Happy Spring!

This is my favorite time of year, when new life emerges, days grow longer and warmer, and I can get outside to enjoy nature and my garden. Spring puts a shiny new, positive outlook on life.

Speaking of positives, evaluations from our January Leadership-in-Action were very good. Results from those turned in showed a 96% satisfactory or better rating for the day, with mostly positive written comments.

Winter weather caused the cancelation of the January meeting of the TAFCE Board, so I do not have a report for you. On a positive note, it will meet in April, followed by FCL training. Anything for me to present before the State Board needs to be sent to me in writing ASAP.

The Western Region Board met on March 18. We had positive results in planning our TAFCE Western Region Annual Mini-Conference which will be held on August 5 in Jackson. We also discussed the 2015 TAFCE Conference which Western Region will host in Clarksville. You will find more info on both of these in this newsletter.

Again, I would like to remind you that this is your newsletter, a place for you to promote the wonderfully positive things going on in your county. For example, Humphreys County Council for FCE hosted a Leader Brunch in January with training for our club leaders who enjoyed making “Omelets in the Bag” for brunch. We also had our Recognition Achievement Day in March with an educational tour of the Duck River Bottoms National Wildlife Refuge, facilitated by US Fish and Wildlife Officer Joan Stevens, and a “Loaded Potato” lunch at the Johnsonville State Historic Park Visitor Center. Our Spring FCE Day is May 13. We invite you to attend and enjoy some of the positive things going on in Humphreys County. And please share the positive things going on in FCE in your county.

I hope you can get out and enjoy this wonderful Spring, as well as the positive things going on with FCE. Remember, “we reap what we sow”, so if you want positive results in FCE, you must put positive work into it. You are FCE. Be positive!

Sincerely,

Emma

Emma S. Shupe, TAFCE WR President

“You can’t live a positive life with a negative mind.”

~Unknown
Oh, it’s delightful to have ambitions… And there never seems to be any end to them-----that’s the best of it! Just as soon as you attain one ambition you see another one glittering higher up still! It does make life so interesting!”  -Anne Shirley, Anne of Green Gables (L.M. Montgomery)

Yes! It’s that time again!! Collect the beautiful creations that you crafted during our L-O-N-G and C-O-L-D Winter, and get ready for FCE competitions and opportunities. Set your goals and ‘make life interesting!’

Just a few quick reminders for upcoming events so you can mark your calendars. Following is a quick overview of upcoming events and thumbnail sketches of important information about each.

All required official forms are on the TAFCE website. All are current. ‘No computer or internet????’ Don’t worry!!! FCE is a ‘user-friendly’ organization. All forms can be also obtained from your FCE County President or County UT FCS Extension Advisor.

**DEADLINES:**

**April 15, 2014**
TAFCE EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP
The perfect chance for adult FCE members to win $1000 to apply to your education/higher learning goals!
**Mail original hard copy, complete packet to:**
Cynthia Summers, TAFCE Education Chair
257 E. Forrest Ave.
McKenzie, TN 38201

**June 30, 2014**
NOMINATION FOR WESTERN REGION BOARD OFFICERS
President, Vice-President for Public Policy, and Treasurer
An opportunity to let your ambition glitter AND make life interesting and exciting!
**Mail original hard copy to:**
Cynthia Summers, WR VP-Programs
257 E Forrest Ave.
McKenzie, TN 38201

**July 1, 2014**
CREATIVE WRITING
1st and 2nd Place County Winners in 6 CATEGORIES. An opportunity for EACH COUNTY to have 12 Winners!!!! State winners get published!
Let your life speak and tell its story through the FCE Creative Writing Program!
**Mail hard copy originals (no pictures please) to:**
Cynthia Summers, WR VP-Programs
257 E. Forrest Ave.
McKenzie, TN 38201
July 1, 2014
CULTURAL ARTS

More GLITTER: Let your ‘ARTSY’ side shine in 42 CATEGORIES -----some NEW ones! 1st and 2nd Place County Winners in EACH category.
An opportunity for EACH COUNTY to have 84 Winners!!! Something for Everyone!

Mail Complete County List of Winners to:
  June Ross, WR Education Chair
  401 Hickory Lane
  Waverly, TN  37185

July 1, 2014

FASHION REVUE

Help Recapture America’s Dwindling “Lost Art”-------SEWING----SEWING----SEWING
1st and 2nd Place County Winners in 11 CATEGORIES-----That’s 24 Winners in EACH COUNTY!!!

Mail Complete County List of Winners to:
  Tommy Howington, WR Education Chair
  28 Shiloh Road
  Bradford, TN  38326

“Another Stitch in Time”

Western Region Annual Mini-Conference
August 5, 2014
Regional Office, Jackson, TN

FOCUS:
We will continue stitching our FCE programs together. Our focus will be on the Education Area of State Programs.

BASKET AUCTION:
-Each county should provide a basket with a minimum value of $50 for the basket auction, or a check for $50.
-Money raised goes to FCL training.

REGISTRATION FORM:
-A registration form can be found on the back page of the July newsletter and soon on the WR website.

PROGRAM:
  Morning session:
    Annual Business Meeting
    Speaker from Discovery Park of America
    Voting on theme for 2015 TAFCE Conference
    Basket Auction
    Lunch/View Cultural Arts
  Afternoon session:
    Announcement of Cultural Arts winners
Fashion Revue and announcement of winners
Announcement of Creative Writing Program winners
Other announcements

2015 TAFCE CONFERENCE THEME BOARDS:
-TAFCE Board will select the theme for the 2015 TAFCE Conference from the ideas presented to them at the August TAFCE Board meeting.
-Please see the information on the following page about entering theme boards for voting at the WR Mini-Conference.

2015 CONFERENCE THEME CONTEST

Entry Requirements:

1. Should be on a tri-fold board, and be set up by 9:30am by the county presenting the theme.

2. Have a Main Theme for the Conference.

3. Name(s) for the:
   - Hospitality room
   - Gift Shop
   - Cultural Arts

4. Ideas for:
   - Favors for Tuesday night Banquet
   - Favors / Gifts for Alumni Luncheon
   - Favors / Gifts for State Board Members and UT Advisors
   - Favors / Gifts for all Members- Past examples: FCE Throw, padded folio, backscratcher, umbrella, FCE bag and shoe bag.

5. Each theme board should have samples of any decorations, gifts, favors or a picture, with a price and place of purchase if possible.

*Tables will be set up at Mini Conference in the front hall / entry way. There will be two (2) display boards per 8 foot table. Accessories may be brought to elaborate on your conference theme; space is limited to the area in front of the tri-fold board.

*Each Member in attendance will be given one vote and each board will be given a number. Voting will be from 10am until 1pm. Votes will be counted and presented in the afternoon session and the top 3 boards will be presented to the State Board at their August meeting.

If you should have any question please feel free to contact:

Patty Mayhall- Conference Coordinator
Phone 731-549-7947 (daytime) or 731-967-9795 (evenings)
Email: ptmayhall@yahoo.com

“If we had no Winter, the Spring would not be so pleasant; if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.”

~Anne Bradstreet