



TAFCE Connection

2023 New Year Edition

Newsletter of the Tennessee Association of Family and Community Education

Issue 9.1

TAFCE PRESIDENT GLORIA FISHER



Now is a **time to look back**. This past year we (you, me and fellow FCE members) did what we do best: we supported those in our community who spent hours of their lives giving to make others

lives better. The TAFCE program, **Salute to Healthcare Workers and First Responders** was a huge success. You found your way to give support and show appreciation for them and what they do by choosing special tributes, some of which are listed below.

Thousands of “thank you” card went out; hundreds of cinnamon rolls and other goodies were baked and delivered; flowers were taken to health care facilities and offices of first responders and special face masks were made and delivered. Clubs, counties, and regions honored FCE members. I applaud you and thank each of your actions which made others understand that they are appreciated.

It is great that we have a method of tracking the value of what we give to the community through **Certified Volunteer Units**. This year a check valued at approximately 7.2 million dollars

was presented to the leadership of University of Tennessee Agriculture for the CVU hours members reported.

What a significant representation! However, we do more; probably much more. For whatever reason, many of the hours go unreported. A goal this year is to have a better report of the hours we contribute. If you are unsure of how to calculate and/or report the information, go to the TAFCE website under Members, find Awards and Recognition. Or ask one of your officers or agents. I am also available: gloriafisher1tafce@gmail.com.

Now is also a **time to look forward**. FCE, needs to expand our value to the community. We need to grow. This year’s TAFCE Project is **Recruiting, Retaining, and Promoting FCE**. I encourage you to think about how and why you became a member and how you can help FCE grow.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

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

March 1	State Projects Due to VP for Programs– Debby Johnson
March 1	County Character Counts Due to State President Gloria Fisher
March 1	Region Heart of FCE Due to State President Gloria Fisher
March 1	Spirit of FCL Nominees Due to State President Gloria Fisher
March 2	Read Across America
March 13	FCL Class List Due to VP of Public Policy Pat Davison
March 15	State Scholarship Apps. Due to VP of Programs Debby Johnson
April 1	FCL list and checks due to State Treasurer Pat Woods
April 14	Project Brochures Due to NAFCE
April 17	State Board Meeting Comfort Suites Lebanon, TN
April 18-19	FCL Class Training, Comfort Suites Lebanon, TN
May	Imagination Library Month
May 15	International Day of the Family

Newsletter Deadlines

Next Newsletter—March 1

Send Newsletter articles via email to the
Educational Chair Crystal Holt



Outgoing PAST PRESIDENT ADVISOR
Wanda Briddelle



I want to wish each of you much love and happiness this coming year.

Congratulations to the 2022 Creative Writing winners.

WESTERN REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR
Esther Button

I would like to say Thank You to each member that brought their Cultural Arts entries to conference. Also, I would like to extend a Thank You to the ones that brought items for the members that could not make it to state conference this year.

This year was awesome and your talent really showed in every category. Thank you for showcasing your talents for everyone to enjoy.

A big shout out to each and every volunteer that helped with Cultural Arts at the 2022 State Conference. Whether you were taking entries, labeling, placing items, organizing or a little bit of all of them we could not have done it without you.

Going into the new year some items have been added some have also been taken away. Please make sure you take a look at the new category numbers before filling out your entry cards this year.

***Categories removed are as followed Knitting: Machine, Quilt: Embroidered-Machine, Quilt: Hand Pieced & Machine Quilted. This was done because of the lack of entries over the years.

***New Categories added are as followed: Diamond Painting/Art (Beads or Tiles), Floral Design (Any Material).

Please note that if you enter a Diamond Painting/Art items it must be entered into the specific diamond painting/art category only. Please do not try to enter it under a different category. It will not be accepted at the at State Conference.

I can not wait to see what all our members have instore for 2023 Cultural Arts. Don't forget to enter it into your County so that it will have a chance to advance to Region and State.

