

THE TEEA MESSENGER

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TEEA MESSENGER

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I often ask myself, "How can I ever repay all the amazing blessings God's grace has given me?" I know the answers - I can't. All I can do is to strive to be the kind of person He wants me to be. I'm blessed to have many, many wonderful examples to follow. My paternal grandmother lost her husband to typhoid fever in 1919. She was left with a ten year old daughter, an eight year old son, and two six-month old twin boys. She did washing and ironing, sold milk and eggs, and sent all four of her children to college, but most important - she held on to her faith. In their cookbook written in 1994, the quilting ladies at our church wrote about her, "Years ago it was 5:00 p. m. before our ram rodder, Janna Hutcheson, felt we had put in a day. She was our mentor, peace maker, etc. When 'things' would bog down she would, in a beautiful and clear voice start singing 'Amazing Grace.'

In 2007, I was the sesqui-centennial celebration planning committee chair. We used the theme, "150 Years of Amazing Grace." In doing my research, I found that my great grandparents had joined our church in 1893, so that means that six generations have been in the church where I was raised and raised

my family. The families of today need stability and something to secure them. I believe it's church first, but there is a real need for organizations like the Texas Extension Education Association. My mother and both of my grandmothers were members of the Home Demonstration Club. This organization has been a real partner in helping to raise families.

At the January club meeting of the Springtown EEC, Joyce Dickerson shared a poem called "Through All Of It" by Colton Dixon which had been printed in the *Chaplain's Corner* for the Mexia State Supported Living Center. It really spoke to me, and I suspect it will to many of you.

"There are days I've taken more than I can give and There are choices that I've made that I wouldn't make again. I've had my share of laughter, of tears and troubled times. This has been the story of my life.

I have won, I have lost I got it right sometimes but sometimes I did not. Life's been a journey I've seen joy, I've seen regret Oh and You have been my God through all of it.

You were there when it all came down on me. When I was blinded by my fear and I struggled to believe, but in those unclear moments You were the one keeping me strong. This is how my story's always gone.

And this is who you are More constant than the stars up in the sky. All these years of our lives, I look back and I see You, right now I still do and I'm always going to.

I have won, I have lost. I got it right sometimes but sometimes I did not. Life's


been a journey I've seen joy, I've seen regret . Oh and You have been my God through all of it."

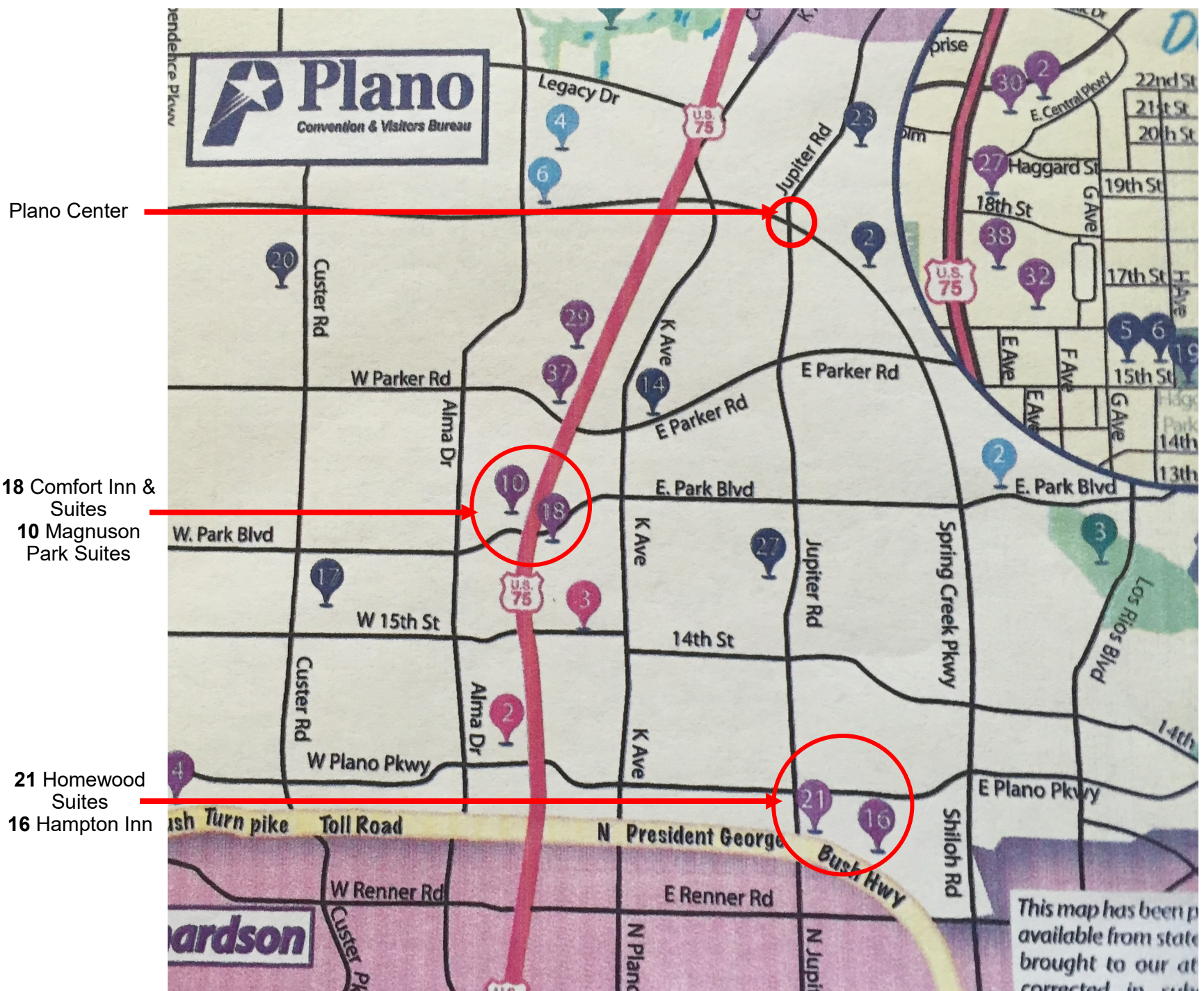
I'm excited about the 2016 TEEA State Conference to be held in Plano on September 13 and 14. The theme is "Spread Your Wings and Fly with TEEA." I think you all know that we had signed a contract with the Southfork Hotel in Plano for the Conference. Then the hotel was sold and could not accommodate us. We had wanted to have everything in one facility, and we tried everything we could to have it that way. We think that we have a good alternative. The 2016 State Conference will be held at the Plano Center, 2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy. We have contracted with four hotels that are not far away and are easy to get to from the Center. All four hotels offer a hot breakfast. The four hotels, locations, and rates are as follows:

1. Headquarters hotel - Comfort Inn and Suites - 700 Central Parkway East. Rooms begin at \$84 and go up to suites from \$114.

2. Magnuson - 640 Park Blvd. - All rooms (King and Queen) are \$78.
3. The Hampton Inn - 2813 E. President George Bush Hwy - they have a shuttle. Kings are \$122 and Queens are \$132.
4. The Homewood Suites - 2601 E. George Bush Parkway - in addition to the complimentary breakfast and WIFI they offer a complimentary dinner, evening drinks, and a shuttle. King Suites and Kings, 2 Queen Suites from \$139 to \$169.

This is the link for everyone to click on to make reservations, <https://mmxreservations.com/plano/pc/TEEA> or you may call 1.972.941.5866 Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. to make your reservations directly with Shane. He can give you specifics about all four hotels. If you have any problems and need help with reservations, call me at 1.817.220.7759.

 Julia with an open heart
Julia Moseley,
TEEA State President
2014 - 2016



Velma Tate

Velma Tate, District 4 Director and Ellen Manning, District 5 Director are excited about 2016 State Conference with a theme of "Spread Your Wings and Fly with TEEA". The mascot is Butterflies and they will be seen on members of the 2 Hostess Districts, in centerpieces and on the stage. We expect they will be on the program too. There will be a variety of Membership and Early Bird Workshops including heritage, horticulture, agribusiness and backyard hobbies. There will be plenty of space for cultural arts displays which will be divided between 3 different rooms. There will be ways to displays quilts so that they will be very visible. All the members of District 5 & 6 are making unique quality items for the Country Store. We are sure you will not be disappointed in the 2016 State Conference in Plano.



Ellen Manning



“MILLIE’S TIDBITS”

By Millie Barrow
President Elect
millie@txol.net
254-631-6228

Hello everyone,

Hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and Santa Claus was very good to you and gave you what you had wished for. The season was wonderful, however, I am glad it is over and things are back to normal. Somehow, someway, I ended up cooking three, yes, three, Thanksgiving dinners!!! NOT AGAIN.....

We have had a touch of winter and a touch of spring (or what is to come with spring). The temperature has been FANTASTIC the past couple of days and today it is sooooo nice..... We have a cold front on the way this week again. Personally I have had enough winter... onion sets are in so it is time to think preparing and planting the garden. Just as a reminder, roses, with the exception of climbing roses, need to be trimmed back no later than February 14. Hummingbird feeders need to be put out in our part of the country around the 24 of March. Weed control should be on the grass, gardens, etc. Bulbs planted, fruit trees and any other trees should be in the ground. WOW... that is a lot of work!!!!

The Board is excited about the 2016 State Conference to be held in Plano this year. The Plano Center is very nice and not far from any of the four hotels. With Julia at the helm it will be a great conference for everyone. Educational programs are in the works as are the member workshops Everyone is on top of it!!!

Please remember to file your 990N epostcard by May. Hopefully all membership dues have been paid. My county has signed up several new members and we are beating the bushes for more . . . Remember to put

articles in your local newspaper bragging on your Clubs and what you do for the community. Make your voice heard. Please make sure all educational programs from the past State Conference are presented to all clubs and the community... we had some very good informative programs.

