



President's Tidbits



Trusting your 'good ole summertime' is in full swing. With Retreat as a wonderful memory, we look forward to our Annual Meeting September 12th. Wondering whose eye is on the traveling trophy as counties will showcase their club activities using the theme "FCE on Vacation" to decorate tables. Counties that have increased their membership by four new members since last August will be recognized. Also, counties are asked to put their New Member Folder/ Brochures on display in the lobby. AND, every member that attends Annual Meeting will receive a surprise! Plans for an exciting day are in the making!

Author, Andy Andrews, says that whatever you focus upon, increases. Here's hoping that FCE is near the top of your focus list!

Emily Gordon

TAFCE Central Region President



2019 State Conference Update

We are still in need of volunteers for state conference to be Hostesses. As the saying goes, 'Blondes have more fun' can be translated to 'Conference Hostesses have more fun' - getting to meet new friends, being able to help someone in need, and just being present at Conference can have its rewards. Please call Sue Lance-615-794-4457 or Sharon Jessop-615-591-1333 to 'earn your rewards' for being a hostess!

Remember items for the Fireside Hospitality Room and Fire House Gift Shops are needed. We want to keep the tradition of having the best Gift Shop and Hospitality Rooms.

We are "FIRED UP FOR FCE"!!!!

Charlene Budd, 2019 Conference Chair

Central Region Annual Meeting

September 12th, 2019

Reg: 8:00am Meeting: 10:00am

Who will unseat Wilson County this year??

THEME IS

FCE on Vacation!

IMPORTANT DATES

- **JULY 18-21**
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
- **JULY 17TH 9:30AM**
CENTRAL REGION BOARD MEETING
- **AUGUST 1ST**
STATE OFFICER NOMINATIONS DUE
- **AUGUST 15**
REGIONAL ANNUAL MEETING & CREDENTIALS DUE
- **AUGUST 27 & 28**
FCL TRAINING LEBANON
- **SEPTEMBER 1ST**
CHARACTER COUNTS BEGINS
- **SEPTEMBER 12TH**
ANNUAL MEETING
- **NOVEMBER 17-20**
TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE
FRANKLIN MARRIOTT

Please Visit our Facebook page:

TAFCE Central Region FCE

Retreat Wrap Up 2019

Retreat 2019 is in the books! Everyone had a wonderful time, learned new skills and got to see and catch up with old friends. Thank you so much to all our participants and to our teachers this year that truly made this event a wonderful success. Retreat is yours, please communicate with us about what you would like to see and learn at next year's Retreat. Also, please let us know if you have ideas on speakers/entertainment for next year.

Email fcere retreat@gmail.com with all ideas or comments.

Karen Hughes

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

WWW.TAFCE.ORG

County Spotlight

Davidson County

It was not until 1913 that Davidson County got an extension agent that formed the clubs in Davidson County. FCE clubs within the county grew to 67 clubs at its height. Over the years, Davidson FCE has grown to have a large impact in the community. They have supported several organizations throughout the county, state, and world. These include organization and projects like 4-H, stocking stuffers for various nursing homes, shoe boxes for active duty soldiers, and collected school supplies for numerous elementary schools. Members delighted in opportunities to bring their sewing machines together to construct items that would benefit others in the community. Together they constructed and donated items such as layettes, blankets for the homeless, pillowcase dresses, and feminine hygiene products to send to various locations in Africa. The members of the clubs were dedicated to improving their homes and lives of the individuals in their communities. They often collaborated with others in neighboring counties to gain new information and practices while also building comradery.

The oldest living member of Davidson County, Freddie Kestner, who is now over 100, recalls participating in activities such as mattress making and hat construction. She was also known by her peers as well as being an avid tatter and skilled at all things arts and crafts. The Cross Timbers Club had several talented quilters and were even invited to have a demonstration at the Tennessee State Museum in Nashville. Today, the members of Davidson County FCE congregate to have regular craft and service days. They are faithful in contributing to the state conference annually due to their appreciation to the organization that has connected us all. They have most recently organized a cookbook full of recipes from members throughout the years. They firmly believe that even in a large urban county, community can be found through the sharing of information and skills.



Officer Spotlight

Brenda Oeser:

Central Region FCE Fashion Review Chair

Brenda Oeser was born and raised as a third generation Nashvillian. Brenda graduated from Cumberland High School and then attended Tennessee Technological University where she studied elementary education. She married her college sweetheart and went on to have two children, Denise and Sean. After her divorce she worked at Baird Ward Printing Company where she met her now husband of 50 years, Ronnie. Her son Sean, who had special needs, passed away in 2015. Brenda now has three generations of FCE women in her family with her daughter and granddaughter as members of the Davidson County FCE club.

When her mother passed away in 2003, Brenda met Eleanor Harper, a fellow Davidson County FCE member, at Christmas at Ellington Craft sale. She and Eleanor became fast friends which lead to her invitation to join FCE. Thanks to Eleanor's perseverance and determination, she joined FCE and quickly rose to president of her club in 2005. After attending camp in Columbia, where she was blessed with the opportunity to meet so many wonderful and talented women, she attended state conference for the first time. Brenda's love for FCE and it's mission was solidified and she has not missed a conference or retreat since.

Nearly 15 years later, Brenda is still serving her community and FCE in leadership roles. She is currently serving as the Davidson County FCE President and the Central Region FCE Fashion Review Chair. In her spare time, Brenda hosts her friends for card night which is full of priceless friendships and laughter. She also loves to travel with her family and do arts and crafts. Brenda is a valued member of the Davidson County FCE club and a true friend to all who meet her.

Brenda states, "FCE has been and is a treasured association to belong to."

IMPORTANT DATES

- **SEPTEMBER 11**
CENTRAL REGION BOARD MEETING
- **OCTOBER 1**
COUNCIL INFO, DUES, CREDENTIAL FORM DUE AND STATE CONFERENCE REG. DUE
- **OCTOBER 13-19**
NATIONAL FCE WEEK
- **NOVEMBER 17-20**
TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE FRANKLIN, TN

Visit our Facebook page:
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