Dear FCE Friends,

As I write this, we are preparing for our Annual Mini-Conference, focusing on the Literacy area of State Projects.

While Community Action and Education are extremely important for the betterment of our communities and world, Literacy is very dear to my heart. Being able to read and write is the cornerstone on which all else is built. Literacy is the basic tool for a good education, and a good education, in turn, is a key element in the desire to improve our world through our community involvement.

I did not like to read when I was very young but grew into an avid reader. I read books aloud while pregnant with my Jennifer, then, of course, read books to her while pregnant with my Ginger. Both girls have always devoured books, and I believe hearing that literary voice in utero is the reason for their love of reading. This love of books also makes them good writers and has helped make them the successful young women they are today.

Unfortunately, many of our young people are not blessed to have people in their lives who read to them. I encourage you, as members of an organization that promotes Community Action, Education and Literacy, to help with that problem. Volunteer in schools to read with young people. Volunteer in libraries to do reading programs. Assist the Imagination Library program. Donate gently read books to the Department of Children’s Services. Organize the Character Counts Essay and Artwork Contest for fourth graders. Find ways to promote the love of reading and writing in your community.

While you’re promoting the love of reading and writing, don’t forget to take the time to enjoy a good book yourself!

Happy reading!

Emma
Emma S. Shupe, TAFCE-WR President

“The man who does not read has no advantage over the man who cannot read.” —Mark Twain

DATES AND INFORMATION
August 4       Annual Mini-Conference, Jackson
Sept. 21      TAFCE Conference Planning, Clarksville
Nov. 8-11     TAFCE Conference, Clarksville

—Due to continuing renovations at the UT Research Center, we have had to move the location of our Annual Mini-Conference. The new venue is at the Carl Perkins Civic Center, 400 S. Highland Ave., Jackson, TN. The registration form is on the website and attached to this newsletter.

—The Western Region donates $300 annually for Line and Design Camp scholarships. Congratulations to the following scholarship winners:
Brooklyn Reeves, Henderson Co.
Abby Bland, Madison Co.
Samantha Hernandez, Madison Co.

The following thank you card was received:

Dear Mrs. Shupe,

I serve on the committee for the Line & Design Camp. I coordinate the sewing project each year.

I am so thankful to the FCE Clubs that provide the scholarships for this camp. Even though we have a moderately priced camp, this provides for students that would otherwise miss the opportunity!

Please thank ALL of your members!

Sincerely,

Janet Newton

“One glance at a book and you hear the voice of another person, perhaps someone dead for 1,000 years. To read is to voyage through time.”  —Carl Sagan

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Vice President for Programs, Pamela Carroll
-County 1st and 2nd place entries in each category in Creative Writing should be sent to me by July 1.
-Nomination forms for those running for the regional positions of President-Elect, Vice President for Programs and Secretary should be to me by July 1.

Vice President for Public Policy, Linda Capra
-There are 3 returning and 3 new participants signed up to attend the next FCL class which is August 25-26 in Lebanon. Western Region can send 6, so if you are interested, please send your application to me; it is first come, first serve.

Treasurer, Jann Vanderlinden
-Remember to send dues for new members to me when they are collected. My current address is 155 Frazier Cemetery Rd, Dickson, TN 37055.

Education Chairs—Cultural Arts, Debbie Schmidt, Carolyn Simpson
-The list of county 1st and 2nd place winners in each category should be sent to Debbie by July 1. Please make sure the official state entry tag remains on each item that is brought to the regional competition, along with the regional entry tag that will be sent to each county upon receipt of the winners’ list. Regional entry tags will be sent to the person who sends the list. These regional tags should be securely attached to each item prior to the day of mini-conference.

Education Chairs—Fashion Revue, Lila Pollock, Jerry Seamans
-Information forms for 1st and 2nd place entries in each category should be sent from the county to Lila by July 1. To save time, participants are asked to wear the outfit to mini-conference, and then they can change after judging. Participants need to be in line by 8:45.

