



TAFCE WESTERN REGION NEWSLETTER

Dear FCE Friends,

Over the last few years, our region has concentrated on stitching our program areas together, trying to unite them in a meaningful, shareable light. We began our focus with the State Projects area of Community Action, continuing on to Education, and then to Literacy.

This year we will focus on Certified Volunteer Units. CVUs are used to recognize individuals preparing for and completing volunteer work within FCE and the community. CVUs stitch all three areas of State Projects together nicely, as volunteer work done in all three areas can be reported on our CVU service log.

Why do we report both State Projects and CVUs? State Projects reports provide UT with our volunteering information which helps in grant writing and helps validate FCS agent positions in our counties. CVUs are our individual rewards in the form of a Certificate of Recognition or seal, with 500 hours of volunteer service equaling 50 CVUs. A record of our volunteer time can help in many ways, such as seeking paid employment, seeking elected offices and more (which can be found on the CVU explanation page which should be in your county handbook).

For the last three Leadership-In-Actions, we have asked each county to bring a trifold display board to share county State Projects.

This has proven to be a valuable time of sharing information across county lines. We are asking that each county work together as a team to create a display board to share at our 2017 L-I-A, spotlighting individual volunteer projects, reported as volunteer hours for CVUs.

With this year’s focus on Certified Volunteer Units, we’re putting the spotlight on our individual volunteer experience—putting CVU into action. After all, Tennessee is the Volunteer State. How will you be CVUing this year?

Happy CVUing!

Emma

Emma S. Shupe, TAFCE-WR President

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*“The quality of your life will be determined by the quality of your contributions. When you work to improve the lives of others, your life improves automatically.”*  
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—Kurek Ashley

MINI-CONFERENCE

We will not be able to have our mini-conference this year at the UT Research Center because of continuing renovations. Also, due to conflicting schedules with several FCS agents during the first week in August, we are moving the date to July 26.

TAFCE-Western Region’s Annual Mini-Conference will be held on Tuesday, July 26th at the Carl Perkins Civic Center,

Jackson. A big “THANK YOU” to Pamela Carroll for securing this great facility for us again for free, and a big “THANK YOU” to the facility for allowing us to meet there!!

Please find the registration form on the last page of this newsletter, and on our website accessed through Western Region UT Extension.

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"Your life is your message to the world. Make sure it's inspiring."  
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—Unknown

REPORTS FROM THE BOARD

*Vice President for Programs,
Pamela Carroll:*

The offices of President, Vice President for Public Policy and Treasurer will be up for election this year at Mini-Conference. Please send nominations to me by June 30.

Please send your county's 1st and 2nd place winning entry in each Creative Writing category to me by July 1.

*Vice President for Public Policy,
Linda Capra:*

CVU information should be sent from your county to me by June 1.



This is a picture of the "big check" presented to Dr. Laura Stephenson at TAFCE Conference in Clarksville. This is a representation of the value of the State Projects volunteer hours turned in statewide in 2014.

Treasurer, Jann Vanderlinden:

Congratulations to the following team players who scored field goals during our fall membership drive:

Nancy Gegner, McNairy, 5 members

Hilda Ashe, McNairy, 3 members

Pamela Carroll, McNairy, 3 members

This drive will run again this fall, so be a team player and recruit new members!

*Education Chairs—Cultural Arts,
Carolyn Simpson & Esther
Button:*

This is a reminder that the new Cultural Arts category list is in effect and includes a couple of new categories. This list can be found on the regional website. Please be sure to use this new list and not the old category numbers!

Please send the list of your county 1st and 2nd place winners in each category of Cultural Arts to Carolyn Simpson as soon as possible after your county's competition, no later than July 1. Make sure the necessary information is on the list, available on the region website.

Enter items early at mini-conference, with registration starting at 8:30 am. The person in charge of entering items must be in line by 9:15 or the items will not be accepted.

Entry tags, which will be mailed to the person who sends the list of 1st and 2nd place winners, MUST be securely attached to the items prior to mini-conference to be accepted.

*Education Chairs—Fashion
Revue, Jerry Seamans:*

Please send the Fashion Revue information sheet for your county's 1st and 2nd place winners in each Fashion Revue category to Jerry Seamans by July 1.

Tommy Howington had to resign as the Fashion Revue Education Chair for health reasons. If you or someone from your county is interested in serving in this position, please call Emma Shupe at 931-209-0256.