Poetry:

1st Place Dorothy Farner Gibson County

2nd Place Jennifer Thompson Grundy County

Essay:

1st Place Ruth Nix Lawrence County

2nd Place Janie Jones Dickson County

Short Stories:

1st Place Evelyn Hilton Williamson County

2nd Place Greta Kirby Smith County

Children's Stories:

1st Place Zena Swendiman Dickson County

2nd Place Sylvia Gray Maury County

Feature Article/News Article:

1st Place Mary Alice Weber Williamson County

2nd Place Patricia Davison McNairy County

Miscellaneous:

1st Place Brenda Mitchell Warren County

2nd Place Greta Kirby Smith County

As you prepare your entries for next year's contest, remember:

Entries must not exceed 1,000 words. (No Illustrations allowed. Entry will be disqualified if this rule is not followed)

Entries must be legibly handwritten in black ink or typed with black ink in a font size of 12 or 14 on white paper.

Include writer's name, address, phone number, COUNTY, region and category on a cover sheet. On the last page, include your name, county and region in small letters.

TAFCE Logos

We are so pleased to have our new logos. We are so happy that we can share this beautiful logo with our membership. Guidelines for its usage have been set by the board, and it is under copyright protection, please contact Crystal Holt for a form that needs to be submitted in order to use this logo on your paper-work, business cards or any other material.



TAFCE



TAFCE

Please visit and 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)



Outgoing EASTERN REGION PRESIDENT
Joyce Ernst



On behalf of TAFCE-Eastern Region, I would like to thank Central Region for hosting a fun and successful TAFCE Conference. Thank you to all your members who worked hard to make it great! Job well done!

Kudos to everyone who participated in, and helped with, the Cultural Arts and Fashion Revue competitions at TAFCE Conference. Congratulations to all our Eastern Region winners! Job well done.

I hope all our First Timers had a good experience and that we will see you next year in Kingsport.

Our **Invitation at TAFCE Conference 2022 to TAFCE Conference 2023 was amazing!** Thank you to all Eastern Region members who participated. We hope to see all members on our part of the state in 2023. Come Spread Your Wings with FCE at Meadowview Resort in Kingsport, TN November 12-15.

Eastern Region held a successful Leadership Day on November 30. Approximately 67 FCE members and agents attended at least one of the training sessions. The most popular training session was on Roberts Rules.

Eastern Region continues to work diligently to provide activities and promote the success of TAFCE. I am honored to serve as the Eastern Region President for the last two years and work with such wonderful, caring hardworking members in Eastern Region and across our state of Tennessee. Please welcome Cindy Mishtal our Eastern Region President for 2023-2025!

NAFCE VP for Public Policy Coordinator
Emily Gordon

It was exciting to see the National FCE meeting so well attended, and to welcome our national president, Judy Fullmer. She explained ACWW and answered questions. Tennessee benefits from what NAFCE offers. Our FCL 30 hour Leaders, 60 hour Trainers, the Community Service Award, our Heart of FCE winner, the brochure contest winner, and the many that have served on their board are several examples.

Sincere thanks for the outpouring of jewelry and small items that were asked for to put in a booth at Keeper's Corner in Oregon where all proceeds are donated to national. If you did not get the memo, I will take useable jewelry or small items anytime you see me or next year at conference.

I heard that several enjoyed the FCL Class, Positive Leadership Traits by Birth Order that Wendy Drumm and Peggy Richmond presented. Bet they would do it again if any club wants them.

If I can help, please call. For up to date info, go to nafce.org

Emily Gordon, NAFCE VP for Public Policy Coordinator

Outgoing CENTRAL REGION PRESIDENT
Mary Alice Weber



Currently, the Central Region has 1246 FCE members for the 2023 year. We eagerly anticipate surpassing our 2022 membership number of 1255!

On September 8, our Annual Meeting was held in Murfreesboro with 192 members, 22 agents, and 13 guests in attendance, for a total of 227. Our theme was "Gratitude for FCE", which was carried out with table decorations provided by each county. All decorations were beautiful and prize worthy! First place was awarded to Grundy County, second to Putnam County, and third place to Coffee County. At the Annual Meeting, we collected over 500 thank you cards for healthcare workers to be delivered in the Rutherford County and Murfreesboro community!

