

THE TEEA MESSENGER

VOLUME 1

FEBRUARY 2015

TEEA MESSENGER
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Julia Moseley, State President

THE CROW AND THE PITCHER

I was reading one of Aesop's Fable about a crow who was half-dead from thirst when he found a pitcher with a little water, but his head could not reach far enough. He tried and tried to no avail, but an idea came to him, and he took a pebble and dropped it into the pitcher. Then he took another pebble and another, and so on until the water level rose high enough to quench his thirst.

There are many people around us who are thirsting in one way or another. The pebbles we need to drop are kind words, encouragements, compliments, motivation—maybe an invitation to be a part of our club. I guess I'm one of those persons who needs encouragement. I had planned to join TEEA in September after I retired, but no one asked me until May. Several were my friends, and they thought I'd come if I wanted to come, but you see I was waiting for an invitation. I needed those pebbles.

And . . . if you need an invitation, I'm inviting you to the 88th Annual State Conference at the Waco Convention Center on September 15-16, 2015. We have tried to fix a few problem area, but we will follow nearly the same schedule

as last year. This is an overview: Registration - Tuesday morning, Early Bird Workshops – Tuesday morning, Alumnae Luncheon - Tuesday at noon, Open Session - Tuesday afternoon, District Parties – Tuesday night, Election - early Wednesday morning, Business meeting - Wednesday morning, Lunch and Learn – noon Wednesday, Delegate Education and Member Optional Workshops – Wednesday afternoon, and the Banquet – Wednesday night. In the next Messenger, we will give you information about the workshops. They aren't all nailed down, but I do know there are some about quilting.



THIS IS THE INFORMATION ON THE HOTELS.

The Hilton Waco has a covered walkway adjoining the Convention Center on the southeast. It is at 113 S. University Park Dr. Phone: 254-754-8484 for reservations. Group rates exclusive of taxes.

Room Rates	Single Occupancy	Double Occupancy
King	\$121.00	\$121.00
Queen/Queen	\$125.00	\$125.00

The Courtyard by Marriott is just across the street to the northwest at 101 Washington Ave. Phone: 254-752-8686 for reservations. Group rates exclusive of taxes.

Room Rates	Single Occupancy	Double Occupancy
King	\$119.00	\$119.00
Queen/Queen	\$125.00	\$125.00
Triple	\$125.00	\$125.00
Quad	\$125.00	\$125.00

Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes, currently at 13%.

I can hardly believe that four months of my term are over. It has certainly passed quickly. I've really enjoyed every minute. I was surprised about the number of members who I have met over the phone, emails, and texts. I really want everyone to get in touch, if you need my help please contact me by telephone—817-220-7759, cell—817-366-7432, email—moseley67@verizon.net, mail—503 Alleson Road, Springtown, TX 76082.

♥ Julia with an open heart
Julia Moseley, TEEA StatePresident 2014 -2016

TEEA TIDBITS

Millie Barrow, 1st Vice President of Leadership

Hello everyone. I hope the holidays were good and fun for everyone. I don't know about you, but I ate till I could hardly move. I'm sure you have been there when you feel like someone needs to roll you away from the table!!! I tried some new recipes, some are keepers and some hit the trash!! Love those holidays.

Wishing everyone a good 2015, good health, wealth and much happiness. 2015 will be an exciting time for TEEA - the State Conference in Waco will be one of our best. Julia, our TEEA President has been working hard to make it one of the best. The facilities are so good, covered walkway from the host hotel to the convention center. No getting in cars to travel. Hotel is clean with good service. Food will be available this year at the convention center for purchasing - and it is good - we tried it. Great place to eat breakfast and economical. More information on the State Conference in another part of the Messenger and from your District Directors.

REMINDERS:

- Each District, each Association, each Club MUST file their 990N e-postcard for 2014 by May 15, 2015. Go to page 5-31 or 6-51 for a refresher on instructions on filing. Always know your District Director and all TEEA Executive Officers are available if you need us.
- Manual changes have been made and ready for you to review and print. Teea.tamu.edu is the website.
- Support your Club by attending and participating in the meetings. Each District will be having their Annual District Spring Conference within the next couple of months. Please support your District by attending and again, by participating. County Chairs are reminded to send the County Cultural Arts Winners (pages 6-36 and 6-37) to your District Director 30 days prior to your District Cultural Arts Contest (usually at your Spring Conference).
- Some of us get excited

- about our Retreats, (I do) as they are full of fun, information, games and fellowship. A time to "let your hair down" and enjoy one another.
- Regarding our scholarships, please review them and use them.
- We have the 4-H Scholarship \$1000.00 - record books and application due to the County AgriLife Extension Office by February 15; Alumnae Scholarship \$500.00 applications due to Grace Glaze, Alumnae Committee Chair by April 1; Adult Career Scholarship \$500.00, nominations due to your District Director by March 1, the District Directors will bring the name and appropriate paperwork of the District nominee to the Board Spring Meeting for the scholarship committee

Always remember, I am here if you need me.

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STATE PROGRAMS

By Nyanza Price 2nd Vice President for Programs

Winter is about over and I hope everyone is ready for spring. Many of you have started planting gardens and preparing yards with the hope of bountiful harvests this spring and summer. I have enjoyed the first months of my tenure. I have made the site visit with the board in Waco and I have been in contact with the Education Chairs.

Our Education chairs are busily preparing for their programs for the state conference. I am sure you will find their topics very informative and interesting.

Looking forward to seeing all of you in September.

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"In spite of the cost of living, it's still popular."

~ Kathleen Norris

GREETINGS, TEEA MEMBERS

By Kaylene Layton State Secretary

Fall Board meeting, Thanksgiving, Christmas, a New Year and it is already February! There is an old saying that goes, "My, how time flies when you are having fun." I guess we must all be having a ball, because it seems that there is just not enough time in the day to accomplish all that needs to be done.

I seem to be always behind on one project or the other, going somewhere to the doctor with my husband, babysitting with my great-grandchildren, or traveling to the Fort Worth Stock Show to watch my son-in-law show his cattle. Between the coming and going, I try to maintain some sort of semblance of order to my house, work 4 hours at my job as church secretary and continue to learn how to be a good secretary for State TEEA. I am afraid that some things suffer as time just seems to get away.

I know that I am no different from most of you with all that you have to do, so I will just say, "hang in there." I know that with God's grace and help and a little bit of perseverance, we will finally get it all done.

In the meantime, please bear with me as I plod along. If there is anything that I can do for you as members of TEEA (or otherwise) please let me know.

God's blessings on each of you. I look forward to seeing you in Waco in September.

Great friends aren't born, they are made, one great memory at a time.

\$\$\$\$ MONEY TALKS \$\$\$\$

Kay Jacob State Treasurer kjacob1954@gmail.com

Hello Ladies and Gentlemen. I hope everyone had a GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON with family and friends and a WONDERFUL beginning to the New Year. I did because I had the opportunity to visit my kids and grandkids in Guatemala. We were able to visit their schools and see volcanoes in the mountains and then to the coast to do a little fishing. It was a wonderful trip and it was amazing how time flies and it was time to come home again.

2015 promises to be an eventful year for TEEA...community work...obtaining new members...and meeting new friends. Through January 31, 2015, we have 2,733 members of which 226 are new members. Congratulations to the clubs with new members and a BIG WELCOME to our new members. Last year we had 2,970 members and we have lost 340 members due to loss of life, age, or other activities.

This year the filing of the Club's, County's, and District's 990's have been turned back over to your treasurers to file. Remember they are due by May 15th so please get these done as soon as possible. If you should have any problems, please feel free to contact me so we can resolve them in a timely manner.

I have another company that is making donations to our organization! I know that a lot of us shop on the internet using AMAZON. They sent me a form and we are now signed up with AMAZON SMILE. This means that we will receive 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products. The website link is <http://smile.amazon.com> and search for our organization before you purchase anything. You can find it under TEEA or Texas Extension Education Association. Once you have chosen TEEA all your purchases will add 0.5% to our donations. Isn't that GREAT!!!!!!

We are planning a wonderful State Conference in Waco. The host districts are already hard at work too. So I am really looking forward to seeing everyone there!!

4-H NEWS

By Violet Alexander

A BIG THANKS to you all for your continued support of all the Texas 4-H programs, whether it be in your county, district or state wide. Please report your time and money given to all these programs. That is the only way, I can continue to let the 4-H Foundation know how important TEEA really is to 4-H. In judging the grants that the 4-H Foundation awards quarterly, I have noticed that different county EEA groups have been mentioned as supporters of materials and money for different programs. Remember "Coins for Friendship" as the money goes to the 4-H Conference Center at Brownwood.

The new sofas and chairs in the Leadership Lodges common area that your donations bought are so nice. They were able to get them at a discount so that allowed money to buy all new lamps for the rooms. That really spruced them up. This is the building that the TEEA board uses twice a year for meetings. So these new items helps keep the Lodge making money. This year's "Coins" money will go towards much needed flooring in the meeting area and the remaining toward the "Mission Possible" summer camp. As you recall, this is the camp that they team a special kid with a 4-H mentor. The 4-Her Hannah who entertained us from San Antonio told us about this amazing camp at our 2013 San Marcos State Conference.

I have just returned from the 4-H Foundation Meeting in College Station. It was a very productive and heart-warming gathering of caring individuals working together to raise funds for all the 4-H Programs in Texas. The Foundation is in good hands with Sarah Hamm as

Executive Director. Her staff is consists of a group of hard working and dedicated ladies. Dr. Doug Steele and Dr. Chris Boleman are working to raise the funds to get the 4-H Center at Brownwood in good shape.