Several positions will be open for next year on the Board. Please consider one of them and help TEEA become “Bigger and Better” for us and our community. The qualifications and duties of all positions are in our manual, please review them and step up to help.



Betty Baughn
1st VP for Leadership

Hi, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Hoping your Holidays were a very joyful occasion and you had many friends and family to join you during these past holidays.

I think this next year will be a very fulfilling year for TEEA. We always enjoy each other and work very hard, but we also have a lot of fun.

I anticipate that all of our District Spring Conferences will be rewarding, and I wish all of you a great day.

Remember to get all your reports in to the proper people and in a timely manner.

I wish you a blessed New Year and a Happy Valentine’s Day.

“Everyone you will ever meet knows something you don’t. Learn from them. It will bring out the best in both of you.”

~ Bill Nye



BIG PLANS UNDERWAY

By Nyanza Price
2nd VP for Programs

I know many have been asking questions about the state conference in September. The board has been busy making plans and the Education Chairs are excited about their upcoming presentations. You should begin making plans to attend. Everything about the conference will be great. The topics you will enjoy and the location is outstanding. There will be early bird workshops as before, as well as the usual delegate and member workshops. The hosting districts will be planning the early bird and member workshops. They have great ideas. I am excited and so should you be. I hope that all of you had great holidays and are maintaining good health. I look forward to seeing all of you at state. Until then I hope you and your families are blessed in all regards.



Kaylene Layton
Secretary

My goodness, how time does fly! How often have we heard that old saying? I believe that it is truer as I get older. Another old adage; Where has the time gone? Good question. It seems like only yesterday that we were getting ready for Thanksgiving and here it is almost Easter!

I hope everyone had a wonderful bunch of holidays. It seems it gets harder and harder for everyone in our family to be together at any one time. I am sure that is true for most of us, as children move away, grand children and great-grandchildren grow up and get involved in their own lives, and we are all “too busy.” Hopefully, we had time to stop and say “Thank You, God for all our blessings” at sometime during the past busy season.

I am very thankful for Facebook as a wonderful way to stay connected to our TEEA organization. Thanks to everyone for all the posts about health issues, celebrations, and good times had by all. I appreciate being able to wish “Happy Birthday” to friends and to know about those who need a prayer or two to help get through trying times. I know that to some, that seems very impersonal, but I think it is better than nothing. Nothing is what sometimes happens when we get “too busy.”

I hope everyone is making plans to attend the next State Meeting in Plano in September. It will be good to see old friends and make new acquaintances. September may seem like a long time off, but as we all know, “time does fly.” I look forward to seeing all of you then.

“I have said that the Declaration of Independence is the ring-bolt to the chain of your nation’s destiny; so, indeed, I regard it. The principles contained in that instrument are saving principles. Stand by those principles, be true to them on all occasions, in all places, against all foes, and at whatever cost.”

~ Frederick Douglass



Greetings from College Station!

Joyce Cavanagh, Ph.D.
Assoc. Professor and Extension Family Economics Specialist

I hope this finds your new year off to a fabulous start! It is off to a busy start in College Station with several new administrative appointments I want to let you know about.

Dr. Susan Ballabina has been appointed Executive Associate Director (Interim pending Board of Regents approval in April) by Dr. Steele. Dr. Ballabina has most recently served as Associate Director for Program Development. In addition to her new responsibilities, she will continue providing leadership for Healthy South Texas and other wellness initiatives.

The Associate Director for Program Development position will be held open until agency strategic planning, legislative budget priorities and Exceptional Items are finalized. In the meantime, Dr. Steele has appointed Dr. Angela Burkham, currently Regional Program Leader for FCS and 4-H in the North Region, to serve as State Program Leader for FCS. Marvin Ensor, currently RPL for Agriculture and Natural Resources in the West Region has been appointed State Program Leader for ANR.

And finally, Dr. Stephen Green has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Family Development and Resource Management following the retirement of Dr. Carol Rice. Dr. Green has served as Extension Child Development Specialist for the past 15 years and will continue those responsibilities in his new role. Many of you will remember Dr. Green as the keynote speaker at your State Conference a few years ago in San Marcos.

As I assume primary Advisor responsibilities, I would like to thank Dr. Judy Warren for her many years of service in this

role. She has left big shoes to fill and I thank her for sharing her experience with me over the past couple of years. At our recent AgriLife Extension Conference, Dr. Warren received a Superior Service Award in the Distinguished Career Category. I know you join me in congratulating her!

I look forward to our work together in the coming years!