We held our first fashion show since Covid -- FCE members either modeled the garment or carried it on a hanger. We had 56 Fashion Revue entries, 489 Cultural Arts entries; and with agent support, a Power-Point of both fashion revue and cultural arts winners was shown as the winners were announced. It is remarkable that we can enter items, judge, and photograph for PowerPoint within a few hours. Thank you FCS agents! Chicken Salad Chick was our caterer and there were many compliments regarding the adequate portion size and yummy box lunches!

Kudos to Emily Gordon, 2022 Conference Coordinator, and her vast number of committee chairpersons and helpers! The 2022 TAFCE Conference was a success; 238 attended with 27 first timers. The theme "Saddle Up for FCE" was well received, carried out by many in your daily attire and at the Cowgirl Prom. We were whole-heartedly entertained by Cowboy Dan. Thank you so much for your generous donation to Saddle Up! Nashville, in support of their equine therapy program—a total of \$1645.21!

We look forward to Peggy Richmond leading as our new president for 2023. It has been a pleasure to serve on the TAFCE Board and I have learned so much. Thank you for allowing me to serve.

Please visit and 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)



Vice President for Public Policy
Patricia Davison

FCL-Family Community Leadership



I would like to congratulate all the FCL Graduates. We had a great representation at the 2022 TAFCE State Conference. We had 12 of the 14 graduates present and received their Certificates from Tennessee for finishing their 30 hours of Family Community Leadership Training.

Our FCL Classes this year will be April 18th and 19th and August 29th and 30th. If you are interested in attending these classes, please contact your club President or your regions VP of Public Policy. Classes are limited, so please notify them asap. Also, there is another Certification after attending the FCL classes and it is the National Trainer Certification. If you are interested in seeing what this certification is **all** about, please go to Family Community Leadership | website (nafce.org) to find out more.

CVU Hours

CVU's, CVU's, CVU's !!!!!!! WOW !!! what can I say. But you all of you really stepped it up. For 2021 the number of hours statewide that were turned in was 240,750 hours. Did you know **that** you are worth \$29.95 per hour that you volunteer. So last year we were all worth \$7,210,462.50 to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. They are a vital part of what we do !!

PLEASE - PLEASE - PLEASE KEEP TRACK. When you work on your projects for FCE, cultural arts, fashion review, talking on the phone to other FCE members about FCE, checking on a friend, running errands, getting items to make food for an activity at church or a sick friend, praying for someone on the phone or in person, visiting a sick friend - you get the idea - **WRITE DOWN YOUR HOURS AND REMIND FELLOW FCE MEMBERS TO WRITE THEM DOWN.** You will be surprised at just how many hours you do give of yourself to FCE. *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. Go to <https://tafce.tennessee.edu/> - For Members - Awards and Recognition - CVU's for the forms you need. Finally, the region will submit them to the TAFCE Vice President of Public Policy.

2022 TAFCE BEST OF THE BEST

2022 REGIONAL BEST OF THE BEST REGION WINNERS

EASTERN REGION Caroline Bales, Carter County

CENTRAL REGION Sharon Jessop, Williamson County

WESTERN REGION Betty Blackwell, Montgomery, County

Congratulations Sharon Jessop FOR BEING THE 2022 Best of the Best winner. Tennessee is very proud of you for the job you do in FCE.

Do you know someone who contributes a little something extra to every activity? Or goes above and beyond? You need to Nominate them for the Best of the Best. Start thinking about a person and then you will need to Nominate them for the Best of the Best Award in 2023. To find out more visit

<https://tafce.tennessee.edu/> For Members - Awards and Recognition.



2022 TAFCE Conference Recap Emily Gordon

What wonderful memories we made as we Saddled Up with FCE in 2022 at the Franklin Marriott. Some numbers to ponder: 235 registered to attend all or some of the days or events. 111 evaluations were turned in, 47 stated that reuniting with friends was their main and most rewarding reason to come to conference! Other areas that ranked high were: great theme, prom meal, fashion revue, hospitality room, great teachers for creative craft, walk-in and education sessions, region breakfast, Cowboy Dan, and last but not least, excellent conference leadership and workers!

If you got home and found an extra Conference Pin in your bag, PLEASE send me word. If you paid and did not receive your pin, PLEASE let me know. I will try to match you up, so sorry, we ordered 100 pins in hopes that we wouldn't have lots left over, then somehow somebody messed up and put pins in bags while the correct ones were put in your envelopes or handed to you at registration.