This quarter, 13—\$750.00 grants were awarded for: Hatching in the Classroom which will purchase 3 Electronic Thermostat Circulated Air Picture Window Hovabator Incubators. 4 for sewing machines so they can learn to sew clothes, make quilts for the community project, and redesign outfits for the new "DUDS TO DAZZLE" contest. Shooting Sports, Robotics, Outdoor Camps, JMG Gardening with Learn, Grow, Eat and Go. One will buy digital cameras so the 4-Hers can take pictures of their gardening projects growing and enter their photos in the photography contest.

The new scholarship changes in dates and the electronic way of submitting the information has worked very well this semester so everyone is happy with that process. The interviews will be held again at Austin in May. Roundup is June 8-11, 2015 in College Station. New contests and events are being added this year. Money is funded for all the great contests and events. Scholarships will be awarded nightly before the evening contest results ceremony, instead of one long day as has been in the past. Our 12 TEEA district scholarships will be presented on Wednesday evening by TEEA President Julia Moseley.

Thanks again for all your contributions to Texas 4-H "To Make The Best Better".

ALUMNAE NEWS

Grace Glaze Chairman

The Alumnae award scholarships each year to young adults between the ages of 19 and 24 at the time of application. The applicant must be a former 4-H member or the son/daughter or grandson/granddaughter of a current TEEA member. The applicant must remain a full-time student. Six \$500.00 scholarships were awarded in 2014.

Applications are available from County Association Chairs, District Directors, and the Chair of the Alumnae Committee. A copy of the application is located on pages 12-19 and 12-20 on the TEEA website in the manual. (teea@tamu.edu) Click on forms scroll down to Alumnae Young Adult scholarship application. They are due April 1, one copy to Alumnae Chair, Grace Glaze and one copy to State President, Julia Mosely; addresses are on the application. Each County Chair has a copy of the manual.

Please encourage youth who meet the guidelines to apply for the scholarships. Funds for the scholarships are raised from the Silent Auction at the state conference, donations, and from memorials. Anyone may contribute to this scholarship fund. Please start planning on your donations for the auction now. If you would like to honor someone with a memorial please send it to me—Grace Glaze 2835 CR 385 El Campo, TX 77437

Alumnae let me hear from you so I may share the updates with the members. Have a wonderful year. Hope to see each of at the state conference.

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"Being happy does not always need a reason.

Just be happy."

by Prince Willis --- Kenya

EATING WHAT YOU GROW

By Cathy Hanzik,

District 9 TEEA Education Chair

Research has been done that more people including children are interested in growing their own food, but then they don't know how to cook what they have grown. For me, I grew up eating green beans cooked to mush which is how Grandma and Mama taught me how to cook green beans. Now research has shown that cooking vegetables this long destroys the valuable nutrients and vitamins contained in the vegetables that are beneficial for our bodies.

My educational workshop will be about preparing freshly grown food so that it is giving our bodies the maximum nutrients and vitamins that will be most beneficial for our bodies. The information will be research based explaining why and how to get the most nutritional value from fresh fruits and vegetables by preparing and cooking them properly. I hope that what you learn from this workshop, you will be able to take back to your community and share the information so that all will be able to eat healthy and stay healthy. My goal is to have the workshop designed so that everyone from children to adults learns how to properly eat what they grow to give them the most of the valuable nutrients and vitamins.

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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

By Connie Troxell

District 5 Education Chair

- 1) Where to go in case of emergency, whether it is a flood, tornado, chemical, etc.
- 2) Survival kit – what you need for you, your family and/or your pets and for how many days (3 – 72 hours).
- 3) Necessary documents, as per last year's state program and hidden cash.
- 4) Contact numbers
- 5) Medications, doctors, special needs for you, your family and/or your pets.

ATTENTION: NEWS FROM TEEA ADVISORS

Dr. Judith Warren and Dr. Joyce Cavanaugh

New Resources on TEEA Website Support Cultural Arts Judging

As Counties and districts hold their Cultural Arts events in anticipation of the State Conference Cultural Arts Event, a TEEA committee has developed a **Cultural Arts Judging Score Card** from page 6-34 (Chapter 6). This is available on the **Forms** section of the website for easy downloading and copying. There is also a fillable form for entries in that section. Thanks to Ola Culwell, Claudine Hare, Clara Ball and Bess Farr.

New MOA With Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation Streamlines Distribution of TEEA Support For District 4-H Food and Clothing Contests

In May of 2014, the TEEA State Board approved the development of an MOA with the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation to provide for distribution of the \$300 to each District to support the 12 District Food and Clothing Contests. The MOA has been developed, approved by the Executive Board and signed by the TEEA President and the Executive Director of the Texas 4-H Youth Development Foundation. The "indirect fee" was waived for TEEA as an educational partner. A report on the use of these funds in each District will be provided annually at the TEEA State Conference.

D I S T R I C T 1 SOUTHERN COUNTRY CLUB VISITS AMARILLO TV STATION

By Lynda Duncan

The Southern Country EE Club of Randall County toured the Channel 10 television station in Amarillo as their program on October 2. A tour of the facilities was presented by Brent McClure of Channel 10. After a tour of the building, members were invited to watch the 12:00 news live in the studio. Members met the news anchor, Angie Winn, and the weatherman, Mack Morris. Angie gave our club a shout out at the end of her show. She said, "It is nice to have the girls of the Southern Country Club visit the studio." It was a very interesting and informative tour and program. It showed us how the staff handled things when things go wrong, like an electronic board going out so the green screen did not work and Angie's script did not show on her iPad or teleprompter one minute before she was to go on air. Everything worked out and the newscast went on without any more problems.



L to R: Jessie Solomon, Betty Burleson, Ruby Tharp, Mae Hollis, Bonita Christian, Lynda Duncan, Carolyn Sadler, Joella Taylor, Novella Hewett, and Mary Ueckert

OLDHAM COUNTY NEWS

By Mavis Green

The Wildorado EE Club, of Oldham County meets the first Wednesday of the month at the Wildorado Community Center. For over twenty-five years the club has sponsored a two-day Crafts and Gift Bazaar in November. Members of the club prepare stew, chili and desserts to sell for the noon meal. Oldham County and the surrounding communities are very supportive and really turn out for this annual event. It is much like "Old Home Week" when friends drop in for lunch. As part of the event a "Club Quilt" is raffled off. A \$1.00 donation merits a ticket that goes into the hat for the drawing held at the close of the second day.

This year building repairs have prohibited any use of the Community Center so the Wildorado EE Club has been meeting in the fellowship hall of the Palo Duro Baptist Church in Deaf Smith County. The use of the church facilities is deeply appreciated. What does a county line matter between friends?

Several hundred dollars have been raised with the quilt, but until the Wildorado Club can return to the usual fundraising event our funds are limited.

Members of the Wildorado EE Club are: President – Omalene Artho, Vice President – Ruth Cretsingler, Secretary/Treasurer – Margie Moore, Charolyn Gouldy, Mavis Green, Sandy Lamb, Eva McKnight, Michelle Miller, Wanda Ponder, Jacque Pratt, Sharon Scolley, Tino Short and Clara Slutz.

D I S T R I C T 3

GREENWOOD EE CLUB NEWS

By Bobbie Ashley

Greenwood EE Club Pres. Dixie Range with members, Linda Hood, Anna Wattigney and Gerry Gallo-way attended the State Meeting at Wichita Falls.



The Greenwood EE Club Christmas meeting was held at the home of member, Joyce Enis. In lieu of exchanging presents members gave a donation to WAEM.



Pictured are: Janis Jackson, Linda Hood, Roseann Martinez (new member), Carol Schaffer, Joyce Enis, Marilynn Collins, Sandra Hol-loway, Dixie Range, May Haubold, Bobbie Ashley and Fil Martinez.

On November 18 Linda Hood, Bobbie Ashley, and President-Elect Dixie Range attended the District 3 Fall Training at Bowie Here they were able to visit with



Officers for 2015 Greenwood EE Club are Linda Hood—Treasurer, Dixie Range - President, Bobbie Ashley—Vice President, Janice Millican—Secretary.



On November 21, the Greenwood EE Club hosted the 27th annual Greenwood Community lunch. Some 70 attended the potluck luncheon. A business meeting followed and we welcomed Nadine Jackson as a new member.

GEEC sponsors the 17th FALL FESTIVAL the 2nd Saturday of October. Every year, we say it just gets better. And that is what we said this year. This is our one fundraiser for the year. We had over 50 entrees in our parade and some 30 vendors and over 100 door prizes. President, Marilynn Collins made a quilt that was raffled off and this year we had a new raffle; Conoco-Phillips gave us a \$500 Cabela gift card. We made over \$7,000. This money is all spent for our community needs. The Fire Department follows our act with an Annual Bar-B-Que.



Bobbie Ashley won the gift card and is seen here spending it on a pair of binoculars.

TODAY is ours—let's live it
 LOVE is strong—let's give it
 If a song can help—let's sing it
 Peace is priceless—let's keep it
 The past is done—let's forget it
 Our work is here — let's get it
 If the world is wrong—let's right it
 If the road is rough— let's clear it
 If the future is vast —don't fear it
 If faith is asleep— let's wake it
 TODAY is ours—make the most of it
 HAPPINESS ADDS AND
 MUTLIPILES AS WE DIVIDE IT
 WITH OTHERS

A Nielen
 (Shared by Grace Glaze)

GREENWOOD EE CLUB NEWS

By Bobbie Ashley

Some of the fall festival activities



MONTAGUE COUNTY NEWS

By Kathy McPeters

January launched the new year and a busy start for the Bowie and Pleasant Ridge EE Club. Members hosted the Hospitality Booth for the Montague County Youth Fair on January 10. Nine members offered breakfast snacks to the public as they viewed the food, clothing, craft and photography entries and winners. Donations were collected that will be awarded in 4-H scholarships.

The January club meeting drew a large attendance as Justin Haggard, Montague County AgriLife Agent presented an informative program on appropriate plant selection and soil preparation for the perfect landscape project. Members are continuing to collect donations for the Dolores McElmuray Memorial Scholarship Fund which will be awarded this spring to a recipient from a local 4-H club.

