



TAFCE Central Region Newsletter

JULY 2023
VOLUME 6 NO. 3

LESSONS LEARNED ALONG THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD



"If I ever go looking for my heart's desire again, I won't look any further than my own backyard; because if it isn't there, I never really lost it to begin with!
Dorothy -
Wizard of Oz
by Frank L. Baum

I love to travel! I have always enjoyed seeing new places and meeting new people. I love the adventure of seeking out new locations to camp or stay for an extended visit.

I was the middle child with two brothers, one older, one younger until I was 12 years old. Daddy and Momma would take us for a vacation every year to the Smoky Mountains. To keep us occupied while traveling by car, Momma would ask questions like what do you want to do when you grow up and move away from home? My older brother would say, "I'm going to join the Army and be a soldier." My younger brother said he was not going to grow up and move away from home. I thought very hard about what she had asked: I told everyone I wanted to live in different places. I would get a job wherever I went, like a waitress or a cook, (that seemed like some jobs I could easily do) and work until I had enough money to go somewhere else and live awhile and then just keep moving around and seeing the world. I always knew I could come home because home was wherever my parents were. Over the years, I certainly have lived in a lot of different places but, now, I have found my heart's desire in my own backyard. After nearly 40 years of living elsewhere I returned to my roots in Tennessee and this is where home is to me, with my husband, my children, and grandchildren. Lesson learned!

We focus a great deal on our homes in FCE and the things we learn and the experiences we have with others enhance and enrich our lives. I appreciate the sharing and the lifting up of our neighbors in the good times and the bad times. Leadership retreat 2023 was one of those experiences and what a great time we had. I hope you had the same experience and will plan on attending next year and bring a friend. We will keep working on improving retreat for all and your feedback is so important. Thanks to everyone who took the time to turn in your evaluation. Your board and chair are listening. Make your plans to attend the Central Region Annual Meeting, September 14, 2023 at the UT Sports Institute as we continue down the Yellow Brick Road.

Wishing you a great summer! There's no place like home in FCE.

Peggy Richmond, President Central Region



Have Heart Volunteer

IMPORTANT DATES

- Aug 3-6
NAFCE Conference -
Erlanger, Kentucky
- Aug 15
Registration & Credential
Forms Due to Region for
Central Region Annual
Meeting
- Aug 29-30
FCL Training Lebanon TN
- Sept 1
Character Counts
CITIZENSHIP
- Sept 13
Central Region Executive
Board Meeting UT Space
Institute, Arnold Air Force Base
- Sept 14
Follow the Yellow Brick Road
to Central Region Annual
Meeting, 10 am, UT Space
Institute, Arnold Air Force Base
- Oct 1
TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE
REGISTRATION DUE
- Oct 8-14
National FCE Week

TAFCE, Central Region



TAFCE Mission Statement:



To strengthen the home and community by improving the quality of life of individuals and families through continuing education, leadership development, and community service.



Value Honesty Kindness

LEADERSHIP RETREAT RECAP

Follow the Yellow Brick Road



CHARACTER TRAIT- FAIRNESS



Fairness is a strength within the Justice virtue. Those strong in fairness, believe that all people have value, and they are likely to approach situations with an objective and unbiased mindset and treat everyone with respect.

Fairness is a commonly used word to describe how people should behave in relation to one another. It's generally something used by people who have less than they feel like they deserve. But everyone has a different definition of fairness. For some people, fairness is matter equality. Everyone gets treated the same. For others, fairness is about being treated better. They believe things are fair if they are treated well. But it's obvious that's not really the truth. Some believe it's a legal definition. If something is illegal, it is fair to punish the person committing the act. But legal terms don't take feelings and needs into consideration.

So, what is fairness? The Rules Fairness is like a contract or a deal that people make with each about how to behave. The best way to decide what is fair is to sit down beforehand and talk about what to expect from each other. In a classroom, the teacher expects good behavior, respect, and understanding from the students. The students, in turn, expect patience, care, knowledge, and protection from the teacher. This behavior expectation becomes the basis for the behavior required in any location. Breaking the deal is unfair. "Sharing is Caring" We've all heard the importance of learning to share. Everyone gets a try at the new video game. Everyone gets some food. Everyone gets a cookie and a hug. Valuing people enough to give them their fair share is important to maintain good relationships, honesty, and happiness for all. Sharing isn't just a kindergarten activity to make sure all the kids can play. It's how people of all ages and backgrounds make friends and take care of each other.

Remember that fairness doesn't always mean equality. Sometimes, fairness depends on people's needs.