ALUMNAE NEWS

By Grace Glaze, Chairman

The Alumnae are pleased to award scholarships each year to young adults who are between 19 years old and 24 years old at time of application. The applicant must be a former 4-H member or son / daughter or grandson / granddaughter of a current TEEA member. The applicant must remain a full-time student. The committee awarded six \$500.00 scholarships in 2015. Applications are available from County Chairman, District Directors, or from the web teea@tamu.edu pages 6-29 -6-30. Applications are due April 1, 2016, one copy to Alumnae Chair Grace Glaze and one copy to State President Julia Mosley. Addresses are on the applications. Please remind the students to be sure to send complete application with all the required documents. Please encourage the boys and girls 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 memorials. Anyone may contribute to this scholarship fund. If you would like to honor someone with a memorial, please send it to me. Grace Glaze 2835 CR 385 El Campo, TX 77437. If you have any questions please call [979-543-4168](tel:979-543-4168) or email me: graceglaze38@yahoo.com.

Alumnae let me hear from you so I may share the updates with the members.

Have a wonderful year. Hope to see each of you at the state conference in September.



Violet Alexander

4-H Foundation Representative
"THANKS--THANKS---THANKS' for the new kitchen mixer is what the Texas 4-H Center Kitchen Staff said to us at the TEEA Board meeting in November. The rolls and desserts that they made were still so good. They no longer have to clean up the dripping grease or worry when it would break down for the last time. It was less stress & more smiles on the staff during the hectic summer camp days. The "Coins for Friendship" that all of you so generously donated for 2014-15 were given to them at our May meeting so they could purchase the new mixer.



They even had enough to buy a potato peeler that cuts down on staff time. I believe they said 10 lbs. of potatoes took only 15 minutes to peel. The remaining money that we gave at state conference went toward new picnic tables on the patio of the Leadership Lodge where the Board meets. The tables have the plastic covering that are safe without splinters, nice looking and will last a long time. The TEEA Board Committees use them during their sessions. The old Hobart mixer was sold to a young man in Brownwood who just opened a bakery. He needed backup mixer and didn't mind if it leaked oil. He was a former 4-Her. So all is well in helping each other.

At the top of the "Wish List" of needed items at the center was

a canopy to be built next to the climbing wall. So for the 2015-16 we are asking that all of you dig deep into your purses and donate all the coins (dollars are great) to the 2015-16 "Coins for Friendship." In visiting with the centers director Mark Carroll they had a waiting list for this summer's camps. The Mission Possible Camp is still the most rewarding life educational experience for which our 4-Hers as mentors can be chosen. These kids become lifelong friends. Their stories are so heartwarming.

Mark noted to me the great needs of the center to keep operating. It is just like our own homes. Every time you turn around something else needs fixing. The drought took a large toll on all the water pipes so that had to be fixed at each dorm. May rains provided enough water in Lake Brownwood for them to do water events this past summer. The 4-H Leadership Camps in November & January were full.

In January, I attended the Winter Board meeting in College Station. Many exciting events are being planned for the over 4000 4-Hers who attend Roundup June 7 - 9. The Randy Rogers band will perform at the closing on June 9.

Several new faces have come on the foundation board as others have rotated off. Jackie Van De Walle is representing the San Antonio Livestock Show & Rodeo. What a dynamic Texas Woman. In the early 70's while attending this stock show I saw her working under a tent along with her large family selling fajitas and their famous hot sauce. They were raising funds for scholarships. She told me that she has 80 cousins who have worked this event all these years. Her list of awards, board memberships and fundraisers are too long to mention at this time. She believes in our next generations of Texan kids. She will be a true asset to this board.

Thanks so much for all of your support in my representing TEEA on the 4-H Foundation Board. It has been a true learning experience. I have had the opportunity to meet the most dedicated Texans from across this great state, who believe in the Texas 4-H program as much as TEEA members and I do.



CVU HOURS

By Gwen Risinger

Certified Volunteer Unit (CVU) Booklets now must be submitted by July 1. This change in date is so the names receiving awards can be included in the TEEA Annual Report which is published and distributed at the State Conference in September.



UNDERSTANDING PINTEREST

Jan Meador, Education Chair, District 1 & FCS Kay Rogers

Many members have requested a program about Pinterest. What is Pinterest? How can I use Pinterest?

As I'm preparing this article, I am also working on a program about Pinterest for my 2016 TEEA State Conference presentation. You will learn all the ins and outs of Pinterest. FCS agent Kay Rogers of Dallam/Hartley Counties and I are working together to bring you a fun and informative program. It will help you get started on your Pins or to help you get your Pins organized if you have already gotten into Pinterest a bit and have Pins all over the place!! (Like me!)

Pinterest has many ideas for you to explore; from easy recipes, quilting patterns, DIY Crafts, painting, art work and anything else you can imagine. We will prepare you so any novice or seasoned user will be able to navigate Pinterest with ease.

Objectives for Understanding Pinterest:

Demonstrate how to JOIN Pinterest

Teach you how to SETUP a profile
 Demonstrate how to NAVIGATE the Pinterest super highway
 Show you how to CREATE titles for your boards
 Teach you how to SAVE a pin



DEMENTIA-CARE BEYOND CURE

Cita Honeycutt-Education Committee Chair, District 3

A diagnosis of dementia can be frightening for a person affected, her family and caregivers. A better understanding of dementias, treatments and resources available make it possible to live better lives and meet daily challenges.

