A Note from your President……

As I write this, the leaves are changing colors here in upper East Tennessee. They have started to fall, bringing on the leaf-raking season. Time to clean up gardens and yards and begin preparations to go to Chattanooga for the State Conference November 2-5. Also time to make changes in our lives so we will live healthier and be happier. (My mother always said that you make your own happiness.)

Your State Board met in Lebanon August 25-26 and conducted lots of business, followed by the second FCL class of the year. Haven’t taken an FCL class? Consider signing up for the 2015 sessions in April and August. You can become an FCL Leader and teach classes in your community and club. See your regional president for how to do it.

Unfortunately, we have had two state officers resign due to family health. Gloria Fisher, State Secretary, and Delinia Storr, State President-Elect, resigned. Emily Gordon of Lewisburg has been appointed by the State Board as Secretary and has been busy getting the voting delegate packets out to the county presidents for the business session on Tuesday morning at the Annual Conference.

Your State By-Laws Committee (VP for Public Policy Donna Elliott, Chair and the three Region Presidents) have proposed a change in the length of officer terms. They felt that the experience gained would better serve our organization with three (3) year terms. The order of president rotation would remain the same, the election of officers would be spread out. Please look over the Proposed By-Laws change on Page 6 carefully and consider it. If passed, a President-elect and a Vice President for Public Policy would be elected this year and the present Treasurer and President would serve another year. I took this to a former state conference parliamentarian to review and was assured that it would pass Robert’s Rules of Order.

Cont’d on Page 2

DATE TO REMEMBER

Remember these are “State” deadlines, NOT Region or County

Oct. 1  Voting Delegate Credentials due
Oct. 1  Conference Registration due
Oct. 1  Fashion Revue winners to State
Oct. 1  Cultural Arts winners to State
Nov. 1  All Membership Dues to State
Nov. 2-5  TAFCE Annual Conference in Chattanooga at the Marriott
Nov. 4  Voting Delegates’ Business Meeting @ 8:00 a.m.
"Each One Reach One" is the theme for the membership drive now underway!

The TAFCE State Board is asking each FCE County Council that would like to participate, to refund a current member's dues for 2015 if they recruit three (3) new members (never been in FCE before) by November 1, 2014. Your regional president should be sending a flyer and instructions soon. Send your results along with pictures of your activities, articles, displays, etc. to Ann Luther by December 31, 2014. Outstanding ideas used will be highlighted each year.

Our membership numbers climbed to 4,623 as of August 15: Eastern 1,460, Central 2,049, Western 1,114.

Our Statement of Accounts is: $62,782.50.
—Checking $26,850.73
—FCL Checking $7,447.20
—Two CDs $28,484.57

...Ann Luther

TAFCE Connection
September 2014 Issue
Page 2

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAMS

TAFCE State Project Reports have been compiled and the summary will be presented at the Annual TAFCE Conference in Chattanooga in November.

Cindy Summers’ nomination form has been received and reviewed for the position of President-Elect and is included in the voting delegate packets for review before election at the Annual Conference.

The position of Vice President for Public Policy is also open and nominations can be made from the floor at the Annual Conference.

...Phyllis Narus

VICE PRESIDENT FOR PUBLIC POLICY

“Best of the Best” Region winners have been submitted for judging.

Certified Volunteer Units—the response this year has been fantastic! Wait until you hear our totals at the Annual Conference.

County Vice Presidents—PLEASE be sure to PRINT or TYPE the names so we can be sure of the spelling on the Certificates. It will make things so much easier for the Region and State VPs as well as the State Secretary who prepares the Certificates and Seals.

FCL was great! We have a class of 14 graduating. Also there are 3 getting their 60-hour recognition.

...Donna Elliott

SECRETARY

Here are the highlights of the August 25-26 TAFCE Board meeting held in Lebanon:

- President Mary Lou Burch presented a letter of resignation from Gloria Fisher as TAFCE Secretary.
- The passing of Betty McFarland, 2014 State Heart of FCE winner, was acknowledged.
- Delinia Storr, President-Elect gave an overview of the 2014 NAFCE Conference in Tucson, AZ. She later withdrew her name as President-Elect citing health reasons. Western Region is asked to provide a replacement for this office.
- Ferne Baxter, Eastern Region President, announced the 33rd Annual TAFCE Conference November 2-5 in Chattanooga and is looking forward to an exciting time.
- A proposed By-Laws change concerning officer terms and elections is being recommended by the Board. A copy of this proposal is in the voting delegate packets.
- The Board voted on the 2015 TAFCE Conference theme deeming Montgomery County’s entry the winner...“FCE You on the Cumberland”.