Myra Fisher, Cultural Arts

Action
Please

2023 TAFCE STATE CONFERENCE



"SPREAD YOUR WINGS WITH FCE" NOVEMBER 12-15

The annual TAFCE State Conference is just around the corner and we would LOVE to SEE YOU THERE!!! Join as we learn about what other clubs across the state are doing for state project, how they are volunteering, attend valuable FCL lessons, see the state wide Cultural Arts and Fashion Review Contest, try some scrumptious foods and laugh with new and old friends! State Conference is a wonderful way to spread your wings, **GET INVOLVED** and learn new things!

This year we'll be in Kingsport Tennessee at the Meadowview Conference Center. Conference Packets will be posted online and available at your club meetings soon. Looking to attend conference in Kingsport but don't want to make the drive alone? Use our Facebook page to set up carpool. Contact Patty Mayhall to see if there is bus availability.

Spread Your Wings
With FCE



41st Annual TAFCE Conference
Nov. 12-15, 2023
Meadowview Conference Center, Kingsport, TN

We cannot wait to learn, love and laugh as we follow the yellow brick road home to FCE and spread our wings at State Conference!

CULTURAL ARTS

All Cultural Arts 1st and 2nd place winners list are due by August 15th to Myra Fisher, 123 Hillwood Drive, Carthage, TN 37030. Please remember to bring/send your 1st and 2nd place county winning entries in cultural arts to our Central Regional meeting on September 14 th in Tullahoma. Please be sure they have the proper tag provided to you by your County UT Extension Agent. Looking forward to seeing lots of wonderful entries this year!

Myra Fisher, Cultural Arts

NATIONAL FCE CONFERENCE AUG 3-6, 2023

"Empowering Volunteer- Celebrating our Past"

The National FCE Conference is just around the corner providing another opportunity to serve in FCE! There will be great general sessions with dynamic speakers, two new Hearth Fire lessons/workshops, two new FCL Training workshops, new ideas from other attendees, some fun entertainment and of course, time to renew old acquaintances and make new friends as you attend!

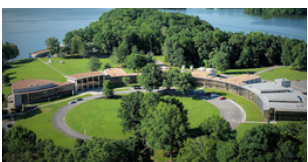
For those registered by 6/30 please bring Feminine Hygiene items for a women's shelter as our annual service project. Not a FAFCE member? Ask your club President about FCL Training!

CENTRAL REGION ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday September 14
University of Tennessee
Space Institute
411 B H Goethert Pkwy,
Tullahoma, TN 37388

Get ready to join us at the UT Space Institute/Arnold Air Force Base on September 14 for our Annual Meeting! UTSI is a beautiful facility with lots of space for our Cultural Arts and Fashion Revue. A delicious lunch buffet style will be served in the campus cafeteria. We anticipate a lot of recognition and fun and encourage optional dress up in your favorite character from the Wizard of Oz, our theme, **"There's No Place like Home in FCE"**. Look for further details in your email or online by August 1. **\$20 Registration fee due Aug 15.** Don't be late, register with your local club/county treasurer now! Forms are located on website or with your county Treasurer.

Please bring a Women's Blessing Bag for the Homeless Shelter for service project!



WE HAVE A NEW LOCATION

GET INVOLVED!

- Aug 3-6
NAFCE Conference
- Aug 15
Registration Due Central
Region Annual Meeting
- Sept 14
Central Region Annual
Meeting, UT Space
Institute,



TAFCE, Central Region

Current TAFCE, Central
Region Membership:
1296 members!!!



2023 FCE LEADERSHIP RETREAT RECAP

BUILDING LEADERSHIP CHARACTER TRAITS AND BUILDING MEMBERSHIP

THANK YOU for *GETTING INVOLVED* and *joining us through your participation and leadership!* We had so much fun at Leadership Retreat this year! Thank you to Carolyn Binkley and her dedication, the planning committee and the many FCS agents who worked to put this together to make it a great success.

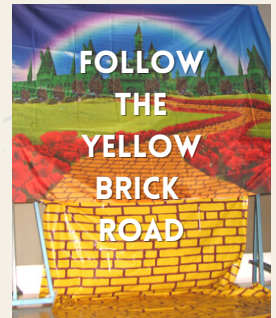
Thank you to our wonderful instructors and speakers (university and creamery) who encouraged our creativity and connection with our food, land and community, so that we are able to bring home individual, club and county FCE principles of Leadership and Education.