SPRINGTOWN EE CLUB HOLDS ANNUAL FUND-RAISER

By Cita Honeycutt

The Springtown Extension Education Club held their annual fund raiser, "Heart of the Home" on February 9, 2015 at the Springtown Senior Center. They served a meal of red beans, rice, cold slaw, and cornbread with numerous deserts, coffee and tea. They had raffle items, silent items and door prizes galore.

The programs for this year were "Memory Pins" presented by Barbara Sampson; Water Color 101 presented by Melinda DiGiovanni; and Sweet Fantasies presented by Margaret Avery, assisted by Julia Moseley. For the gentlemen present there were domino games and friends to visit with. One gentleman participated in the water color project and enjoyed it. A good time was had by all and we are looking forward to next year.



Barbara Sampson demonstrates how to make Memory Pins.



Sample "Memory Pin" members made.



Melinda DiGiovanni demonstrates how to do water colors.



Margaret Avery and Julia Moseley present "Sweet Fantasies".

FRESH APPLE CAKE

By Julia Moseley

Sift together:

- 3 c. flour
- 1½ t. baking soda
- ½ t. nutmeg
- ½ t. cinnamon
- 1 t. salt

Beat together:

- 2 eggs
- 1¼ c. vegetable oil
- 2 c. sugar
- 2 t. vanilla

Add flour mixture to egg mixture and blend.

Fold in:

- 3 c. apples, peeled and diced.
- 1 c. pecans, coarsely chopped

Bake in a 10" stem pan for 1¼ hr. at 350° F., or bake in 2-9x5" loaf pans for 1 hr., or bake in small loaf pans for 45 min.

Cool cake 5 minutes before removing from pan.

DISTRICT 4

HUNT COUNTY EE CLUBS

By Judy Clingan

Hunt County EE Clubs enjoyed their annual Making Memories program on November 1.



Hunt County hosted the District 4 Training meeting on November 21 and it was enjoyed by all who attended.

Our holiday fair was held in December and we enjoyed having our annual cookie and candy exchange. All three EE Clubs had their Christmas parties and luncheons. We contributed to Clothe-A-Child, Women in Need, Salvation Army and homeless for Christmas.

The year ended on a bittersweet note with the retirement of our FCS Agent, Mary Sue Cole seen here receiving well wishes from members.



QUICK CARAMEL CRUNCH

By Violet Alexander

- 15 graham crackers
- 1 cup (2 sticks) butter
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup chopped nuts, (slivered almonds, pecans or walnuts.)

1. Preheat oven to 350° F.
 2. Place graham crackers in a single layer on a rimmed baking sheet.
 3. Melt butter and brown sugar in a saucepan.
 4. Stir in nuts.
 5. Pour mixture over crackers evenly. Bake 10 mins. Let cool. Break into pieces. Makes 30 pieces (if you break them right)
- Per serving: 160 calories, 10g fat, 18mg chol., 2g protein, 18g carbs, 1 g fiber, 120mg sodium

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UPSHUR COUNTY NEWS
By Gwendolyn Jewett



Glenwood Cub
Sandy Coppedge-President
Diana Heller-Treasurer
Nora Davis – Secretary



Southern Belles
Lesa Jackson-President
Annette Johnson-VP
Betty Kather-Treasurer



2014 Christmas Tree @
Upshur County Courthouse
Donated/Decorated by
Glenwood and Southern
Belles

.....
*A true friend
overlooks your
thorns to admire
your flowers.*

January 2015 Annual Chili
Luncheon
Upshur County TEEA



February 2015 - Upshur County -
Glenwood TEEA Members Visit the
Gilmer Care Nursing Home with a
"HAPPY VALENTINES DAY
PARTY"



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PECOS COUNTY NEWS
By Vea Anna Hooker
Happy 2015 to all our TEEA
friends! The last few months of
each year are always busy with
fun and informative meetings
and 2014 was no excep-
tion. The ladies from the Pecos
County TEEA Club of District 6
stayed busy with projects to
benefit the 4 H participants and

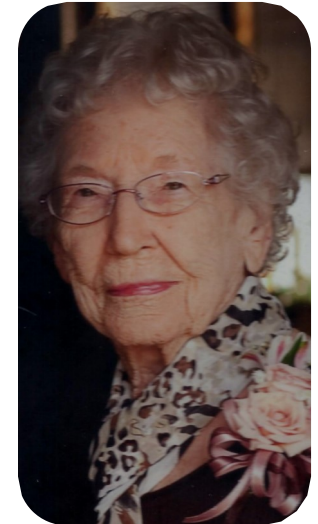
other members of the communi-
ty. The year came to a close with the
Pecos County TEEA Club hosting
our District 6 Fall Meeting. After a fun
gathering activity and breakfast
treats, we paid close attention to the
business meeting and were glad to
get more information on how to keep
our club up to date with all the differ-
ent reports needed throughout the
year. During the lunch break, a
sumptuous buffet was enjoyed by
all. The afternoon session was quick-
ly over and the door prize winners
were thrilled with their gifts. We are all
looking forward to another fun and
busy year.



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*"If I were given the opportunity
to present a gift to the next generation,
it would be the ability for
each individual to learn
to laugh at himself."*
~ Charles M. Schulz

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Burnet County's 103 year old
member has lived through many
trials in her life, but none harder
than outliving her children. She
wrote the following poem in 1973
after losing her 25 year old
daughter. It was published in a
magazine and is now on the in-
ternet at www.poetry.com. She
lost another daughter in 2013.
It is our hope that this will
bring peace and comfort to those
who have lived through similar
losses.

**MAKE ME HAPPY AGAIN
LORD**

by Winnie Lee Felps
I was oh so happy
Not so long ago.
Then my life was changed,
Lord;
I thought you ought to know.
The angels came one early
morn
And took my darling one.
Since then I've tried to think
You knew it should be done.
The reason is unknown to
me,
But surely you knew best.
And though the pain is great,
I think I've stood the test.
Don't let me feel my grief is
worse
Than any of the others,
But somehow Lord the
feeling's there
Because I was her mother.
Let each of us in our own way
Keep happy memories,
And strive each day to live
our best
And have a home with Thee.

COLEMAN COUNTY EEA HAS BUSY FALL

By Dora Newman

Coleman County Extension Education Association (which is made up of the Good Neighbor Club) had many activities during this past October.

Fiesta de la Paloma

The month was off to a big start with the Fiesta de la Paloma. The Exhibits at this event were sponsored by the County AgriLife Extension Service. The Coleman EEA did publicity, set up, and registered entries on Friday October 3. The group was in charge of the judging early October 4 and afterwards assisted with displays of the exhibits in the Bill Franklin Center.

Signing of Proclamation for TEEA Week Oct 5-11

Members of the Coleman CEEA met with the Commissioner's Court for the signing of this proclamation. Publicity was placed in local paper and on courthouse sign.

Attend TEEA District 7 Fall Training Meeting

Members of Good Neighbor Club attended the TEEA District 7 Fall Training in Burnet Friday, October 24. The morning session featured "Duds to Dazzle" an experimental program being tested to become a part of 4-H clothing textiles. Those attending were divided into teams to create wearable and non-wearable items. Each team planned and did its project with available supplies and then modeled its "creation". Balance of the day was spent in training for this year which is just beginning. Those attending were Helen Cross, Dora Newman, Jean Langford, Cassie Shultz, Nina Childress, and Anna Jenkins.

Appreciation Luncheon for Commissioners Court

The Coleman County Extension Education Association had an appreciation luncheon for the Coleman County Commissioners Court on Monday, October 27 in the Fellowship Hall of Coleman First United Methodist Church. Honored were County Judge Joe Watson, Alan Davis Commissioner Precinct 4, Mark Williams Commissioner Precinct 1, Rick Beal Commissioner Precinct 2 (not pictured), Mike Stephenson Commissioner Precinct 3, County Clerk (and Court Secretary) Stacey Mendoza, and Assistant Treasurer Shirley Sansing. Also present were County Extension Agent – FCS Janet Nelson, Nancy Baker – Extension Office Manager, and County Extension Agent – Agriculture/Natural Resources Michael Palmer.



Annual reports were given by Association President Helen Cross, by Good Neighbor President Cassie Shultz, and by both extension agents Michael Palmer and Janet Nelson. Anna Jenkins gave the blessing before the meal.



The Association is made of Good Neighbor Club members. Attending were Helen Cross, Nina Childress, Cassie Shultz, Anna Jenkins, Dora Newman, Dorothy McDonald, and Sherry Anderson.



BURNET COUNTY TEEA MEMBER TURNS 90

Millie Williams, member of the Redbud/Oakalla EE Club recently celebrated her 90th birthday. Club members honored her with a cake and party at their regular meeting. Millie has been a member for 24 years and very active at the club, county, district and state level. She still actively participates in the Cultural Arts and the Burnet County Area Fair and has many ribbons to show her accomplishments.

Congratulations Millie!

REDBUD OAKALLA CLUB GIVES BACK—BURNET COUNTY

By Roxanne Dunegan

During the January meeting of the Redbud Oakalla club, members had an opportunity to give back by listening to a program presented by "Threads of Love" (TOL) charity. TOL is a non-profit organization of volunteers that make various items to improve the quality of life for premature babies and their parents. The TEEA members welcomed Dorothy Clark as their speaker who introduced the charity's work and showed and distributed patterns of sewn, knitted and crocheted items used within the neonatal units of local hospitals. A few members remained after the meeting to try their hands at sewing small 20 x 20 inch quilts that are used to cover the babies as they are placed on the parents, skin to skin. It was an interesting but moving program on how small these babies are and the complications so many of them experience. These items make the many months these babies are in the hospital a bit more cheery with these beautifully made items.



Standing are (l to r) Winnie Felps, Roberta Eacott and Barbara Rieger. Seated at the machine is Amanda Hensley.

