

# TAFCE WESTERN REGION

## NEWSLETTER

### WINTER 2024

*Dear FCE Friends,  
It's been a while since I've done the region newsletter, but at the request of our region president, Pam Albaro, I have agreed to do it. To make it interesting, I need your help! Please send me information to share about projects and events from your club and county...Grow FCE through Your Leadership by Sharing!*

*The region also needs your help in hosting the 2024 TAFCE Conference this November, and the prep work is going on now! Please join one or more of the committees that are working to create a wonderful conference experience...Grow FCE through Your Leadership by Assisting!*

*The region just held a successful Leadership-In-Action, and hopes to have a great Mini-Conference in August. Please help make it great by entering your wonderful Cultural Arts, Fashion Revue, and Creative Writing items in your county competitions, and join the fun at Mini-Conference...Grow FCE through Your Leadership by Participating!*

*Thanks for all you do for FCE!  
Emma Shupe, TAFCE-WR Parliamentarian*

*"Before you become a leader, success is all about growing yourself. After you become a leader, success is about growing others."  
~Jack Welch*

## **2024 FOCUS**

### **Growing FCE through Leadership**

## **DATES**

<b>March 14</b>	Conference Planning, 1:00 Jackson
<b>May 14</b>	Conference Planning, 1:00 Jackson
<b>August 6</b>	Mini-Conference, Jackson
<b>Sept. 10</b>	Conference Planning, 1:00 Jackson
<b>Nov. 10-13</b>	TAFCE Conference, Paris Landing

*"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development."  
~John C. Maxwell*

## **REPORTS**

### **Dr. Lynn Brookins, FCS Program Leader**

Western Region has received the Methodist Le Bonheur Community Outreach Grant which was awarded to six counties: McNairy, Lake, Henderson, Madison, Weakley, and Hardin. This is a three year grant focusing on improved access to

services for at-risk children, youth, and adults for chronic diseases, including diabetes and obesity.

Crockett, Haywood, Decatur, and Henderson Counties hosted their first kickoff event for the CDC High Obesity Grant. This grant will focus on developing a plan for food security, accessibility to safe environments, and health related programs throughout the county. Focus groups will be established to determine needs and implementation efforts throughout these counties.

New staff:

-Alexis Dixon, Lauderdale County, TSU SNAP Agent; program focus is SNAP audiences, teaching nutrition, wellbeing, and stretching food dollars

-Kalli Parr, Dyer County; program focus is SNAP audiences, teaching nutrition, wellbeing, and stretching food dollars

-Samara White, Montgomery County, TSU FCS Agent

-Jackie French, Lauderdale County, will start March 1. She is a traditional FCS Agent working in all program areas and providing leadership to FCE members.

### **Leadership-In-Action**

TAFCE—Western Region had Leadership-In-Action on January 11 at the UT Research Center, Jackson, with 76 people attending. Leadership was the focus, with group breakout sessions lead by board members, followed by training on important FCE forms and programs.



### **Mini-Conference**

The TAFCE—WR Annual Mini-Conference will be August 6, at the UT Research Center, Jackson. Please plan to attend for important information during the business meeting, along with the regional Cultural Arts, Fashion Revue, and Creative Writing competitions, and other announcements.

*"Leadership is a continuous learning process, and great leaders are always seeking to improve and grow."*

*~Lolly Daskal*

## **WR Board**

Your Western Region Board works hard throughout the year, attending meetings, coordinating and submitting reports and forms, and organizing and leading events, but once a year, the board members meet just for fun. Members met on December 7<sup>th</sup> at Paris Landing for lunch and Christmas shenanigans!



Pictured above are TAFCE—WR Board members Agent Advisor Tamera Adjei, Janie Jones, Amy Wall, Susie Rodgers, Maria Howard, Patty Mayhall, Emma Shupe, Pennye Mays, Pamela Albaro, Lee Bittinger, Betty Bequette, TAFCE President Esther Button, Beverly Guinn, and Region Program Leader Dr. Lynn Brookins.

## **2024 TAFCE Conference: Lee Bittinger, Conference Coordinator**

Western Region is hosting the 2024 TAFCE Conference November 10-13 at Paris Landing State Park, and we need help from every member in Western Region, from helping with one or more of the conference committees to donating nice quality handmade items to the gift shop. We held our first conference planning session on September 18, 2023, at Paris Landing. The next session will be March 14<sup>th</sup> at the UT Research Center, Jackson. If you would like to participate, please attend the next planning session and/or contact me at [lee4mk@gmail.com](mailto:lee4mk@gmail.com).



## **Treasurer, Amy Wall**

Whenever you get a new member, please send dues and information to me at:

Amy Wall

3837 Blue Richard Road

Union City, TN 38261

TAFCE dues will increase to \$5 in 2025. Region dues will remain at \$2.

## **Fashion Revue, Janie Jones**

Western Region FCE had a very successful competition in Fashion Revue at the 2023 TAFCE Conference in Kingsport. From Obion County, Alice Fennel placed first in Categories 9, 10, and 15, and second in Category 11. Nadine Killion, also from Obion County, placed first in Category 14 and second in Categories 1 and 12. Barbara Beeman, Montgomery County, placed second in Category 16, while Elenora Mallory, Montgomery County, placed second in Category 6. Kathy Hulley, Decatur County, was first in Category 2, and first place in Category 8 was Zena Swendiman, Dickson County.