DEFINING GOALS: NO PLACE LIKE HOME

Dorothy's Goal: "There's no place like home"

- Clarity of purpose: I want to go home
- Commitment and the power of repetition:
Tell everyone about your goal
Driving commitment requires repetition
- Authentically engage your audience in the adventure
- Take the time to understand your members' goals –
What's in it for me?



COUNTY SPOTLIGHT ARTICLES

On June 22, Williamson County FCE held their annual county-wide event -- Cultural Arts and Fashion Revue Day, with sixty members and guests in attendance. "There is no place like Home in FCE" was the theme.

The service project was Williamson County Homeless Alliance, with the Rev. Dr. Kevin Riggs and Dr. Teresa Burns speakers. FCE members and guests donated 15 hours and \$2,519.38 in items and cash.

The Heart of FCE winner, Best of the Best winner, and reading awards were announced. A new recognition for Williamson County FCE was presented to 13 FCE members who achieved 25 years or more of membership. One member, Betty Hughes, received a special recognition for being an FCE member for sixty years! Rebecca Pullen won Best of Show and Viewer's Choice Award for her Twelve Days of Christmas quilt.

MEMBER APPRECIATION

Lewisburg FCE made 32 thumbprint bookmarks for our Meals on Wheels recipients! June 22



Did you get snapped at our last event? Check out the photos below and also our social media to see if you were snapped!



MEMBERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

BUILDING LEADERSHIP CHARACTER TRAITS AND BUILDING MEMBERSHIP



I grew up in the southern suburbs of Chicago. I was a Girl Scout in grade school. I met my husband while working at a ceramic shop, we married in 1991 and moved to Tennessee in 1999 as he was ready to come back home. I retired after working in a jacket factory for a few years and working at Hammers Dept Store for about 10 years. I became a widow in 2017.

I became a FCE member in Winchester, TN in 2007. I have held positions as a secretary, an Environmental Leader and a Global Leader and joined our county council as Vice President, later becoming President. I graduated from FCL Leadership Training in 2021 and have co-taught FCL Leadership Lessons at Retreat and State Conference.

I enjoy quilting, crocheting and actively volunteering with church activities, helping shut-ins, and with our local 4H activities and Annual Farm City Day.

I look forward to serving as the Chair for Fashion Revue as it will be a great opportunity to work with Central Region FCE club members.

Barbara Brackett, Chair for Fashion Revue

RAK: Random Acts of Kindness

Carthage FCE Club, Smith County, continues with our Central Region Theme, Wizard of Oz, with our entry in our local County Fair on the River hay bale decorating contest.

Each member had an assignment to do, make Dorothy's dress, create a sign, make our lion's eyes, make our lion's mane, and we needed a scarecrow, tin man and, of course, toto in a basket. Finally, we needed it all to come together for judging day. Members volunteered to paint the lion's face and assemble his face and place all the other characters together. Happily, we are proud to announce we took first place which is a check for \$50.00. We have been participating in this event for several years now and this is our second win.

Thank you to all our great members, who continue to support FCE!