HONEY BEES EE CLUB – TAYLOR COUNTY

By Margie Wheeler

The Honey Bees EE Club of South Taylor County has been very busy for the past two years. Some of the programs presented include: "In's & Outs of Credit Reports & Credit Scores" and "Necessary Documents". Other programs included: "Funeral Planning", "Artistic Quilts & Embroidery with slick paint", "Recycle – Green or Not" and "Create a Memory".

Community service projects that had members buzzing around included: Food Baskets at Christmas, the annual Easter Egg Hunt for pre-schoolers, helping with the Lawn Senior Citizens Thanksgiving dinner and assisting with the Town & Country

Women's Fair. Members were also present and working at the District 7 Spring Conference in Abilene and several attended the Summer Retreat at Brownwood.

Volunteer service is also a big thing for members of the Honey Bees. Members help with the West Texas Fair & Rodeo, the Abilene Area Pecan Show, work with 4-H and volunteer at our churches. The Honey Bees had 5 members representing the club at the State Conference in Wichita Falls.

So far 2014 – 2015 has been busy and looks to be busier for the "Busy Bees".

Margie Wheeler, a longtime member of the Honey Bees was recently named Postmaster of the Year by the Texas League of Postmasters in 2014. She worked for the postal service for 21 years at Ovalo, TX and served as postmaster for the last 7½. During her years with the Honey Bees she has served as club and county officer many times. Congratulations Margie!

The Honey Bees lost a long time member, Mary Browning, who passed away in January. She was an active member of the Honey Bees and Taylor County EEA until her health forced her to quit attending. She served as officer many times and was one of our most active members. Her husband, Billy, drove the Honey Bees parade float for homecoming several times and we considered him as an honorary member for his support of our activities. Mary will definitely be missed by all who knew her.

Love is remembering...

- ◆ *To believe that there is no limit to love's endurance,*
- ◆ *No end to its trust,*
- ◆ *No fading of its hope.*
- ◆ *Love can outlast anything;*
- ◆ **LOVE NEVER FAILS.**



TOM GREEN COUNTY NEWS

By Elaine Beeson

Three delegates from Tom Green County proudly represented Tom Green County last September in Wichita Falls. They were Jean Wilde, Ass'n. Chairman, Dolores Gully and Elaine Beeson delegates. They are proudly presenting program workshops and endorsing leadership throughout the county. We have excelled in community service projects such as helping people in need through donating to Soup Kitchen, Project Didnigdad, a private Food Pantry, and various donations toward school around our county. Energy is always abundant in our community to help in any way we can.

We are busy making plans to host the District 7 Spring Conference in April. More about our county activities will be reported in the next issue.

2ND ANNUAL MULTI-COUNTY DINNER TONIGHT DEBUTS

By Lorene Denney

The first of three Multi-County Dinner Tonight Healthy Cooking Schools will be presented in Burnet on February 26, followed by Lampasas on March 26, and San Saba on April 30. Each event will demonstrate different aspects of cooking, according to Linda Wells, Burnet County FCS AgriLife Extension Agent.

"Our demonstration recipes are cost effective, easy to prepare, and fit into a healthy meal plan. Dinner Tonight is designed to help busy families enjoy healthy and delicious meals, and become more active," Wells said.

In cooperation with Scott & White, Walmart and the Texas Beef Council, a food panel will be selected from the audience to sample the demonstrated meals. Samples of additional recipes will be available for tasting by the entire audience. Each participant will receive a copy of the cookbook along with a variety of items from local sponsors and businesses.

DISTRICT 7 FALL TRAINING HELD IN BURNET

By Polly Krenek

Burnet County Extension Education Clubs were the hosts for the October 24, 2014 District 7 Fall Training Conference. Sixty-four members from District 7 were in attendance. The Agri-Life County FCS Agents in attendance was: Linda Sue Wells, Burnet; Kim Miles, Brown; Janet Nelson, Coleman; Debbie Hailey, Jones; Sandy Taylor, Runnels; Milissa Wright, Concho; Karen DeZam, Lampasas; Melody Potter, San Saba; Jennifer Reeves Page, Llano; Labeth Carter, Nolan; Jane Rowan, Taylor and Kathy Aycock from Tom Green.

Lynda French, District 7 Director, opened the conference with the TEEA opening ceremony and a welcome to Burnet County. Lynda introduced Sandy Taylor and Milissa Wright who explained the program "Duds to Dazzle". The members were then divided into groups and given a brown pillow case. Each group was to make clothing, accessories, or a decorating item for the home. Sandy and Milissa provided the pillow cases and an assortment of trimmings which could be used as decorations on their project. The imaginations were running wild. When the allotted time was up a spokesman for each group told what it was used for and how much the item would sell for. The FCS Agents were the judges and after considerable deliberation a winner was picked.

The afternoon session was the training program given by Lynda French. She went over several important items that all the Club Officers and County Association Officers need to know for reporting. Lynda also talked about the importance of each County giving the 2014 -2015 State Required Programs to their members.

Elaine Beeson, Tom Green County Chair, invited everyone to the 2015 Spring Conference on April 9 in San Angelo.

The meeting was adjourned.



FCS Agents: Sandy Taylor, Milissa Wright & Linda Wells.

Good eats and competition in the "Duds to Dazzle".



STATE PROGRAMS PRESENTED IN BURNET

By Polly Krenek

Burnet and Lampasas County Extension Education Clubs met on January 15, at the Highlander Restaurant for Lunch, Learning and Fun. Thirty-three members from Burnet and 10 members from Lampasas were present.

Polly Krenek presented "Diversity: How Does It Make Us See, Hear, Feel, Think And Act". Gwen Risinger, District 10 Director, gave the program "To Toss or Not to Toss" that she presented at state. Roberta Eacott, gave a wonderful program, we all needed, on "Safe Medication Disposal". Lynda French gave the State lunch and learn program "The Magic of

TEEA". Barbara Rieger, our own computer wizard, gave "iPad 101" and "iPad Hands on". Ollie Ann Baker entertained us with a pillow she made from burlap. She got the idea from "Creative Crafts from the Plains" workshop she attended at the State Conference.

This was an open forum format with comments and input for the members which brought all members into the programs. Between the programs we had craft ideas, door prizes, a few stretching exercises, and interesting facts and a few jokes to make the day more fun. We had a great day and are planning on doing this again next year.



Gwen Risinger presents "To Toss or Not to Toss."



Barbara Rieger presents "iPad 101 & iPad Hands on."



Participants listening to the presentations.

LAMPASAS COUNTY NEWS

By Arlene Wingo

Rumley Club's new year is off to a fantastic start. Club attendance has been great with two new members, Cindy Ulrich and Polly Clements, bringing our roll count up to 26 members.

Ten of us attended Burnet County's presentation of THE FOUR STATE PROGRAMS held January 15 at the Highlander Restaurant's conference room. We came away with a feeling of great camaraderie from all the oral participation, as well as new knowledge from the programs which were: Diversity, To Toss or Not to Toss, Safe Medication Disposal and iPad 101. Lynda French, our District 7 Director, also gave an overview of The Magic of TEEA.

The Burnet county-wide Christmas party hosted by Lake Victor on December 11 found ten of our members in attendance. Everyone brought donations for the La Care center. The special music by Mr. Rick Allen was a real treat.

Linda Well's Holiday Brunch was well attended and enjoyed. The cookie exchange was outstanding with each participant giving a story about their cookies. To top it all off was a cookie decorating contest and door prizes for everyone! A large tray of the cookies were later presented to the local firemen.

San Saba's December 5 Pecan Show had four of us participating as judges. It's always a treat (and sometimes a surprise) to get to taste the entries, as well as and come home with wonderful thank you gifts.

A Valentine breakfast was hosted by Fay Mullins and Pat Clepper. Dianna Furlan demonstrated a Valentine craft and our agent and member, Karen DeZarn, presented the state program entitled To Toss or Not to Toss.

Our January Rumley Club program was entitled "Fatal Five" presented By Nancy Van Etten, a certified healthcare practitioner. Her topic centered on five preventable causes of death, especially for those in nursing facilities.

The December luncheon held at Siddonia Umphres beautifully decorated home was different as we did a "Chinese" ornament exchange for entertainment. We also donated food to our local "Mission."

November found us atop a mountain at member Julie Williams' home that had almost a 360 degree view of

the surrounding country side. Joyce Lucas gave a program on ribbon embroidery while showing several examples of clothing and framed art work.

Recent community service projects include helping our extension agent with a "Balanced Living" food presentation at the senior center, and a reading project for children at our newly refurbished local library. This was held February 12 and several of our members provided cookies and punch for the children, while others read stories to them that included props and take home Valentine treats.

Our next meeting will be March 5 with Pat Clepper doing a slide presentation on her recent Canadian trip.



Cookie Exchange at Linda Wells: Pictured – Marilyn Michelli, Karen DeZarn, Arlene Wingo, Pat Clepper and Linda Wells



Christmas Party at Siddonia Umphres: Pictured – Pat Clepper, Vivian Mingus, Diana Fisch, Cynthia Ulrich, Mary Ann Rhodes Rhea



State programs meeting at Highlander: Pictured – Arlene Wingo, Michelle Nowlain, Bobbie Hudson, Shirley Beyer, Diana Fisch, Karen DeZarn, Louise Barefoot, Tessa Ray, Elva Walker, and Ernestine Garcia

DISTRICT 8

BELL COUNTY PRESENTS STATE PROGRAM ON DIVERSITY

By Gayle Pomykal

Bell EEA's Doris Severson is shown presenting the State recommended educational program, "Diversity: How does it make us see, hear, feel, think and act?" Doris presented an eye-opening version of the program with an interesting exercise for each individual in attendance. Doris is a member of Tanglefoot Club and represented Bell County as a delegate to the State Conference in Wichita Falls. All educational programs are presented to the entire BEEA membership, by the delegate traveling to each of the clubs on their designated meeting date. Laurie Veatch, Bell EEA Chairman did an overview of "The Magic of TEEA", which was our Lunch and Learn program at the conference, at BEEA's county wide November Luncheon.