...Emily Gordon

TREASURER

As you begin planning for the coming FCE year, do make a decision to become more active and invite others to join FCE. We can only be strong as we grow, just like the beans (and weeds) in your garden this summer and the begonias and geraniums on your windowsills this winter. Call me if I can help you or answer questions. The voice mail will pick up; leave a message and I will return your call.

See you in Chattanooga!

Mary Lou Burch
TAFCE President

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...Ann Luther
**EASTERN REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR**

**Fashion Revue**—The TAFCE Annual Conference will soon be here and we are all eagerly anticipating another successful Fashion Revue. Our 3 regions are putting finishing touches on regional revues and winners from each of the 11 categories will be heading to Chattanooga. All winners are strongly encouraged to attend the State Conference since you must be present to win! We hope to see everyone there.

**50-Year Members**—22 new 50-Year members will be honored at the State Conference this year. We are eagerly looking forward to meeting all of our new 50-Year members. See you there November 2-5, 2014.

......Gloria Holcomb, Chair

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**WESTERN REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR**

Our TAFCE 2014-15 Scholarship winner, Ashley McEnderfer, is beginning a new semester at Columbia State. She sends her “Thank-you and sincere gratitude” for supporting her as she achieves her educational dreams. Ashley plans to attend the TAFCE Annual Conference in November and looks forward to meeting TAFCE’s wonderful members.

A BIG “Thank You” to all Regional Vice Presidents for Programs for promptly expediting their Creative Writing winners. The entries are currently with the judges! Best of luck to ALL our talented entrants!

The next step is the compilation of the winners into our great annual TAFCE Creative Writing publication. This little $5 book is full of stories, poems and ideas and offers multiple uses. I have an ongoing reservation “list” for those who want to make sure they get one of the limited editions.

......Mary Sue Young, Chair

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**CENTRAL REGION EDUCATIONAL CHAIR**

Another year of exciting happenings in FCE has almost come and gone. We are nearing Annual Conference time. Counties have had their Cultural Arts events and Regions are finishing up with their competitions.

As of this writing, I have received a list of winners from Western Region. Central Region had their competition September 11 and Eastern Region will hold their competition at their Fall Conference on September 29. A list of Region winners is due to me by October 1 or as soon as possible thereafter.

I look forward to seeing many of you bringing in your lovely entries in November in Chattanooga. We truly have some very talented people in FCE!

......Mary Sue Young, Chair
Region Spring Conference was held at the 4-H Camp in Greeneville May 20-22. Kay Baker, VP for Programs, chose “May Day” as the theme for a wonderful fun-filled Camp. Flowers, period dresses and a May Pole were just some of the highlights on Wednesday. Forgot to ask if anyone knew that one of our counties boasts Royalty? The “Queen” was from Sevier County!

Mosheim Boy Scout Troop #99 performed a flag retirement ceremony at the fire circle and invited members to join with them helping to burn old, worn out flags. This was a solemn ceremony and gave members time to consider the importance of our flag to our nation today and in past years.

September 29 is the date for our Region Fall Conference in Knoxville. We will have our Cultural Arts and Fashion Revue events along with a wonderful luncheon followed by entertainment by The Bristol Seniors. This show choir consisting of 50 members will sing, dance and do comedy routines, with several costume changes during their program. They have entertained in several cities in various states in addition to their hometown of Bristol.

Justin Crowe from UT is scheduled to speak at Fall Conference as well. He will be presenting “The Christmas Child Program” that may become one of our TAFCE State Projects in the future.

Our Region is in charge of arrangements for the TAFCE Annual Conference this year and there are more details in the “2014 Conference Report” section of this Newsletter on page 5.

...Ferne Baxter, President

We have been busy during 2014 and looking forward to an exciting 2015. We have donated $25,345 in money in addition to participating in many different service projects and 4-H activities. This is in addition to many other projects that did not have a dollar amount listed.