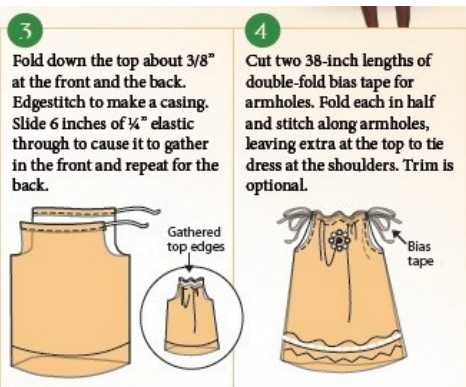
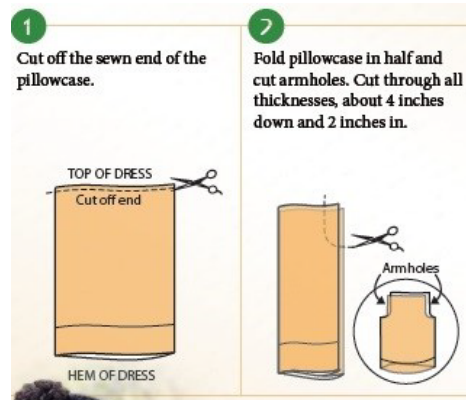
UT Program Leader, Dr. Lynn Brookins

At Line and Design camp this year, one of our service projects will be making pillowcase dresses for girls in Africa. If any FCE club would like to help with making dresses, we would greatly appreciate it. Clubs or individuals may make dresses.

I'll need all dresses no later than Friday, June 24th. Dresses should be dropped off at the region office in Jackson. Please have pictures taken while you are working on the dresses, and bring these pictures along with the dresses to the region office. Thanks in advance.



Instructions for a pillowcase dress:



Line and Design Camp will be held July 11-14 at UT Martin. Over the last 9 years our program has impacted over 250 youth in West TN. It is educational and fun. Every year we have FCE members, parents, college students and agents to assist with camp, many of whom are repeat volunteers.

Your annual \$300 donation has made it possible for 36 youth to attend camp on partial scholarship. The committee has planned another great camp, where campers will learn sewing, design and art appreciation and entrepreneurship. All of L&D projects are hands on, which affords youth the opportunity to display and explore their artistic skills. Thank you for your continued support.

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*"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted."*  
—Aesop

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2018 TAFCE CONFERENCE

We need a competent, organized person to volunteer to be Conference Coordinator for the state conference which Western Region will host in 2018. We need to start making plans ASAP! Contact a board member if you know the right person for this job.

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*"Volunteers are not paid—not because they are worthless, but because they are priceless."*  
—Unknown

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COUNTY NEWS

Dickson County

Dickson County Cultural Arts Educational Leaders Anita Richardson and Susan Maynard organized a "Watercolor Workshop" held on March 17th in an effort to increase the number of entries in the Cultural Arts Contest. Fifteen FCE members, including several young members, attended the workshop taught by Houston County FCE member Debbie Schmidt.



Pictures from Dickson County's watercolor class

Gibson County

Gibson County FCE has been very busy this year! At January's Tap-a-Talent, we learned to make bowl cozies in three sizes. In February, we learned to make walker bags for people on walkers. We also made bibs. Our members can use this information and sew for the needy. March's Tap-a-Talent was decorating t-shirts for ourselves. On April 2nd, we will be helping 4-H with pillowcase dresses for girls in Africa.



Tommy Howington is pictured above with Tap-a-Talent projects.

Humphreys County

"It's a Garden Party!" was the theme for our Recognition/Achievement Luncheon on March 24th, with 29 attending to hear special music by Daryl Mosley and a program on hummingbirds by June Ross.

"It's a Garden Party, 2!" will be the theme for our Spring FCE Day on May 10th, with gardening programs by UT Horticulturalist Carol Reese, and area Master Gardeners. This event is open to anyone; contact Emma Shupe at 931-209-0256 for more info.

McNairy County

In 2015, Leapwood FCE donated to the Christmas Child Boxes and Angel Tree, had a table set-up in honor of past members at the Imagination Library, and made Memory Boards and donated to McNairy County Health Care Center. Members took a Mystery Trip and shared many fun times together.

—Patricia Davison

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*"Why Be a Volunteer"*

*It's not for money, it's not for fame,  
 and it's not for any personal gain.  
 It's just for love of fellow man.  
 It's just to lend a helping hand.  
 It's just to give a tithe of self.  
 That's something you can't buy with wealth.  
 It's not the medals worn with pride.  
 It's just for that feeling deep inside.  
 It's that reward down in your heart.  
 It's feeling that you've been a part  
 of helping others far and near.  
 That's what makes you a VOLUNTEER.*

—unknown

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*"The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size,
 but by the depth of the commitment to make a
 difference in the lives of others."*

—DeAnn Hollis