Dear Friends,

I’m sure you are as moved as I am that Spring is here. I have been hopping around in my garden the last couple of weeks, tidying it up and just enjoying being outside.

Things are hopping along in FCE as well:
—Plans are well under way for State Conference which our region is hosting this fall in Clarksville. Please see the update from Patty that follows in this issue.
—Plans are also under way for our Annual Mini-Conference. Details will be included in the July Newsletter and posted on the website as soon as finalized. We are still waiting on confirmation for meeting at the Research Center in Jackson (we hope their renovations are moving along and will be completed in time).
—Hope you are moving along with your entries for Cultural Arts, Fashion Revue and Creative Writing, with your county’s basket for the Basket Auction at Mini-Conference, with your CVU hours and State Projects, and with all the wonderful things you do for FCE and our communities.

Hop on out, get moving & enjoy Spring!

Emma
Emma S. Shupe, TAFCE-WR President

“In Winter, I plot and plan. In Spring, I move.” —Henry Rollins
by July 1. Please follow up with a phone call or email about a week after mailing them just to make sure they have been received. The phone number for Debbie is 931-721-3649, or email debbieschmidt@peoplestel.net.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: FASHION REVUE—LILA POLLOCK, JERRY SEAMANS
County first and second place winners in each category, with all the pertinent information, should be sent to

Lila Pollock
2093 Rocky Knob Road
Finger, TN 38334
by July 1. We are asking that the person sending the information please follow up with a phone call to Lila at 731-687-3372 or email memalila@hotmail.com about a week after mailing to confirm receipt.

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR, PATTY MAYHALL
An update from the 2015 TAFCE Conference:
—The planning meetings have gone well and the committees are shaping up. I want to give a BIG shout out to those that have already volunteered, spending many hours getting ready to have a great conference.
—I would like to remind all the members that we will need nice items for the gift shop. These may be brought to the next few planning meetings and to mini-conference where they will be picked up by the Gift Shop Committee.
—Please remember to sign up to help as a hostess if you do not already have an area where you are volunteering. Since our region is hosting the conference, we are all hostesses and need to do our part. We always need a few people to help the teachers with their classes, for introductions, and to know where and when things are happening when people ask for help.

—The chair persons from the hostess, gift shop and hospitality room may be sending out letters or emails to County Council Presidents and officers requesting items, or support of food and/or time. Please pass this information on to each of the members in your county.
—Our next planning meeting will be May 18th at 1:00 PM at Parkers Crossroads Visitor Center, just off I-40 on HWY 22. If you should have questions or need more information, please email me at ptmayhall@yahoo.com or call me at 731-549-7947.

“Look at what you want to change, gather a few people who believe in it like you do, and start moving forward. It’s important to remember that you don’t always need a destination. Sometimes, you just have to make a forward motion. And you absolutely can.” —Debby Ryan

COUNTY NEWS

DICKSON COUNTY
Dickson County FCE is having their Spring Recognition Brunch on Thursday, April 2, at the First United Methodist Church Fellowship Room. Recognition for members includes Reading Certificates, Star Member Certificates, Outstanding Club Members, and Outstanding Educational Leaders. Our speaker is Brenda Dawson, retired teacher who wrote a book entitled Running for Home.

Ann Luther, TAFCE Treasurer, wants to remind NAFCE members to enter the new National FCE contest: Open Category
Brochure Contest. “Wouldn’t it be great if Tennessee had the most entries in the new contest?”

**GIBSON COUNTY**
Gibson County Council’s Spring Rally on April 7th will include a “Parade of Easter Bonnets.” Judges will decide who has the Most Beautiful, Most Unique and Oldest Hat at this gathering. We will also enjoy a delicious catered lunch. Council meetings are held at the Ag Building in Trenton. Please contact Jan Burks at 731-643-6282 for more info.

**HUMPHREYS COUNTY**
Humphreys County Council was in the pink, with pink flowers, napkins and table covers, using the theme “All Dolled Up for FCE” for Recognition Achievement Day on March 17. Members dressed up with their hats and gloves to enjoy the Tea Luncheon of soup and sandwiches, pink punch, and strawberry cake and ice cream. Cindy Summers, honorary member, brought tea pots filled with various teas to sample. Sarah Wade shared her Shirley Temple dolls and some of the other dolls from her collection. Some members also brought special dolls and stories to share. Members with 100% attendance for 2014 and those with special achievements for the year were recognized.

“FCE by the Sea” will be the theme for Humphreys County Spring FCE Day on May 4 at the Blue Creek Ag Building, Waverly. McEwen FCE Club will host the event which will include a potluck lunch, and program on relaxation and reducing stress. Cultural Arts will be on display. This event is open to anyone. Please contact Emma Shupe at 931-296-1308 for more info.

**SHELBY COUNTY**
Bartlett FCE of Shelby County has been very busy with several projects. The Ronald McDonald House of Memphis has been one of their passions for years. As one of their Community Action services, Bartlett FCE collects items for RMH-Memphis. Items range from single servings of various snack items to paper products. They dropped off 610 items for the children at RMH-Memphis on March 18. Also, with October being their fund-raising period, Bartlett FCE donates a gift card to RMH-Memphis every fall.
Pictured are Shelby County’s Bartlett FCE members Cathy Luckett, Gladys Adams, Karen Lynch and Cathy Gremillion with some of the items the club donated to Ronald McDonald House of Memphis.

——— COUNTY
We’re still looking for news from your county here…

“Ask yourself—are you moving forward in life?” —Vishwas Chavan

“We keep moving forward, opening new doors and doing new things, because we’re curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths.” —Walt Disney

IMPORTANT DATES
—May 18 Conference Planning Meeting, 1:00 PM, Parkers Crossroads Visitors Center
—August 4 tentative date for Western Region Mini-Conference, UT Research Center, Jackson (alternate date August 20)
—Nov 8-11 TAFCE Conference, Clarksville

“When all the world appears to be in tumult, and nature itself is feeling the assault of climate change, the seasons retain their essential rhythm. Yes, Fall gives us a premonition of Winter, but then Winter will be forced to retreat, once again, to the new beginnings of soft greens, longer light, and the sweet air of Spring.” —Madeleine M. Kunin