FCE is involved in many 4-H activities, like sewing and cooking classes in the summer. We teach craft and learning classes to our members and others in our community, plus being involved in many different community activities.

One county collected 847 new and used books for a community library. Another made 500 pillow case dresses for a school in Africa. One made 223 book bags and 217 book marks for a Summer Reading program. Many helped needy students with graduation expenses and donated school supplies to students. Another taught home-schooled students how to make pillow case dresses for children in Haiti.

Over 46 pillows have been made for cancer patients, 40 double-pocket chair bags for kindergarten students, 40 layettes for new mothers, and many caps for cancer patients and children.

Care packages for service personnel and children in Afghanistan have been sent.

Stuffed animals and books have been made or collected for children of abuse or “meth” lab homes that have been removed by the local sheriff’s department or children in emergency rooms.

Items for Food Banks, humane society, after-school programs, magazines and quilts have been collected and distributed in many counties. One club sponsors “A Fun Day at the Park” each year before school starts.

Many other projects are being accomplished by Central Region that are not listed here because of space issues.

If you’d like information about any of the projects being done, let me know. Keep up the good work, Central Region!

...Betty Jo Haskell, President
The TAFCE Western Region Annual Mini-Conference was held on August 5 at the UT Research Center in Jackson with 178 in attendance. The theme “Another Stitch in Time” continued the stitching together of FCE programs. This year, the State Project area of Education was stitched in with the area of Community Action, continued from last year.

Approximately 67,000 (56 lbs.) pull tabs have been collected and donated to the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Memphis.

Guest speaker, Polly Brasher, Education Director for Discovery Park of America, gave a presentation about the Park, explaining the different educational opportunities the Park provides.

The Region Cultural Arts competition had 264 items entered and there were 36 entries in the Fashion Revue event. Forty-two Creative Writing entries were received from 10 counties.

Four theme boards were entered for the 2015 TAFCE Conference Theme Contest with the top 3 brought to the August State Board meeting.

A new membership drive was initiated and Dr. Brookins, WR Program Leader, was presented a facsimile check representing $2,933,500, the value of the 132,500 CVU hours reported.

At the January 2015 Leadership-In-Action meeting, each county in the Region will be asked to share a display board of the Education projects done for 2014. Next year’s Mini-Conference will stitch in the State Projects area of Literacy.

The stitching theme centers on “The FCE Quilt” introduced last year. FCE is like a quilt, composed of many fabrics, threads and layers. It covers FCE members in research-based information, love for community and the warmth of friendship.

The 2014 TAFCE Conference is rapidly approaching!

**REMEMBER THAT ELECTION DAY IS DURING OUR CONFERENCE SO VOTE EARLY and come to Chattanooga.**

We have been working almost non-stop since last year’s Conference and are still working on various smaller tasks at this point.

The Conference packet is posted on the tafce.org website but all Voting Delegates should have packets that were mailed to them.

We have added extra rooms at the Marriott on Sunday night as the initial 30 sold out quickly! What a nice problem to have!

Please look over the Packet and make your reservations. Remember our Conference room rates will be honored pre- and post-Conference based on availability.

See you at the Conference!

....Phyllis Forsythe
Conference Coordinator

Western Region will host the 2015 TAFCE Annual Conference in Clarksville at the Riverview Inn. Planning sessions will begin soon.

Patty Mayhall is the Conference Coordinator and has already started working on the tours, speakers and classes.

The theme will be....

“fCe You on the Cumberland”
Your State By-Laws Committee, consisting of the VP of Public Policy (Chair) and the three Regional Presidents, have proposed a change in the current By-Laws regarding the election of officers. It is felt that a 3-year term would be more effective for our organization than the present 2-year term. For most of the positions, the first year is a learning experience and the second year the officer becomes proficient performing the duties required. Just when one feels confident doing a good job, the term is over. Experience is the key to being effective.

Our National officers serve 3-year terms as well as many other states.

Please read the proposed change carefully and be prepared to discuss and vote on it at the November Annual Conference during the Business Meeting on Tuesday morning. It has been reviewed by a parliamentarian. If you have any questions, please call or email me. Thank you.