Doris Severson

DISTRICT 8 HOLDS FALL TRAINING

By Michaelene Perry, Reporter
On Tuesday, November 18, 2014, Texas Extension Education Association, Inc. (TEEA) District 8 held their Leadership Training at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Stephenville, TX. Thanks go out to newly installed District 8 Director, Alice Lance, for coordinating an excellent forum for providing excellence in leadership for District 8 TEEA members. It could not have been such a beneficial training day without the help of the host counties: Eastland, Erath and Hood. The purpose of this year's annual meeting was to better inform attendees about the duties of officers

and motivate members to stretch their limits to lead others. Fifty three members from all counties in District 8 attended the function.

Along with outlining the duties of each County Chairperson, Club Presidents, Secretaries, and Treasurers the presentations encourage us to inform members regarding awards, recognition, and scholarships (not only for 4-H students, but for adult members who wish to further their education). One key point brought up by Betty Hubbard was that we are never too old to learn something new. She stated "We do not have to 'go back to college' to improve ourselves. It can be a course in computer software training, or a craft class." A brief motivating talk on writing news articles and making our presence known in the community motivated us to get out and brag about all that we do throughout the state of Texas.

How fortunate we are in District 8 to have two of the state officers from our area present: Millie Barrow, TEEA 1st Vice President for Leadership and Nyanza Price, TEEA 2nd Vice President for Programs. The topic by Millie informed us of the updated regulations to follow on tax exempt policies and procedure for each club. Nyanza, as outgoing District 8 Director, gave the annual and scholarship update reports for District 8.

As outgoing District 8 Secretary Alice Lance, presented a report from the TEEA Board meeting held earlier in November. She also encouraged us to recognize the club members of our area for all the work they do. The barbeque lunch was catered for all attendees. We were dismissed following the conclusion of topics listed above.



District 8 New Officers—L-R: Pat McNeely, Secretary, Alice Lance, Director, Clara Jones, Director-Elect, and Michaelene Perry, District Reporter. Missing is Carol Russell, Treasurer due to family illness)

"We will never have a perfect world, but it's not romantic or naive to work toward a better one."

~ Steven Pinker

TEEA welcomes all interested individuals to join this worthwhile organization. Not only do we help support 4-H students with their activities and provide scholarships for them, but we provide education, fun and activities for our community groups. Please check your local county Texas A&M AgriLife office for clubs in your area.



Leadership Training Speakers—L-R: Back row-Alice Lance, Somervell Co., Mary Lambert, Hood Co., Millie Barrow, Eastland Co., Nyanza Price, Leon Co., Iva Howard, Hill, Co. Front row-Michaelene Perry, Leon Co., Gayle Pompykal, Bell Co., and Betty Hubbard, McLennan Co.

**HERITAGE CLUB/
WILLIAMSON COUNTY**

by Cynthia Davis

Our club is enjoying a new year 2015, leaving behind a good year for all our clubs.. Williamson EEA hosted an Applebee's Pancake Breakfast in October raising money for the Williamson County 4-H Scholarship Fund...Thanks to all the young 4-H volunteers that helped serve, bus tables, and greet our guests...your time was so appreciated.

The Annual Christmas Appreciation Awards Dinner was held at the Wm. County Extension Office in December with some wonderful food, fellowship and a program from a local journalist, Patty Rogers. Heritage outstanding volunteer was Peggy Hergert...congrats Peggy. Those who attended the event brought canned goods that were delivered to the local Food Pantry.

Mary Johnson delivered a state program to our club on "Landscaping for Home Security"...she did an excellent job with handouts for us to take home. We concluded the meeting with a fun project of making candy Christmas trees to take home.

Heritage Club held a Christmas Luncheon in December at Marsha Bruhn's home, and was well attended by our current members and guests, including our Extension Agent Chelsea Stevens and Pam Ward, her administrative assistant. Our club made a donation to The

Georgetown Project, a worthy cause for homeless high school students in our area.

Exhibition Day is in March and we are expecting a good representation of club members to make this one of our best with entries in as many categories as allowed. We have a lot of talented members from great cooks, arts and crafters to 4-H members that want to participate. Always a fun day for all the Extension Ladies/Gentle-men.

Heritage Club is still busy making comfort pillows for the local hospitals a project that we have been involved in for many years along with "First Books for New Babies" that go home with new mothers to promote the love of reading. Our ongoing project for Linus Quilts is one workday we all look forward to...usually during the summer months. We are also gearing up for our Tea Room at the annual local Quilt Show in March...all proceeds go to support the 4-H Scholarship Fund...it is a fun event, but a lot of work, for all involved. Wish us Luck!



Heritage Club Christmas Luncheon: Bottom row left to right: Margaret Roush, Marsha Bruhn, Mary Frances Henry. Second row: Cynthia Davis, Glenda Wilson, Mary Dulaney. Standing: Catherine Long and Agent Chelsea Stevens

**MORNING GLORY EEC DOES
SERVICE PROJECT**

By Ellen Dutkiewicz

Members of the Morning Glory Club of Williamson County, District 8, elected to bake cookies for their December service project. At the December meeting, they were able to fill 17 cookie tins. The cookies were delivered to The Nest in Georgetown, a teen homeless shelter for high school aged students from two local high schools.



**NOONTIME EE CLUB
LEARN NEW
TECHNOLOGY**

By Charlotte Watson

The AARP Mentor Up 4-H Tech Wizards met with Noontime EE Club at their November meeting. Shown are the Noontime members and 4-H'ers holding their electronic devices on which they were learning new ways to use them. These 4-Hers also presented this educational program at the 2014 TEEA State Meeting. It was a fun learning experience for everyone. Noontime members were all excited about learning new applications, and the 4-H'ers were very glad to share their knowledge. Thanks, Tech Wizards!



EEC members and Tech Wizards.

**NOONTIME CLUB HOLDS
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS
LUNCHEON & SILENT
AUCTION**

By Charlotte Watson

Noontime recently held their annual Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction. It was a beautiful December day, and the ladies who attended loved tasting the delicious lunch prepared by Noontime members. Everyone also loved the bidding for crafts, foods, and creative gift items provided by Noontime members with all proceeds going towards the county 4-H Scholarships and Noontime's monthly community projects. It takes all of the club members working together to make this successful year after year. Oh, how we love to spend the funds benefitting women, children, and families in our community.



**WILLIAMSON-BELL
COUNTIES HOST PECAN
BAKE SHOW**

By Charlotte Watson

The recent Williamson-Bell Counties Pecan Bake Show had 41 entries for this renewed bake show. Charlotte Watson, Noontime EE Club member, holds her Blue-Ribbon Winning entry, Pecan Pie Surprise Bars.



Other Noontime club winners were Mary Johnson, First Place with her Pecan Pie Cobbler, and Mary Lindsey, Third Place with her Church Windows Candy. EE Club members helped with registering entries and with the judging. All the entries were so tasty, and judging was a challenge. All proceeds will go towards the county 4-H Scholarships.

**MCLENNAN EEA HOLDS
ACHIEVEMENT DAY**

By Betty Hubbard, County Chair

The McLennan EE Association met on November 13 for Achievement Day with a Soup and Salad luncheon. Willie Frances Smith from the Progressive Club gave the opening on the Indian Code Talk used during WWII in honor of Veteran's Day. The state program, TEEA Magic, was presented to the members.

The Woman of the Year Award was presented to Jane Guest of the Orchard Lane Club. Certificates were presented to other members for their outstanding service during the year. Items were collected for Child Protective Services.

The Progressive Club raised money by having a "Stay at Home Tea" and also a booth at Christmas In The Country in Lorena on November 29. The ladies in the Woodway Club are planning a Lunch & Learn in Marlin sometime in January or February. On November 8 the Association had a fundraiser breakfast at Applebee's in Waco and raised \$702.



NOONTIME EEC CONDUCTS SERVICE PROGRAMS

By Charlotte Watson



Noontime members sampling the goodies.

Yum! Yum! Noontime EE Club Members recently donated 70 breakfast bars and snack crackers to the Georgetown Backpack Buddy Program. Food is being sent home on Fridays to all the children on free and reduced lunch in all the elementary schools and three middle schools in Georgetown. These children are at risk for not having food enough to eat at home on the weekends. Teachers report that now children arrive back at school on Monday mornings more alert and ready to learn.



Noontime EE Club members are, L to R, Mary Johnson, Mary Lindsey, Nelda McCain, Charlotte Watson, Peggy Blair, Carol Frymire, and Dedie Johnson.

They are holding some of their recent donation of diapers and wipes for the Annunciation Maternity Home, a residential facility for young single moms in a crisis pregnancy situation. This year's donation included 446 diapers, and 302 wipes. AMH's thank you note said, "It means so much to us that you care and Christ has called you to help support us!"

In January Noontime EE Club donated a total of seventeen pairs of pajamas to The Pajama Program, a national program.

A new pair of pajamas and a new book are delivered in a creatively decorated gift back to children in emergency shelters, many of whom arrive with nothing but the clothes on their backs. Our annual donations are delivered to shelters in Williamson County. It's another way Noontime reaches out to children of all ages throughout our community.

MORTON VALLEY EE CLUB HOLDS CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

By Millie Barrow

The Morton Valley EE Club held their annual Christmas luncheon on Wednesday, December 10 at the home of members Ron and Millie Barrow. Janis Keith and Millie Barrow hosted the luncheon. Food, food, food was the main attraction with members bringing their favorite covered dish to be shared with one and all. Everyone knew the Christmas holidays were here as we had a large bar full of desserts and goodies!! Casserole dishes, potatoes, salads, veggies, fresh black-eyed peas and cornbread rounded out the menu.

