



March 30, 2016

Local FCE clubs and members recognized for achievements and service.

"Picture Me in FCE" was the theme for this year's recognition and awards luncheon for the local chapter of the Tennessee Association for Family and Community Education (FCE).

Four individuals, Marilyn Bryan and Peggy Bryan of the Asbury Club, Lucy Deal, Blanton's Chapel Club, and Jeanie Freeze, of the Noah Club received state level awards and collectively, volunteered 2,500 hours of community service in 2015. Based on the most current hourly volunteer rate, the value of their service to Coffee County totaled more than \$57,000. Additional hours were donated by other club members through club and countywide service projects.

For outstanding achievement in 2015, each club earned Master Club distinction. Clubs and Presidents were Asbury - Marilyn Bryan, Blanton's Chapel - Lucy Deal, Fredonia - Thadra Duke, Manchester - Betty House, and Noah - Jeanie Freeze.

Literacy is a primary service project of FCE at the county, state and national levels. In Coffee County, members create and donate book bags and bookmarks to support library summer reading programs. They also collect soup labels, box tops, and supplies for local school groups, donate books to The Bookshelf, a used bookstore supporting the Adult Education Program, as well donations to the Ronald McDonald House, in Nashville.

As part of the literacy initiative, local members strive for excellence in education through an annual reading project. Last year, members read more than 1,400 books. Members who read the most books in perspective categories are named County Reader of the Year. Award recipients and categories: Vicki Jacobs - Reading to Young Children, Thadra Duke - Fiction, Kathy Nordgren - Inspirational, Jackie Barnes - Non-Fiction, and Jo Ann Smith - Self-Help.

Other members were recognized for 100 percent attendance. They were Marilyn Bryan, Lucy Deal, Theresa Frame, Virginia Hullett, Martha Bryan, Thadra Duke, Jackie Barnes, Betty House, Marjorie Anderson, Kathy Nordgren, and Carol Vanattia.

Club Member of the Year recipients were Jo Ann Smith, Lucy Deal, Theresa Boyett, and Crystal Brandon.

Membership in FCE is open to everyone! Dues are affordable. To learn more about FCE, perspective members are encouraged to attend a local club meeting, a county council meeting, a workshop, or special event. For more information, contact a local club president or the UT - TSU Extension office at 723-5141.