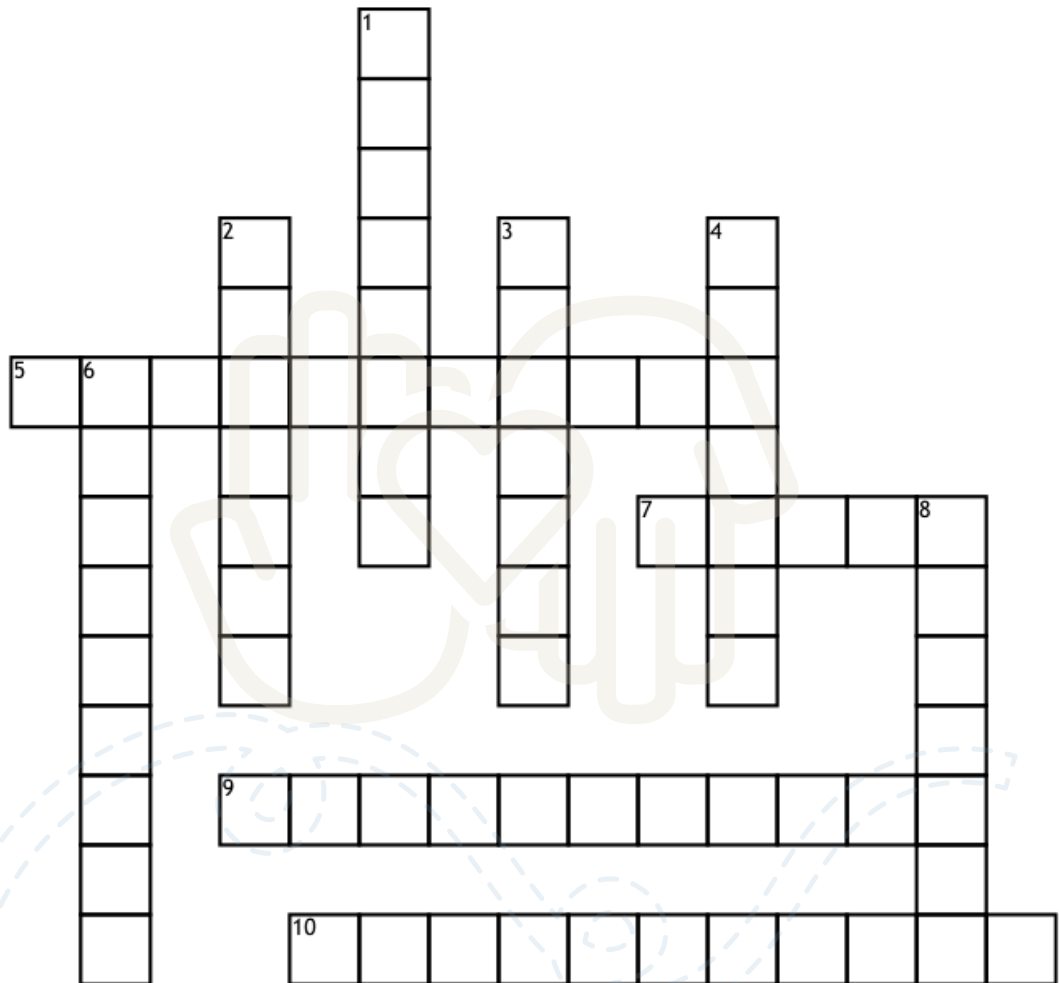


WORD BANK

- RESPECT
- JUSTICE
- CITIZENSHIP
- SUPPORT
- HONOR
- FAIRNESS
- ABILITY
- RESPONSIBLE
- OPPORTUNITY
- INTEGRITY



Fairness



KNOWLEDGE *Heart* COURAGE

Across

- 5. Caring for you school, community, and country.
- 7. Recognizing someone for doing things well.
- 9. Doing what you know you should do.
- 10. Being allowed to show what you can do.

Down

- 1. To treat others in a just and equal way.
- 2. What a person is able to do.
- 3. Making sure everyone gets treated in a fair way.
- 4. Helping someone do things well.
- 6. To do what you are supposed to do, even when no one sees you.
- 8. Treating others the way you want to be treated.





Central Region Board 2023-2024



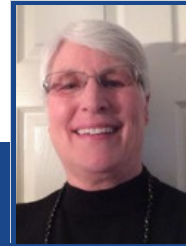
Peggy Richmond
President
Grundy County



Mary Alice Weber
President Advisor
Williamson County



Louis Armstrong
VP for Programs
Bedford County



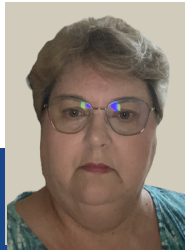
Pam Sites
VP Public Policy
Rutherford County



Wendy Drumm
Secretary
Smith County



Patty Priest
Treasurer
Franklin County



Myra Fisher
Cultural Arts
Smith County



Barbara Brackett
Fashion Review
Franklin County



Carolyn Binkley
Leadership Retreat
Wilson County



Jennifer Thompson
Membership Chairperson
Grundy County



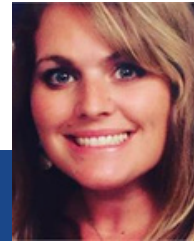
Venus Hoover
Communications
Chairperson
Williamson County



Regina McCathern
2025 Conference
Coordinator
Wilson County



Shelly Barnes
UT Agent Advisor
Wilson County



Jennifer Banks
UT Agent Advisor
Grundy County



Mary Draper
UT Agent Advisor
Smith County



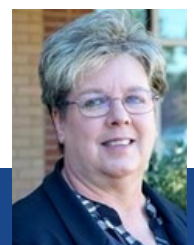
Myra Walker
UT Agent Advisor
Giles County



Mary Beth Henley
UT Agent Advisor
Franklin County



Carla Bush
UT Central Region
Program Leader



Brenda Hannah
UT Agent Advisor
Moore County



THANK YOU



This newsletter is for YOU! Please submit information for county recognition, ideas for spotlight, pictures, etc. Please send info to tafcecr@gmail.com with "fce newsletter" in the subject area.