Marie Arick and Linda Strobel passed out candy bags with biblical sayings attached, so cute and so welcome by everyone. Cyndee Groce entertained the group with three Christmas songs. She has such a beautiful voice. The singing got the entire group in the Christmas spirit. Thank you Cyndee for sharing your wonderful talent.



Cyndee Groce entertains with her beautiful voice.



Members enjoying entertainment

Members discussed the "Lunch and Learn" program and voted to continue this community educational program. A different educational program will be presented quarterly with a free lunch provided by the EEC members. Look for announcements in the local newspaper and plan on attending.

Those attending were: Marie Arick, Extension Agent, Linda Strobel, Extension Secretary, Guests: Sue Martindale, Ro Williamson, Tina Martin; members from the Sunrise EE Club: Gloria Kojakanian, Ro Watson and Pam Krabill; from the Morton Valley Club: Sue Allsup, Sandy Owen, Cyndee Groce, Sandy Yarbrough, Jackie Martin, Betty Nichols, Marji Lamb, Cheri Clark, Joyanne Hathcock, Janis Keith and Millie Barrow.

The Morton Valley EE Club will be having their annual bake sale fundraiser in the lobby of the Eastland Courthouse on Friday, December 19 starting at 9:30 a.m. We are hoping to have some sugar free goodies for sale.

PECAN PIE COMPETITION

Morton Valley Extension Education Club wishes to thank everyone that participated in the pecan pie competition. We had fourteen entries, all looked so good and we considered them all winners. The pie competition was held in conjunction with the Pecan Show. We are hoping for a great crop of pecans next year so we can make this competition an annual event. Flo Williamson and Don Loe were the pie judges, thanks for helping us.

The winner of the "Youth" category was Abby Weaver. The winner of both the "Extension" category and the "Open" category was Cyndee Groce. Congratulations to both of you. Listed below are Cyndee's prize winning recipes.

BLUE RIBBON PECAN PIE

- 1 cup light corn syrup
 - ¾ cup granulated sugar
 - ¼ cup packed light brown sugar
 - 2 T. unsalted butter, melted and cooled
 - 2 t. vanilla extract
 - ½ t. kosher salt
 - 3 eggs, lightly beaten
 - 1 ¼ cups roughly chopped pecans, plus 1/2 cup pecan halves
 - 1 9" unbaked pie shell
- Heat oven to 350°. Whisk corn syrup, sugars, butter, vanilla, salt, and eggs in a bowl; fold in chopped pecans. Distribute filling evenly over dough; arrange pecan halves decoratively around the inside edge of the pie crust. Bake until crust is golden brown and filling is set, about 1 hour. Let cool completely before serving.

TEXAS PECAN PIE

- 1 9" unbaked pie shell
 - 1 ¼ cups roughly chopped pecans
 - 1 cup plus 1 T. light corn syrup
 - 3 eggs, lightly beaten
 - ½ cup plus 1 T. granulated sugar
 - ½ t. vanilla extract
- Pinch of salt
Cover bottom of unbaked pie shell with pecans, set aside. Heat oven to 350°. In small bowl beat corn syrup, eggs, sugar, vanilla, and salt until well blended. Pour over pecans. Bake 45 to 50 minutes or until knife inserted near the center comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack.



Janis Keith and Millie Barrow representing the Morton Valley EE Club.



Sue Allsup and daughter Sandy Owen were hostesses at Morton Valley's January meeting.

Sue is our oldest (in age) member and rarely misses a meeting. Sandy is a member and lives in Arlington. She comes to our meetings whenever possible and has served as a Delegate many times. Sandy also attends District functions and is always one of the first to offer help in our Club functions and fund raisers. She is a "one of a kind" person and Morton Valley is lucky to have her. She is a loving daughter that is always there for her Mom, her family and EE friends. We love and truly appreciate you Sandy.

MORNING GLORY CLUB, WILLIAMSON COUNTY

By Ellen Dutkiewicz

Members of the 4-H Mentor Up program advised the Morning Glory Club on the use of their cell phones, laptops and Ipads at the January 2015 meeting. The Mentor Up helpers sat with individual members to help them understand specific questions about their devices. It was a very beneficial session for everyone.



At their January 2015 meeting, the Morning Glory Club collected requested items for Hope Alliance, the women's shelter in Williamson County. Donations included new pillows, underwear and socks, gently used sheets and towels, paper and plastic products for the kitchen, feminine hygiene items, and cleaning products.



EXTENSION EDUCATION CLUBS SUPPORT YOUTH

By Charlotte Watson

One of the many ways in which Extension Education Club members in Williamson County support their youth is when they help judge the Annual Youth Fair. This year's Youth Fair saw a huge increase in entries ... all of which were winners whether they took home a ribbon or not. EE Club members who helped judge this year's 270 entries were Sheila Camp, Florence Frost, Rose Taylor, and Charlotte Watson. Selecting the top winners in each category was a huge challenge as there were so many entries in each age group and such outstanding talent was displayed. Way to go, Youth - **Our hope for the future.**

NOONTIME EE CLUB HAS STATE PROGRAMS

By Charlotte Watson

Ellen Dutkiewicz, a delegate to the 2014 TEEA State Conference, recently presented educational programs to Noontime EE Club. Her two programs, both of which were state delegate workshops, included "Safe Disposal of Medications" and "Respect for all/Diversity." She shared good information in an informative manner. Club members learned much on both subjects.



Members of Noontime EE Club recently enjoyed an activity to illustrate their program on "Respect for all/Diversity" led by State Conference Delegate, Ellen Dutkiewicz. Each member "wore" a number on her forehead ... a "2", a "6", or an "A." Ellen explained how we interact with people based on many factors ... a "2" might be when we thought we were better than they were; a "6" when we had a lot in common with them; and an "A" when it was someone we admired or respected and wanted to converse with them to learn more about them. Everyone participated in this entertaining activity, and it drove home the point that we should respect all people no matter who they are or their station in life.



LEON COUNTY HOLDS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY AND 4-H SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

By Donna Barrilleaux, Reporter
December 9, 2014 was one of all 4 EE Clubs (Buffalo, Jewett, Leona/Centerville and Normangee) Fun Filled Days with lots of food, fellowship, silent auction (fundraiser for the 4-H scholarship) and entertainment. This year the event was held at First United Methodist Church in Centerville in their Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. with the Jewett Club bringing

morning snacks, coffee and orange juice with the Leona/Centerville, Normangee and Buffalo Clubs providing the lunch meal with all kinds of pot luck covered dishes (it sure was some good eatin and mighty tasteful... Leon County has some of the best cooks in the State... I go home weighing more than when I came to any/all events we have food)! Members of the County also brought New and Unwrapped toys, cosmetics and gift cards for the not so fortunate children of Leon County (Child Protective Services of Leon County was in charge of the names of the children... these were children up to the age of 16). I know lots of children had a better Christmas because of so many loving and caring hearts from our members. The silent auction was a huge success with club members bringing as many items as they wanted to be auctioned with proceeds going toward our county 4-H scholarships. We had 90 items with a total of \$1,373.50... WOW keeps getting better every year, thanks to our generous members who were present at the Party. For entertainment we were privileged to have Reverend Jim Jackson First United Methodist Church in Normangee to play songs for us on his "Harp and Hammer Dulcimer" (this music was easy on the ears and peaceful on the mind). Appreciation gifts were given to Tuffy Loftin, Leon County - AgriLife Agent and Amanda Trevino, Leon County FCS Agent. Not present was Leon County Office Manager, Lenora Oden (we're never letting her go... she's the best there is). We thank all 3 of these people for the hard work they do to help us in any way needed. A delicious lunch left everyone with warm hearts. Leon County wishes everyone a very Happy and Blessed Easter!



Workshop presenters from across District 8—L to R Front Row -----
- Nyanza Price, Mamie Bell, Shirley Kelton, Amanda Trevino (Leon County FCS Agent), Michaelene Perry



Reverend Jim Jackson and Rhonda Exley

BELL COUNTY NEWS

By Gayle Pomykal

Bell County EEA was represented at Temple Daily Telegram's "Day for Women" by Laurie Veatch, BEEA Chairman, and Kimberly Kennard, Style Show Coordinator. BEEA's booth promoted the 10th annual Luncheon with Style show scheduled for March 14, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Bell County EXPO, as well as generating funds for 4-H Scholarships with a hand quilted Log Cabin quilt that will be given away at the event. Scholarships will be awarded to qualifying 4-H graduating seniors at the event. Betty Thrasher, Temple's leading fashion adviser, will narrate the show of fashions from Cochran, Blair, and Potts of Belton. Additional information and tickets are available at 254-985-2201.



"Cherish every day. Yes, laugh, sing, play and remember to find time to pray. Enjoy the cool breeze or the rays of the sun. Smile and tell someone you love them. Yes, cherish every day before the days pass away."
by Janice Harris --- Florida



FIELD TRIP TO WILLIAMSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES OPERATIONS CENTER

By Ellen Dutkiewicz

On January 28, fifteen EEA members from several clubs toured the new state of the art county Emergency Services Operations Center. All 911 and other emergency calls from residents who live outside city limits, are received and dispatched at this center. The center is set up so it can function as a command post in case disasters such as floods, tornadoes, wildfires or other emergency situations should occur in central Texas. The EEA group was welcomed warmly and received a very thorough tour of the facility.



PORT NECHES EEC

By Claudine Hare

Following a tradition of 13 years, Port Neches EEC members hosted a Christmas luncheon honoring the Fedders' Center clients. Nineteen members were present along with 22 guests. All were provided a meal (prepared by the club members) and The Fedders' Center was given a monetary gift as were the Fedders' clients. The church which provides the club's meeting room was also given a monetary gift. Entertainment was provided by Renella Primeaux and four of her line dancers. By indication, the meal and entertainment were enjoyed by all.