Things we could work on: conference pin issue, tour cancellation issue, bingo and dance separated because of sound, bingo not having to move (hotel error), Pony Express (lots loved the idea, possibly as members correspond during the year, it will bring closure to it. Or, maybe make a bigger issue at the First Timer meeting and match people there?), eat at Prom before the entertainment!! and review Robert's Rules before the business meeting.

Let the dust settle and be content, Central Region hosted a successful TAFCE Conference!

CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR Crystal Holt



It was so nice to see everyone at State Conference this year. I have to say that Conference is probably my favorite time of year because I get to see all our members work in fashion revue and cultural arts plus I get to hear each and every member talk about all the wonderful things that their club, county or region did through out the year.

There are a lot of changes this year when it comes to forms for entries. Weather it be Creative Writing, Fashion Revue or Cultural Arts please make sure you check the TAFCE website for the latest forms before entering items.

TAFCE Board Advisor Dr Martha Keel

It's hard to believe 2022 is coming to an end. Another fantastic TAFCE annual conference has come and gone. What a great time it was. It was great seeing all of you who attended. If you did not attend, you were missed. Consider putting next year's conference at Kingsport, TN on your calendars now! You don't want to miss all the fun and good times.

I want to take this time to acknowledge the 2022 TAFCE Executive Board. There is a lot of work that goes into running this organization. It is so refreshing to see such a group of committed and caring people.

The University of Tennessee Extension values our partnership with TAFCE. You are an important part of the educational outreach for our programs. In addition, the impact TAFCE has on the families and communities throughout the state is impressive. You embody what it means to be a Tennessee Volunteer.

The problem is, however, that I know what you do for others throughout the state is under-reported. I hope to work with the board and Extension advisors to come up with a way to better capture the actual work being done. This would ensure that TAFCE and all its members would receive the recognition they deserve. If anyone has any ideas, please pass them on to your Regional Vice Presidents to be shared at the state board meetings.

Here's to a great 2023!!

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Incoming Officers

President Elect Esther Button

Hello, and Happy New Years to Everyone.

I would like to Introduce myself Esther Button of Houston County Western Region. I am pleased to guide and serve each one.

I previously served as the TAFCE Education Chair for Cultural Arts. As of January 1st 2023 I will begin my transition into the role as President -Elect and will serve one year learning from Gloria Fisher TAFCE current President.

I will be in charge of Creative Writing under my new roll. I encourage all members to spark your Creativity thoughts and record them on paper this way you will have a great start to get your entries in for this years creative writing contest. You can find the rules and categories on TAFCE.org web site under forms, along with other forms, and TAFCE Information.

Please note that in the past there have been entries submitted that did not get to advance because it did not follow the rules and guidelines. Please make sure to read and read the Rules and Guidelines so you can make sure your entries are in compliance.

Appointed Treasurer Patricia A. Woods

After I retired from the City of Clarksville, I was lucky to have found the sisterhood and fellowship of FCE.

I joined the local Montgomery County Sango Club in 2014 as a National Member. I served as their Vice President for two years and currently as their President for the past seven years. I also served for three years as the County Treasurer for Montgomery County FCE.

I attended FCL training in 2016 & 2017 and became a National Certified Leader in 2017. I served on the TN Extension Advisory Council (FCS) from 2018-2020.

During my eight plus years as a FCE member I have participated in many of our community affairs and local activities.

Not one to let grass grow under my feet I earned my certifications as a Children's Etiquette Consultant in 2012 and my Tea and Etiquette certification in 2017.

For the past year and a half, I have served as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Western Region.

Having been appointed to the state board this year (2023) where I will serve as State Treasurer.

I will be eternally grateful for the meaningful lessons I have learned, the knowledge gained, and friendships made during my time as a member of TAFCE.

I look forwarded to many more years!

Eastern Region President Cynthia Mishtal

I am honored to be your TAFCE Eastern Region President for the next few years. With your patience, I plan to fulfill the duties of this position to the best of my ability.