Mary Lou Burch, TAFCE President  865.767.3312

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<th><strong>Current</strong></th>
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<td><strong>OFFICERS, ELECTIONS AND DUTIES</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Section II. Election</strong></td>
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<td>A. The election and installation of President, Vice President for Public Policy and Treasurer shall be at the annual meeting in the even years. These officers will assume their duties on January 1st following their election and installation.</td>
<td>A. The election of the Treasurer and installation of the President shall be at the annual meeting every three years, starting 2015. These officers shall assume their duties on January 1 following their election and installation.</td>
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<td>B. The election for the President-elect, Vice President for Programs and Secretary shall be at the annual meeting in the odd years. These officers will assume their duties on January 1st following their election and installation.</td>
<td>B. The election and installation of the Vice President for Programs and Secretary shall be at the annual meeting every three years, starting 2016. These officers shall assume their duties on January 1 following their election and installation.</td>
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<td>C. The President-elect shall be elected following a rotation plan. The office of the President-elect of TAFCE will rotate by regions beginning with the Eastern in 2006, followed by Western and Central Regions, and continue in this rotation plan.</td>
<td>C. The election and installation of the Vice President for Public Policy and President-elect shall be at the annual meeting every three years, starting 2014. These officers shall assume their duties on January 1 following their election and installation.</td>
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<td>Other Officers will not rotate. All officers will serve a two (2) year term until their successors are elected and installed, with the exception of the president-elect who will serve a one (1) year term. In the event that a region cannot provide a candidate for President-elect, the next region in rotation would become eligible to furnish a candidate for this office. The deadline for an eligible region to relinquish the office of President-elect shall be January 1st of the election year. In the event a region has more than one (1) candidate for President-elect, each candidate will be submitted to the TAFCE nominating committee.</td>
<td>D. The President-elect shall be elected following a rotation plan beginning with Western in 2014, Central in 2017 and Eastern in 2020, and continue in this rotation plan. All officers will serve a three-year term until their successors are elected and installed, with the exception of the President-elect who will serve a one-year term. In the event that a region cannot provide a candidate for President-elect, the next region in rotation would become eligible to furnish a candidate for this office. The deadline for an eligible region to relinquish the office of President-elect shall be January 1 of the election year. In the event a region has more than one candidate for President-elect, each candidate will be submitted to the TAFCE nominating committee.</td>
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<td>D. No officer may be elected to the same office for a second term consecutively. A candidate shall have completed any term of office by January 1st of the year following election at State FCE Conference.</td>
<td>E. (Subsequent letter changes for reminder)</td>
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2014 marks my 14th year as the TAFCE state advisor. I have seen the organization, and in particular the Board of Directors, grow in its leadership through challenging and changing times. With declining membership, changes in Extension agent roles, and the advent of technology, your organization’s Boards of Directors have diligently and enthusiastically committed themselves to keeping TAFCE a vibrant organization.

One of the biggest challenges has been the adoption of technology. Now, with board members using email, communication has greatly improved. The TAFCE website has also helped with the management of state forms. But, there’s still a lot of room to expand through technology.

By the first of 2015, TAFCE will roll out a new website. While it will still house forms and basic TAFCE information, the goal is to make it much more interactive and enjoyable. The objectives of the website is to not only be a place where members can go for information and forms, but a place for members to share experiences, and also to market TAFCE to new potential members. In order to do this, we will need pictures -- action pictures. We don’t want people standing and looking at the camera, we want people learning, teaching, serving, and most of all having fun. Send your pictures to your Region President and she can forward them to me.

In addition to a new look for the web site (the tafce.org web address will not change), the board has also expressed interest in using other types of social media. One of the 2015 TAFCE leader lessons will be on social media. This lesson will cover Facebook (from a club perspective) to Twitter. You will learn how to post and how to tweet. This will be such a fun way to share your TAFCE experiences with fellow club members and a way to attract new members.

So, 2015 looks like it will be another exciting year for TAFCE. Don’t forget to start taking action pictures and send them to your Region President. (Make sure people in the photos agree to the pictures being posted on the internet!)

It’s my pleasure to serve you,

..........Martha Keel
Professor and State FCE Advisor
Family and Consumer Sciences
UT Extension