Fashion Revue for 2024 does have some changes. The apron category is divided into two categories. Embellished Aprons is new, and the aprons in this category may be purchased then embellished. Aprons Constructed is a separate category in 2024. The personal data sheet has been revised and should be easier to complete. It is most important that the data sheet accompany the Fashion Revue Winner Entry Form. Both forms from each county should be sent to Janie Jones by July 1 for Mini-Conference competition August 6.

It is not too early to be checking the categories to see which ones you want to enter. If you do place first or second in your county and are unable to attend, be sure to send in your item with someone from your county who is attending.

*"Leadership is not about you; it's about investing in the growth of others."*

*~Ken Blanchard*

*"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing you think you cannot do."*

*~Eleanor Roosevelt*

*"I can give you a six-word formula for success: Think things through; then follow through."*

*~Edward Rickenbacker*

*"Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality."*

*~Warren Bennis*



## COUNTY NEWS

### DICKSON COUNTY

One of Dickson County's FCE projects is a toy drive. Toys are donated to the Help Center which operates a store for underprivileged families.



Pictured above are Janie Jones, Jann Vanderlinden, Anita Richardson, Judy Sloan, Zena Swendiman, Brenda Petty, Lea Elola, Sunnye McKeel, Nancy Brady-Hill, Alice Poole, Ronnie Turner, Ann Luther, and Glenda Booker.

### HOUSTON COUNTY

Esther Button, Carol Zurawski, Melinda Conwell, and Annette Cole (pictured below) attended the 2023 TAFCE Conference in Kingsport. Bryant Wilson, Carol Zurawski, and Patsy Adams won ribbons in Cultural Arts at the state conference.



### HUMPHREYS COUNTY

Sarah Wade, Debbie Timbs, Patty Hudson, Denise Salonga, Emma Shupe, and Sandy Browning (pictured below) attended the Northeast Regional Multi-County Cluster Training, hosted by Carroll County FCE, on January 26 in McKenzie.



In memory of one of their own, **Friendship FCE** created the Judy Hughes Teaching Scholarship for an educator at Waverly Elementary School, with the money to be used for books or classroom supplies. Judy was a member of Friendship Club since moving to Waverly over 53 years ago, and taught at WES for 38 years until her retirement. Friendship awarded the 2023 scholarship to Cortney Buchanan.



Pictured presenting the \$100 check to Cortney are Friendship members Karen Werfel, Linda Miles, and Emma Shupe.



Another project that **Friendship FCE** does every year is filling shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. At the November meeting, members filled 17 shoeboxes, part of the 11,330,326 shoeboxes that were packed and donated worldwide in 2023! Pictured are members Patty Hudson, Sandy Browning, Karen Werfel, Linda Miles, and Crystal Collier.



### IS YOUR COUNTY NOT HERE?

Then nothing was shared! Please share your county projects, photos, and good news for our next newsletter due out in April!! Send county info to Emma Shupe at [esshupe@yahoo.com](mailto:esshupe@yahoo.com) by March 26.

*"There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders, and continually develops them." ~John C. Maxwell*

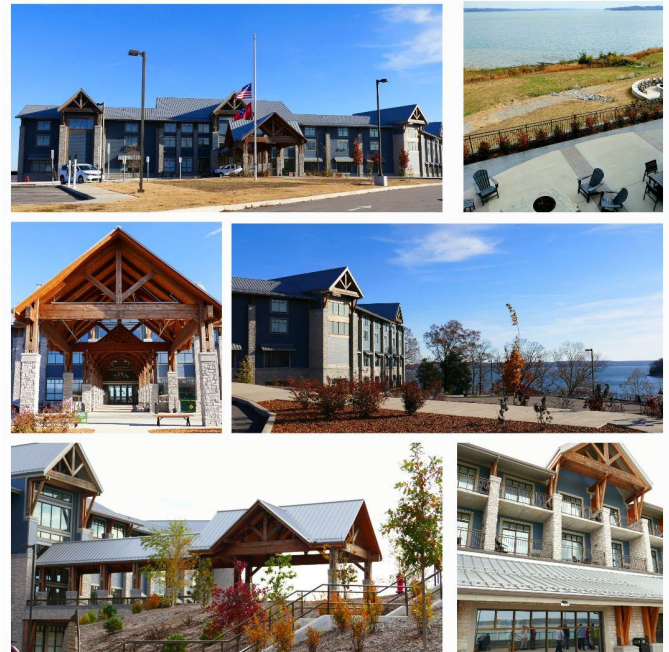
*"The growth and development of people is the highest calling of leadership." ~Harvey S. Firestone*

FCE is in partnership with the University of Tennessee Extension. Membership is open to all interested persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

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FCE Goal: To educate

FCE Mission: To strengthen communities by improving the quality of life of individuals and families through continuing education, leadership development, and community service

FCE Vision: To empower members to be the leaders in meeting the needs of our ever changing and diverse society



The Lodge at Paris Landing State Park is going to be a wonderful venue for our 2024 TAFCE Conference!