Port Neches B.B. Club members



Renella Primeaux and her line dancers

DISTRICT 9 SOUTHEAST DISTRICT 9 ATTENDS QUILT SHOW

By Diana Marlowe

Members from Booth Thompson TEEA, leased a bus and sold tickets for the International Quilt show on October 30, 2014. Along with us were members of the Kountry Kousins and Pecan Crackers clubs as well as other guests. We left Sugarland in the morning and stayed all day looking at all the beautiful quilts and wishing we were as talented. The trip was relaxing without the driving and parking and the quilts were beautiful.



SNOOK EEA CLUB PLANS TRIP TO LAS VEGAS AND THE GRAND CANYON

June 19 thru June 28, 2015

The Snook Extension Education Association Travel Club invites you to an awesome 9 night/10 day, guided, chartered bus trip to fabulous LAS VEGAS, NEVADA and the magnificent GRAND CANYON. The dates of our trip are Friday, June 19, 2015 thru Sunday, June 28, 2015.

A few highlights of our trip include a visit to the El Paso Museum of History in El Paso, TX. Explore the natural history of the Sonoran Desert at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tuscon, AZ. A two night stay in a Las Vegas Casino Hotel where you can enjoy as much gaming as you please or explore the famous LAS Vegas STRIP and later see an exciting LAS VEGAS SHOW. For those of you who think LAS VEGAS is only for gambling — think again! Get ready for a day of adventure as you explore the "Strip". See the incredible indoor gardens and the spectacular Fountains Show set to music at The Bellagio Hotel. What about the Volcano in front of the Mirage or the spectacular painting on the ceiling at the Venetian Hotel? Have you ever seen a round escalator? Or Animatronic Greek Gods come to life? This display is at the Forum Shops at Caesars which is next to the wonderful Cheesecake Factory! So many exciting things to see and do make for a great day on the "Strip"!

After a fantastic visit to Vegas, we will depart for Laughlin, Nevada where you can give Lady Luck another spin or stroll along the river walk adjacent to the Colorado River. We will spend two nights in Flagstaff, Arizona where we will enjoy a guided tour of the magnificent GRAND CANYON NATIONAL PARK and PAINTED DESERT and see an IMAX GRAND CANYON MOVIE. Then on to the PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK for a 28 mile scenic drive where we will see everything from petrified logs to breathtaking Painted Desert vistas. Experience a piece of the West in Amarillo at the Texas American Quarter Horse Hall of Fame and Museum and enjoy some of the most amazing food with some extra surprises along the way!

The cost is \$1, 287.00 per person (double occupancy). You can make 3 payments of \$429.00 each. First payment must be received by February 15, 2015. Complete payment is due by April 15, 2015. Included in this

fantastic price is the Tip for the Driver, Tip for the Step-On-Guide, Travel Insurance, 8 breakfasts and 14 lunch/dinner meals.

For additional information, request a travel packet or reserve seats on the bus contact: Dennis and Karen Gaas, Tour Guides, (979) 272-8873, or (979) 224-6309 Dennis cell, or (979) 224-6301 Karen cell. Emails are:

karengaas@yahoo.com and djgaas@yahoo.com.

The Snook EEA Travel Club would love to include you, your family and your friends on our amazing trip to LAS VEGAS and the GRAND CANYON!

BRAZORIA COUNTY NEWS

By Brenda Sturman

The Extension Education Association of Brazoria County held the Christmas Luncheon and Awards ceremony on December 8, 2014. Members enjoyed a contest of dressing a snowman. The members were divided into teams. Each team dressed a member as a snowman in tissue and other adomments. A great time was had by all.



The snowman contest was followed by games of Bingo and a lovely lunch catered by Filips Restaurant in Danbury, Texas. Following the lunch, awards were presented to members for their service to the Extension Education Association of Brazoria.



Julia Sikes recognized as Member of the Year.

MONGTOGMERY COUNTY NEWS

By Brenda Helton



Steele Magnolia's Janet Horn, Brenda Helton, Maria Cuellar, and Helen Geraci at a fund raiser with Charlie Riley (Precinct Commissioner) for Senior Center in Magnolia.



Fund Raiser with Town & Country & Steel Magnolia's and 76'ers for Town & Country



Gabriele Norris (of Town & Country) New Citizen of the United States



Steel Magnolia's with Woman of the Year, Kaye Trott from Town & Country



Town & Country members (Gabriele Norris, Susie Rosheger, Melanie Watson, & Myra Kretzschmar) hand quilting a Texas Quilt made by Brenda Helton & Janet Horn from Steel

D I S T R I C T 10

GUADALUPE COUNTY EEA NEWS

By Valerie Posey

Four Guadalupe County Extension Education Association board members and Dr. Charla Bading, FCS agent attended the District 10 Texas Extension Education Association Fall Leadership training November 18 at

Creedmoor Community Center. Beth Frankenburger was introduced as the new District 10 treasurer.



Christmas celebrations were kicked off with an Association luncheon December 3 at El Ranchito Restaurant. Delicious lunch, and sweet fellowship were enjoyed by all. After lunch Christmas tree ornaments exchange game provided many laughs.

The January program will be on Diversity: How Does It Make Us See, Hear, Feel, Think and Act.



GUADALUPE COUNTY EEA WORKS WITH 4-H

By Valerie Posey

Guadalupe County EEA members assembled gifts to present to 4-Hers participating in the food show and food challenge competitions. EEA 4-H chairman, RoseMarie Smalley, and EEA chairman, Alma Rosebrock, Darlene Bohemfalk, Lorine Damerau, Beth Frankenburger, Anne Theiss, and Diane Trice.

Earlier two members of Guadalupe County EEA participated at the Annual Pecan Fest in Guadalupe County. They worked the baked goods entry table and judged the youth en-

tries. They both agreed that the time was well spent and enjoyed every minute.



HAYS COUNTY SAN MARCOS EE CLUB

By Camille Stephenson

Members gathered together to celebrate Christmas, friendship and accomplishments of the year with an incredibly delicious luncheon that was prepared by our members. This festive gathering was held at our home base, "Texas A & M AgriLife Extension Services, 1253 Civic Center Loop, San Marcos, on December 11th, 2014. Music filled the room as our members placed their presents for the "Angel List" under the Christmas tree. Gift items included clothing and cuddly toys. We all hoped the children would love our goodies. Our members thanked our AgriLife leader Laura Petty and helpful staff who simplify life for EEA of San Marcos. A sing-a-long ended our celebration as



CALDWELL COUNTY EEC NEWS

By Kathy McCown



Ester Barney, out-going chair passes the gavel to in-coming chair Mary Briceno at Achievement Day in September 2014. Members also participated in Cultural Arts and Consumer Science and awards were presented. The Caldwell County volunteer of the year was awarded to Shirley Gardner of the Luling EEC and Alma Perez of the Lockhart EEC.

On January 28 representatives from the Calwell County EEA met to sort, repair and prepare books received from HEB for distribution. Deborah Strickler, County Literacy Chair applied to HEB for the books and cited the places delivered to each month by members on a regular basis, plus the county schools and libraries. As a result of this application 785 books were received for distribution.



DISTRICT 10 GILLESPIE COUNTY PILOT KNOB EE CLUB

By Helen Usener

On Friday, October 17, 2014, thirteen Pilot Knob EE Club members and the FCS Agent had a very interesting and informative Fall Tour of the Pioneer Museum Complex and the Vereins Kirche in Fredericksburg. They also enjoyed visiting with each other over lunch at Silver Creek Restaurant.



In November, seven members worked together to tie two pieced quilts. Ellen Reeder was in charge of the project.

At the December 12, Christmas Social member saw the two completed quilts which they donated to two Hill Country Needs Council families. Members also donated food items and other items requested by the families.





Members tying the quilts



MCDADE EE CLUB HAS BUSY FALL

By Kathi Gremillion

The McDade Extension Education Club is currently the only active TEEA club in Bastrop County. We have thirty active members. In November 2014, twenty McDade EE Club members submitted ninety-two entries for the Bastrop County Achievement Fair, winning sixty-six Blue Ribbons, thirteen Grand Champions and sixteen Reserve Champions, with twenty-four of these items being eligible to submit at the District level.

In December, during our annual Christmas Party, we collected donations from our members for the Bastrop County Animal Shelter, the children's hospital and for the nursing home. We have started a tradition of recognizing one of our members who is an example of what Christmas is all about. Cat Dugan was recognized as our first "Christmas Star" She has a giving heart and spirit. She provides much comfort to many people both locally and far away. You know of her willingness and volunteering to help people in need. She unselfishly gives of herself and time. Some of the things she does are volunteering at the McDade and Elgin Food Pantries, visiting residents and organizing our club's Spring and Fall bingo parties at the Elgin Nursing & Rehabilitation Center and making lap quilts and donating items for various projects.

Our 2015 club officers were installed in September using a Kitchen Tools Installation Program: Seated, L-R: Kathy Johnson, Secretary; Loretta Dube, Treasurer; Lola Cole, President; Kathy Prochnow, Parliamentarian; Kathi Gremillion, Reporter. Standing, L-R: Wanda Hannah, Recreation Chair; Christa Prewitt, Historian; Brenda Kyle, Inspiration Chair; Janie Amescua, Education Chair; Janice Payne and Karen Stadler, Telephone Committee. Not

pictured are Sandy Doughty, Vice President, and Louise Goerlitz, Sunshine Chair.



CALDWELL COUNTY NEWS

By Esther Barney

Caldwell County has awarded the 2014 Honor Roll County for District 10 at the State Conference. Accepting the award was Esther Barney, County Chair.



Caldwell County joined Lockhart in a fundraiser by having a craft booth selling items made by the members. A baby quilt was the main item. This was very rewarding.



One of our delegates from the State Conference shared a program with each of our clubs. The topic was "To Toss or Not to Toss". This program was a follow up of last year's "Important Papers". It was a very important program and of interest to all who attended.