In August 1995, my husband's job moved our family from Allentown, PA to Athens, TN, McMinn County. At that time, I was still an at-home mom with two sons ages 3 and 6. While our youngest was not in school yet, we began looking for things to do together. I had heard about MOPS (Mother's of Preschoolers) and also FCE from some of my church friends. They mentioned that one of the FCE Clubs had babysitting, and what a perfect opportunity this was for both of us to meet new friends. So, we joined both groups and both enjoyed out times with our new friends. I ended up joining a club in McMinn County in 1996.

I was actively involved until I my son started Kindergarten. I started volunteering at my son's schools and ended up with the fulltime job in the cafeteria.

In 2007, I joined a different club in my county with my mom. We both became very active in volunteering as officers in our club. I even held the VP of Public Policy in McMinn County for 2 years. In December 2008, I completed the FCL Training. At that time in my life, I was finally able to attend Spring Camps, Fall Conferences and State Conferences. I really enjoyed learning what all FCE has to offer. I have also had the opportunity to teach Iris Folding Cards and Stitching Card Class during both Spring Camps and State Conference when they were in our region.

I hope you are all planning on having an amazing year! PLEASE, do not forget that Eastern Region is hosting the State Conference in Kingsport, November 12-15. We all need to put our wings on and spread the word to be part of this amazing conference. We have been planning this conference for a few years now...



Incoming Officers

VP for Programs
Debby Johnson

Central Region President
Peggy Richmond

No Article Submitted

I've always worked with my hands and been an artist and crafter. At six years old I learned to weave my first basket, learned knitting and rug hooking at nine and stitched my first dress at 12. Cooking and baking were early in there too.

Growing up at Air Force Bases in and out of the country I did not know about FCE or Home Demonstration Clubs until I was married with children. I joined Sunnyview Club in 1979 and had a marvelous time learning, sharing and bonding with the group of older women in my community. While there I served as President, Secretary, Vice President and on several Education Committees.

One of the most wonderful memories is attending the first Tennessee State Conference in Gatlinburg. Through the years I have served as County President, Treasurer and Reporter and Western Region Treasurer. I have served on FCS Advisory, Nominating Committee, Health Food Nutrition, Gardens, Fair, County FCL. Awards I've received include Writing, Cultural Arts, Fashion Revue, 100% Member, Spirit of FCL, Leadership, Education, and Community Action. An accomplishment I am pleased about is serving as Director of The Smith Trahern Mansion in Clarksville, Tennessee since 2010. Through that work and FCE I have met with Mayors, Representatives, UT Deans and Specialists and guests from all over the world.

Families and Children have always been my focus as a mother, preschool teacher, 4H teacher, "I Am Special" leader, and Parent Child Interaction facilitator through classes from Marion Mariner at UT. Presently I volunteer at school with my club, and keep informed about ACWW projects worldwide.

Through FCE I have met so many wonderful people, learned much and had great travel experiences such as Conference destinations. I have and do enjoy serving and being a member that shares and mentors with hopes to make us all stronger and more helpful to each other, our families, communities and world.



Farm Family

Health & Wellness Program

Do you know your farm's most valuable asset?



The UT Extension Family & Consumer Sciences Department invites you to participate in the Farm Family Health and Wellness (FHW) program. This program is designed to help you and your family live safer, healthier, happier lives on the farm.

During the program, we will address critical concerns that are pertinent to you and your family, issues such as farm safety, financial concerns and stress factors that affect you, your spouse and your children every single day.

This program is eligible for 50% cost share with many of the TAEP Programs.
tiny.utk.edu/TAEP50

It's you,
and your family.

Start Date: Jan 19, 2023—6p.m.(CST)

Timing: Every other Thursday via Zoom, in-person and on-demand.

Additional Dates: Feb. 2, Feb. 16, March 2, and March 16

Cost: \$100, includes materials and promotional items

Topics: Farm Safety, Farm Finances, Family Relationships, Stress Management, and more

<https://fcs.tennessee.edu/mffhw/>

Registration: Begins in November
tiny.utk.edu/mffhwreg

Need more information or a registration reminder? Janet Fox, jfox35@utk.edu or Wendy Smith, wksmith@utk.edu



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