our favorite appetizer and also focused on decreasing saturated and trans fat. I chose to make a dish called Swiss Roasted Okra. Week 3 was our favorite side dish and we had to focus on adding colorful fruits and vegetables to this dish. I made a dish that contained Corn/Carrots, roasted red potatoes and okra. Week 4 we were to make a main dish and focus on lean protein. My dish was Grilled Greek Chicken with roasted red potatoes, bell peppers and onions. Week 5 we made our favorite dessert and focused on increased fiber. I made a Greek Oatmeal Berry Cheesecake.

The Extreme Food Makeover was a fun challenge that made me think about food in a different way. Thank you to the Agents and Judges that were involved with this challenge.

Regina McCathern Central Region Fashion Revue Chair

Theme Board Information

All pictures of Theme Boards should be sent to Emily Gordon no later than Jan 13th at egordon.tafce22@gmail.com, so that they will have time to post them online for judging. Theme Boards will be presented at Information Day January 19th, 2021, in a zoom meeting. We will vote online from January 19 - February 1, 2021 to determine the three that will be sent to the state in August. At some point, I will need to get the actual winning boards to take to the state meeting in August.

**Ideas should be presented on a standard sized tri-fold presentation board, with or without a header.

Boards should include suggestions for: gift shop and hospitality room names, member favors, alumni gifts, first timer gifts, and the banquet favor. Show ideas for decorations. Give a suggestion for member gifts including (if possible) price and place of purchase. If the theme leads to entertainment, include an idea.

Emily Gordon

TAFCE 2022 Conference Coordinator