OBJECTIVES:

- Identify types of dementia
- Describe importance of early diagnosis and treatment
- Identify community resources to support persons with dementia and their caregivers.

The program will be presented by Andy Crocker.



ADULT BULLIES

Connie Troxell,

Education Chair - District 5

Holidays are over and time to get down to business. My program this year is on "Adult Bullies." You will learn the signs, symptoms and behavior of serial bullies including sociopath, corporate psychopath, workplace

psychopath, online and cyber bullies. You will also learn how to deal with bullies, how to respond to bullies and that there is life after being bullied. Adult bullies are much more prevalent than many want to admit.

Potter EEA Has a Big Heart

By Julie Neusch

Potter EE Association held our annual Christmas Brunch December 1. There were 30 members and 14 guests in attendance. It makes my heart happy that we took on a challenge, and provided 70 filled children's stockings, 6 filled women's stockings, several blankets, and \$250 in gift cards for the women and children at Amarillo's Downtown Women's Center, a non-profit that provides housing & services for women to overcome homelessness & addiction. The 4-H members in Potter County and a church organization joined with us, and provided 18 additional stockings. With 65 TEEA members in Potter County, it was a great accomplishment, and it warmed the hearts of us all. The TEEA members in our county are a great example of women with very big hearts, willing to do anything for anybody in need. One Potter EE Club gained 8 new members after the event.



Mary Porter, Mary Kriling and Sue Church

"The greatest danger to our future is apathy."
 ~ Jane Goodall

BOWIE TEEA PRESENTS TO COMMISSIONERS COURT

By Kathy McPeters

Members of the Bowie TEEA were recognized for their winnings at the State TEEA Conference as they presented their cultural arts items before the Montague County

Commissioners. Eleven items from the club were entered at the District level with nine items awarded blue ribbons and advancing to state. These winning items competed against winners from other districts across Texas and six members were ribbon winners at the state level. The results were: Robin Boling—3rd place, miscellaneous; Julie Browning—2nd place, smaller machine quilted; Kathy McPeters—1st place, holiday decoration; Donna Roth—3rd place, fiber creation; Sheila Schindler—2nd place, wall hanging; and Mary Whatley—2nd place, quilt by more than one member.

Judge Rick Lewis thanked the members for sharing their unique talents with local youth. TEEA members are active with the county 4-H Youth Fair Home Economics division. Additionally, Bowie TEEA presented a proclamation naming National Texas Extension Education Association Week that was approved by the Commissioners.

"NEVER lose sight of the fact that the most important yardstick of your success will be how you treat other people---your family, friends and coworker and even strangers you meet along the way."

~Mrs. Barbara Bush

DISTRICT 3 FALL TRAINING

By Cita Honeycutt

The District 3 Fall Training meeting of the Texas Extension Education Association was held on November 17 at the Springtown Senior Center. Twelve member from the Springtown Extension Education Club attended.



L to R: Sheila Woody, Rena Mae Woody, Charlsta Smith, Wanda Lacey, Ola Culwell, Cita Honeycutt, Helen Geerlings, Ella Carpenter, Joyce Dickerson, Barbara Sampson, Julia Moseley, Kathy Smith

PARKER COUNTY NEWS

By Kim Smith

The Country Crossroads Group-Texas Extension Education Association held a baby shower for Grace House Ministries at our November meeting. Many of the members got together and sewed baby blankets, other items donated were clothes, stuffed animals, diapers and wipes. The Country Crossroads group, holds various fundraising events throughout the year. Pictured left to right: Antoinette Reed, Betty Mullins, Shirley Riebe, Alta Faye Kendig, Jenessa Smith, Kim Smith.



BOWIE TEEA NEWS

By Kathy McPeters

Good food and laughter were in abundance as members of the Bowie TEEA celebrated the holidays in the beautifully decorated home of club president, Jo McDonald. The annual Christmas gathering is the end-of-year highlight as members enjoy a gift exchange, food and fellowship.



Carla Whitaker, Mary Lynn Guedry, Liz Bower and Valerie Franks at the home of Jo McDonald for annual Christmas party

In January, the Montague County Youth Fair brought TEEA members to Nocona where they served a variety of breakfast foods and beverages in a hospitality booth during the public viewing of the Creative Arts, Fabric, Photography and Foods entries. Members collected donations that support 4-H projects and scholarships. The annual event offers Bowie members an opportunity to promote TEEA and showcase the projects of Montague County youth.



Members Marie Trichka, Robin Bowling, Julie Browning, Genie Ringstaff and Kathy McPeters judge at Montague County Youth Fair in January.