Caldwell & Lockhart fundraiser.

JACKSON EEA ATTENDS TRAINING SESSION

By Char Girndt

The Jackson EEA members attended a training session in Victoria on October 1. Workshops were presented on "Toss of Not to Toss", "Anger Management" and Drug Disposal from the State Conference in Wichita Falls. The District 11 Chairman, Carol, led the information for the members. A wonderful lunch was served with great desserts. The afternoon was filled with information about the state meeting and all the different fun things they did as well attending all of the sessions and workshops. We will be ready for the next meeting to be held in Bay City, Friday, December 5.

The Jackson EEA elected new officers for 2014-15: Chairman—Janice Brundrett, Vice-Chairman—Trois Gimdt, Secretary—Char Gimdt and Treasurer—Lillie Mae Shaffer. These officers are now leading all of us to do great volunteer activities in our county. We are growing with new members and help the 4-H with their activities. Our pecan sale has been great.

Come and visit us as we have a great time at all of the meetings and we sure eat well there too!

AUSTIN COUNTY EEA PARTICIPATES IN FAIR

By Cindy Slator

It was a "Blue Ribbon" day for members of Austin County's West End TEEA on judging day of Fair week, October 6-12! Of the 18 active members in the club, nine very talented ladies submitted several dozen entries in all categories and came away with 20 Grand Champion ribbons, 12 Reserve Champion ribbons, one Best of Show, two High Point awards—one in Clothing and one in Handicrafts—and one Overall High Point trophy. Congratulations to this creative group of women on their accomplishments.

EEA- "FOUR INGREDIENTS OR LESS FOOD DEMONSTRATION"

By Michelle Allen

EEA (Extension Education Association) of Austin County which is a direct part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service sponsored a "Four Ingredients or Less Food Demonstration" for its members and friends. At the workshop, members showcased their favorite recipe creation made of four ingredients or less. The event was hosted at the local County Extension Office. A host of delicious meals were created and enjoyed by all in attendance. Extension programs serve people of all ages regardless of socioeconomic level, race, color, sex, religion, disability, or national origin. If you would like to learn more or become a member of the Texas Extension Education Association of Austin County, please feel free to contact Michelle Allen, County Extension Agent -Family and Consumer Sciences at [\(979\) 865-2078](tel:979-865-2078).



Pictured Left to Right... Back Row- Karen Landrum, Knellen Quinterros, Joan Buenger, Annette Balke and Jessie Kokemor Front Row – T.J. Schulz, Gladys Frank, Malinda Schramm, Betty Thiel and Barbara Vohs

"You must believe that your past is not your future.

You are not stuck or defined by tradition and you don't have to listen to what others tell you to do. Focus on the bright things, the ones that bring a smile to your face.

Find that passion and focus."

~ Gayle Carson

TAITON EXTENSION EDUCATION NOTES

By Olivia McDonald

Taiton Extension Education Club is 52 members strong and growing. We have 5 honorary members. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month. The business meeting is followed by a program, usually one of the district or state programs. The hostesses of the month provide lunch and door prizes.

Officers for 2014-2015 are president Janet Holub, Vice-president Pat Sanders, Secretary Carol Labay, Treasurer Gerry Graham, and Parliamentarian Mary Ann Gerla. Rose Ann Fuechec and Kathryn Sellers are delegates to the County Association and Olivia McDonald is the reporter.

Our annual fund raising project, the sale of nuts for holiday season baking and gifting, was a success thanks to Kathryn Sellers and her helpers. The proceeds from this project fund our gift giving Community Service Projects. These projects for the past few months include donations to Manna Meals, the 4-H Food Show, CASA, the Alzheimer's Association, Hospice and Muscular Sclerosis. Others were the collection of canned goods for The Blessing Cup Storehouse and gowns, pajamas, robes and sweaters for the nursing homes.

In the coming months we will be participating in the Rice Conference, sending Valentines to shut-ins and hosting a games party. April activities which include the other club in Wharton County, the Bluebonnet Club, will be the WCEEA Taco Salad luncheon and the Wharton County Youth Fair.

VICTORIA EEA ANNUAL MEETING AND CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

By Erika Bochat

The Victoria Extension Education Association Annual Meeting and Christmas Luncheon was held at the Victoria Electric Co-Op Auditorium. Ann Hagel presided over the meeting.

Awards were presented to EEA Clubs, Raisin Coletoville, Telfemer, Everready, and Pleasant Green who sold pecans and peanuts during the fundraiser project. Through their involvement eight (8) \$800 scholarships were given to 4-H youth and grandchildren in Victoria. Members enjoyed a traditional Christmas Lunch catered by Grapevine Café. Non-perishable food items were collected by the members and donated to the Food Bank of the Golden Crescent. Door prizes were

won by members and guest.

Raisin Coletoville EEA Club, a 71 year EEA Club, was recognized as the Club of the Year. Jo Ann Bone, club president, accepted an engraved plaque and monetary gift from the Association on behalf of the club. Raisin Coletoville members are actively involved in helping other organizations through financial aid to several volunteer fire departments, Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels, and the State 4-H Center in Brownwood, as well as the Victoria 4-H organization events. They donate items and food necessary to function at the Mid Coast Family Services, the Food Bank of Golden Crescent, and Medina Children's Home; donations of items were given to the Child Protective Services, as well as donations of dozens of cookies for the Wounded Warriors project. Books were collected that were donated to VCAM to be sent to the Armed Forces.

Members of VEEA are leaders in the organization, volunteers in the community and their churches. Any persons interested in obtaining information concerning any of the VEEA Clubs may contact the following presidents: Everready, Gloria Cook – 550-1859, Pleasant Green, Alice Ferguson – 578-7693, Raisin Coletoville, Jo Ann Bone – 578-7629, and Telfemer, Ann Hagel – 564-7392. Each club welcomes new members at any time of the year.

The VEEA thanks all the supporters for a successful 2014 Annual Pecan and Peanut sale. Because of your continuous support, we can make a difference in our community.



Pictured left to right are Joyce Brown, Beverly Fox, Hazel Priest, Jo Ann Bone, Ruby Sellers, Jean Heil, & Carrol Davig. Members not pictured are: Erika Bochat, Glenn Bone, Connie Jacob, & Debbie Murray.

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DISTRICT 9 - TEEA OF FORT BEND COUNTRYSIDE CLUB GIVES TO LOCAL SENIORS

By Natalie Heimann

Members of the TEEA of Fort Bend Countryside club collected canned food and paper products to donate to the Fort Bend Seniors. The items collected were donated on February 9th. Pictured with the donated items are Pat May, Countryside president and Cherie Heimann, member.



PROMOTING WORLD PEACE, ONE SMILE AT A TIME...

By Glenna Bell Orman, Bethel EEC, Burnet, Texas—District 7

Having hosted international exchange students for the past two years, I decided it was time to "take a break". My dad was needing more of my attention, and my community service projects were filling more of my retirement time. Then I received "the phone call". "Glenna, I know you said you wanted to take a break", she began. It was funny, little did she know that two hours prior to her call, I had just purchased a book at the local thrift store, "The Inns of Germany". A trip to Germany has always been a dream of mine. "Would you like to host a young lady from Germany? She loves horses!" In my heart, I instantly knew we were going to be a "match"!

You have heard the saying, "A match made in Heaven..." Well, that is just what Jeanne (pronounced "Zaun") and I have going for us. She is very intelligent, creative, hardworking, polite, open to new ideas...and the list goes on and on. She has been riding horseback since she was eight years old and is a gifted photographer. Jeanne has immersed herself into my life, and the life of my family, very quickly and most confidently. I am the church organist, so church attendance is a priority in my life and Jeanne readily joined me in attendance.

As a Burnet 4-H Horse Club adult volunteer, Jeanne again has proven to be most helpful as she assisted the club at a recent district horse show held in Llano. Speaking of horses, we were having a difficult time finding a horse for her to "borrow" while she was here in Texas. A family at Round Mountain offered a highly trained Registered Quarter horse for her to use while here in the United States. She rides "Pee Wee" almost every

afternoon, and is looking forward to several upcoming trail rides that we have planned.

In January we attended Jeanne's first All Western Rodeo Parade in Fort Worth, then the Ranch Rodeo, a tour of The Stockyards, her first chicken fried steak and first Cowboy Church service on Sunday morning. From getting new cowboy boots and a new felt hat, Jeanne's "ooh's and aaah's" during the weekend were delightful.

On my dad's birthday Jeanne prepared a beautiful Guinness Chocolate cake and helped to prepare the house and dinner, providing excellent waitress skills during dinner, and assisting with the cleanup. Jeanne was truly "in her element"!

On Valentine's Day, we spent a weekend in San Antonio being a "tourist." An evening at the ballet, a night ride on the Riverwalk tour boat, the IMAX Alamo movie, church attendance at the historic downtown First Christian Church, and a driving tour of the historic King William District rounded out our weekend. Jeanne enjoyed seeing the Alamo first hand, and then touring the four missions, which gave her a good foundation for the colorful history of Texas. I was tickled when she came home from school last week and said, "I can't believe it...I said y'all today!"

One of the most fascinating observations of Jeanne's visit is the "German connection" of many Texans. I have always known about the numerous German communities, such as Fredericksburg, Wahlburg and New Braunfels. However, the circle is much wider. We are planning to participate in the Heritage Trail Ride that celebrates the German immigration of the 1800's every five years. The ride begins at Indianola and ends six days later at New Braunfels.

My TEEA family, both our Extension Agent, Linda Wells, and my home club, Bethel EE Club, are so supportive of this adventure.

Sharing your home and life with someone from another culture is an exciting experience, and very gratifying. You can see, with your own eyes, how world peace can be increased, one smile at a time!

If you are interested in becoming a Host Family, feel free to contact me on my cell 830.265.7085 or by email: ormangb@hotmail.com. Auf Wiedersehen and happy trails....