Conference Coordinator, Patty Mayhall
-Planning meetings have gone well and committees are shaping up. Thanks to all those who have volunteered and who have already spent many hours getting ready for a great conference. Please remember we need nice quality items for our gift shop, and these may be brought to mini-conference or the September planning meeting for pick up.
Our special project this year will be the Wounded Warriors Project. We will be asking members to bring a non-glass container filled with goodies. These will be sold for $5. Cash donations will also be accepted. More info will follow.

Please sign up to help as a hostess! Committee chairs may be sending letters or emails requesting help; please pass these along to your fellow members.

Our next planning meeting will be September 21, at Smith-Trahern Mansion, Clarksville, following the WR Board meeting. Lunch will be provided by Montgomery County FCE, so please RSVP to me by September 14 by emailing ptmayhall@yahoo.com or by calling 731-549-7947 (please leave a message).

“We must strive for literacy and education that teach us to never quit questioning and probing at the assumptions of the day.”
—Bryant McGill

COUNTY NEWS

Humphreys County
Humphreys County will host its Fall FCE Day and Auction on October 12, 11:00 a.m., at the Blue Creek Ag Center at the fairgrounds in Waverly. The auction raises money for our scholarship program. This event is open to everyone. For more information, contact Emma Shupe at 931-296-1308, cell 931-209-0256.

Weakley County
On May 19th, FCE member Brenda Winstead held a “Paper Embroidery” workshop at the Dresden Farm Bureau.

Brenda demonstrated an embroidered outline from a basic pattern on cardstock that the participants used to create personalized greeting cards.

“All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been, it is lying as in magic preservation in the pages of books.”
—Thomas Carlyle
“Another Stitch”
Western Region Annual Mini-Conference
August 4, 2015
Carl Perkins Civic Center, 400 S. Highland Ave., Jackson, TN

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

BASKET SILENT AUCTION:
Each county should provide a basket with a minimum value of $50 for the basket auction, or a check for $50, made payable to TAFCE-WR.
Money raised this year goes to the Hospitality Room for the 2015 TAFCE Conference.

REGISTRATION FORM:
A registration form can be found attached with the July newsletter and on the UT-WR website.

PROGRAM:
Morning session:
Basket Silent Auction—on-going through Fashion Revue. Bid high & bid often!
Welcome
Annual Business Meeting
Literacy Program: Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation, A Partnership with Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library
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
Closing
TAFCE WESTERN REGION ANNUAL MINI-CONFERENCE

"Another Stitch"

Tuesday, AUGUST 4, 2015
Carl Perkins Civic Center, 400 S. Highland Ave., Jackson, TN

8:30-9:15 Registration, Enter Cultural Arts & Fashion Revue, Refreshments, Enter Baskets for Basket Auction (Cultural Arts & Fashion Revue entries must be in line by 9:15 to be accepted.)

9:30 Morning Session Begins:
Welcome, Business Meeting, Basket Auction begins, Morning Program
~Business Meeting Voting Delegates need to be in their county seat by 9:25

~Basket Auction will begin at 9:30 and continue through the Afternoon Session Break. Each county is expected to bring a basket with a value of at least $50, or a check for $50, with proceeds going to TAFCE Conference Hospitality Room.

~Morning Program—Governor's Books from Birth, A Partnership with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

11:00-12:00 Lunch, View Cultural Arts

12:15 Afternoon Session Begins:
Fashion Revue, Cultural Arts Winners, Creative Writing Winners, CVU Recognitions, Basket Auction Winners, Announcements, Closing, Door Prizes

Registration is $14.00—
This includes a Buffet Lunch by Charleston Catering from Brownsville, TN.

Mail your Registration and check, made payable to TAFCE Western Region, to:
Jann Vanderlinden, 155 Frazier Cemetery Road, Dickson, TN 37055
If you have any questions, please contact Jann at 615-446-7383, <posysketch237@hotmail.com>

Name
Phone__________________________________ County________________________________

Please send one check per county, if possible, and a printed list, including phone numbers, of members attending. Checks should be made payable to TAFCE Western Region.
—Fees are transferable but not refundable.

Registration is due by July 17, 2015.