Julie Browning, Valerie Franks, Jo Kleinhans, Marie Trichka, and Mary Lynn Guedry raising funds for 4-H at the Hospitality Booth during the Youth Fair

An informative and timely program "Don't Let Blue Get to You" was presented by AgriLife agent, Elsie Lacy, at the January meeting. Symptoms and causes of depression were identified along with tips to manage depression and the importance of seeking help were discussed.

WISE COUNTY NEWS

By Bobbie Ashley

Greenwood EE Club members gathered at the home of Sandra Holloway to prepare door prizes for our fall festival.



Linda Hood, Phil Martinez, Bobbie Ashley, President/District 3 Director Dixie Range, Rosa Martinez, and FCS Agent/Member Tanya Davis attend District 3 Fall Training.

The GEE Club monthly meeting was held after the annual Community Thanksgiving dinner. Sixty people attended.

One new officer was elected for 2016. Joyce Enis is the new vice president of the GEE Club.

May Haubold submitted Bobbie Ashley for the Texas Treasurer award from the GEE Club. She has been a member for 30 years.

TEEA has been in existence for 89 years and the

Greenwood EE Club has been a member for 88 years. They did not have club meetings for one of the years of WWII.

The GEE Club is participating in the North Texas Stocking Campaign. This is a very worthwhile project and they are excited about being involved.

The GEE Club met at the home of Joyce Enis for the Christmas party and monthly meeting.



L to R: (standing) Carol Shaffer, Joyce Enis, Suzy Wolleford, Janice Millican, Linda Hood. (seated) May Haubold, Nadine Gage, and President, Dixie Range.

The Angel committee, May Haubold, Carol Shaffer, Gerry Galloway, and friend, Paulette Jackson reported on their shopping trip for five angels selected from the Slidell School. Janice Millican reported that more than 3,000 stuffed stockings were sent to our troops overseas from North Texas Stockings for Soldiers. Peterbilt took care of the shipping. Soldiers at the Bonham facility were also gifted.

In lieu of exchanging gifts, we made donations to WARM.

FCS Agent, Tanya Davis started the new year for GEE Club with an officer installation. She also gave the program.



L. to R.: Parliamentarian / Reporter, Bobbie Ashley; Treasurer, Linda Hood; Secretary, Janice Millican; Vice President, Joyce Enis; President, Dixie Range.

DISTRICT

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LANDSCAPE QUILT WORKSHOP

By Kay Chastain

The Piecemakers Quilt EE Club, Rains Co., enjoyed a one-day workshop on designing and making "Landscape Quilts." The teacher / speaker was Karen Thornton of Tyler. Karen presented a trunk show and her inspirational "A Quilter's Journey of Faith" through her quilts at the club's monthly meeting, then returned to teach the hands-on designing and making of landscape quilts. The class was limited to twelve participants, which filled quickly. By the end of the day there were twelve beautiful landscape designs, each unique to the participants creativity. Follow Karen at www.facebook.com/karenhortonquilts to see pictures of our designs and more of her beautiful works of art.



VAN ZANT NEWS

By Sally Ronk

We met January 2, with 24 attending. New officers were elected for the year. Chairman - Carolyn Davis, V-chair - Sally Anderson, Treas - Jimmy Buchanan, Secy - Faye Wright, Historian - Sally Ronk. Valentine projects were planned for February.

Feb 3. met with 28 attending, Made valentine cards out of recycled cards and decorations. Over 300 Cards were made and given to shut ins and nursing homes. Enjoyed a sack lunch.

March 9. met with 26 attending. Club hosted Cultural Arts at Farm Bureau in Canton. Many nice objects entered and some won to go on to district.

April 12, 19 attended a field trip to Cherry Creek Bed and Breakfast and met with Master Gardener Pat Mullins, Enjoyed a sack lunch at nearby park.

May 11, 16 attended to make bibs out of plastic table cloths for our shut ins and nursing homes.

June 9, 19 attended. Met with Melissa Rhodes, VZC extension agent to discuss nutrition and make plans for July Jubilee.

July, 16 attended, at Canton High School. Homemade items were sold and vendors had tables.

August 10, 10 attended. Carolyn Davis gave program on leadership. Club voted to sponsor two \$250.00 scholarships next year.

September 14, 11 attended. Officers were elected, paid dues, a door prize will be given each meeting, with the one winning bringing the next one.

Oct. 12, Nine attended. Club went on afield trip to Tyler Zoo, enjoyed a sack lunch in park.

Nov., Nine attended, We had our Christmas sales at Farm Bureau in Canton. Agents from other counties attended.

December 14, Our Christmas party was held at The Chapel Of The Lake at Lake Tawakoni with 20 members and four guests attending. Gifts were exchanged and lunch followed.

"The easiest thing to be in the world is you. The most difficult thing to be is what other people want you to be."

~ Leo Buscaglia

TARRANT COUNTY NEWS

By Ed Kinter

Enclosed are some pictures of the Christmas Party hosted by the Bedford EEA Club of Tarrant County. The party was attended by the members of the Saginaw Homemakers and the Lake Worth EEA Club. The meal was Mexican Stack Ups and dessert was homemade pies and cobblers.



Everyone brought items to be donated to the "Ronald McDonald House". A good time was had by all.



During National Volunteer Month Tarrant County Commissioner's Court presented certificates to 13 county TEEA members (some of whom are pictured below) who have given between 20 - 67 years of service individualy and more than 400 years

of combined service to the communities they serve, AgriLife Extension and Tarrant County.



HUNT EEA NEWS

By Judy Clingan

The Hunt EEA has been busy the past few months. Their new agent, Sara Latham presented crafts at the annual marketing meeting in November. The volunteer appreciation banquet was great and one member, Mary White was presented a bouquet of flowers for 66 years of service.

The annual holiday fair was a huge success and yummy cookies and candy was exchanged with all attendees. Christmas projects from the three clubs were donated to Women in Need and CASA, and gifts for three group homes were collected.

A busy winter month with two workshop days held to make blankets and Alzheimer's aprons, working on cultural arts, and attending retreat in Denton.

Have a blessed winter and stay warm. See you in April.

**"Do more than belong, participate.
Do more than care, help.
Do more than believe, practice.
Do more than be fair, be kind.
Do more than forgive, forget.
Do more than dream, work."**

~ William Arthur Ward

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SMITH COUNTY NEWS

By Mitzi Harris

For many years, the Whitehouse Extension Club has made quilts at the monthly meetings to give to seniors in November. Shown with last year's quilts are:



Ruth Loper, Joyce Morrow, Juanita Hagan, Jane Swanson, Sara Cooper



Joyce Morrow, Ruth Loper, Juanita Hagan, Jane Swanson

SHELBY COUNTY NEWS

By Ellen Manning

Shelby EEA members, Beaula Webster, Walter Manning, Ellen Manning and Sherry Harding - Administrator of Outreach Ministries are holding the quilt that the Shelby County EEA donated to the Outreach Ministries for them to use as a fund raiser. We often find a quilt top and different members provide the backing and the filler and then machine quilt it and finish it and donate it to a community project. That is the way we pay back the community for the use of the community building for our meetings.

This year we are very busy

making things for the Country Store at State Conference. We cannot show what we have made but we want all of you to be sure to come to Plano in the fall to buy from the Country Store.



SMITH COUNTY NEWS

By Penny Hunter

Smith County TEEA partnered with the East Texas State Fair's Academic Rodeo. We were asked to assist with responsibilities of the Academic Rodeo Fashion Show by judging, stage decorations, writing scripts and helping participants during final judging. EE members judged paperwork, traditional and non-traditional construction as well as smart buying paperwork. One of the judges favorite was a non-traditional garment made of balloons and feathers inspired by the movie UP. Clubs worked three days on judging paperwork for 50 entries, decorating stage and final judging of participants modeling skills. We have already started working on new stage decorating ideas for 2017.



L to R: Robin Fields - St. Louis Club, Penny Hunter - Tyler Glass Club, Harriett Lane - Dixie Club, Connie Troxell - Lake Palestine Club, Ernestine Fields - St. Louis Club, Barbara Garrett - Dixie Club, Cheryl Davis - Dixie Club



Working on stage decorations Robin Fields - St. Louis and Verma Williams - Tyler Glass.

Smith County conducted the 11th annual Best Chocolate Dessert in East Texas contest on January 30. The contest is used to market Extension Education Association Clubs in Smith County. We had 40 entries in youth, adult and EE divisions. Judges sampled each dessert while a demonstration was being presented to the audience. Raffle items were offered to help defray the cost of our contest. We asked for snack items from people attending the demos. Snacks worth \$200.00 were given to the after school program at the Tyler Glass Center. If any counties are interested in starting a contest like ours, please contact Smith County Extension office at [903/590-2980](tel:9035902980).



L-R: Ann Santana - Tyler Glass Club, Chloe Rothrock and Aubrey Griffin (future EE members), and Cheryl Davis - Dixie Club showing how to make chocolate garnishes.



Elaine Jackson - Wildcat Club and 1st place winner.



Elaine Jackson - Wildcat Club with Barbara Garrett - Dixie Club 1st place winner EE Division

There's a new club in town! We are pleased to announce that Smith County has a new club, Tyler Glass. The club held their first meeting in January and elected officers and are actively working to recruit other people that might be interested in joining. Our new members have already worked with the Academic Rodeo, Chocolate Dessert Contest, Mother/Son and Daddy/Daughter Valentine Dance in Tyler. The club is looking forward to becoming an active part of Smith County TEEA.

DISTRICT 7 WELCOMES IRION COUNTY

By Brenda Camp

Please join me in welcoming Irion county to District 7. I have had the greatest opportunity to go to Irion County to meet and welcome these ladies to the District. They have five ladies that have joined the State TEEA at this time with approximately 20 more that are interested. These ladies are wonderful; they have been established and working in their community to present many scholarships to graduating seniors of Irion County for many years. They work tirelessly on many projects to support other county projects and organizations.

I am very happy to make this announcement and say again to Irion County, Welcome.

BURNET COUNTY CELEBRATES MILLI WILLIAMS 91ST BIRTHDAY

By Roberta Eacott

Millie Williams, a long-time member of the Redbud Oakalla EE Club, shared her 91st birthday with members of the five extension education clubs of Burnet County during the organization's day long educational programs seminar. Millie, seen with her daughter, Carolyn Graf, stays active in the extension club and recently assisted in a club presentation on "Tips, Tricks, and Tools for Embroidery." Millie loves to learn new things and share her vast knowledge of embroidery, sewing, gardening, and life with her fellow members. Happy birthday Millie!



Millie Williams & daughter, Carolyn Graf

LAMPASAS COUNTY NEWS

By Diana Fisch

The Lampasas Rumley Club finished off the 2015 year with lots of activities. In October several club members and friends met for lunch in Austin and toured the Governor's Mansion. They were greeted right away by Mrs. Cecilia Abbott, Texas' First Lady. She personally gave the tour and opened up

rooms for the members that are not usually on the regular tour. The furnishings were beautiful and had many stories behind each of them. Mrs. Abbott is in the process of doing a registry of the furnishings and gifts received by the mansion.



Diana Fisch, Texas 1st Lady - Cecilia Abbott, and Karen DeZarn

In November Rumley hosted a program regarding Honor Flight by Linda Thompson and CK Stevenson. They showed a presentation of taking Veterans, all expenses paid, to the Veteran's Memorial in Washington DC and talked about several other trips to historical sites. The Honor Flight organization is an all volunteer, non profit organization dedicated honoring Veterans for their spirit, sacrifice and commitment to our country. Rumley also had their annual garage sale and Arlene Wingo and Pat Clepper presented a \$100.00 check to the Lampasas Senior Center to purchase turkeys for Thanksgiving.



L - R: Pat Clepper, Sydney Dishman, Savannah Folkner, J. R. Marczewski, Sanaa

December started off with the club's annual Christmas party for members which was held at the home of Mary Kemper. Mary had a houseful and the pot luck luncheon was a huge success as was the Chinese auction gift exchange. Rumley club Treasurer, Pat Clepper, presented a check to Sydney Dishman, Lampasas 4H County Council President, in the amount of \$450.00 which will be used for their Family Consumer Sciences project. Karen DeZarn was in Brownwood and presented a check to Mark Carroll at the Texas State 4-H Center in the amount of \$150.00.



Mark Carroll & Karen DeZarn

Earlier in 2015 the Rumley Club received a Friendship quilt made several years ago from a member that had relocated out of state. These quilts were made by each member. The quilt was then donated to the local Lampasas 4-H club to sell raffle tickets for a money making project. The 4-H Club made over \$340.00 and Claudia Kellner, of Lampasas, was the lucky winner.



In January, members Arlene Wingo, Siddonia Umphres, Ernestine Garcia, Cheryl Britton, Mary Ann Rhodes and Diana Fisch attended the State Program Seminar put on by the Burnet County clubs. It was a great opportunity to hear about all 6 programs at one time. Burnet did an excellent job on the event.

RUNNELS COUNTY NEWS

By Judy Harrison

The Friendly Neighbors Club started the 2015-2016 year off with a business / planning meeting in September.

In October Martha Crawford reviewed the Driving for Mature Drivers material brought back from the state convention at Waco.

The November program was led by Judith Harrison, teaching how to make Swedish heart baskets.

December is always a fun event for the club. Area clubs are invited. Guests came from the Sunshine and Honey Bee Clubs in Taylor County, and Good Neighbors Club in Coleman County. They enjoyed an assortment of holiday goodies while catching up with friends. The group then toured the hotel's rooms decorated in a Spanish theme. The large Christmas tree by the entrance was covered with colorful tissue flowers. Some guests also walked across the street to the Z I Hale Museum.



BROWN COUNTY NEWS

By Dale Henderson

Forty-seven TEEA members from the three Brown County EE Clubs are gearing up for their annual "Stuffed Spud" sale to be held in March.

This is a huge endeavor for the clubs. Last year they baked, packaged and delivered over 650 potatoes.

With help from the proceeds they were able to give scholarships to three 4-H graduating seniors who are off to college.

Good luck with this year's sale ladies.



On January 28 the three Brown County EE Clubs - May, McDaniel and Owens and the Extension Office personnel hosted a going away party for FCS Agent, Kim Miles. She is transferring to Jones County in Anson to become their agent. She will definitely be missed by all whom she has worked with, including Extension, 4-H, and all other entities.

Brown County wishes her and her family well in this new chapter of their lives.



Shot Harris presents a hand crocheted afghan to Kim Miles on behalf of the Owens EE Club.



Lela Goar & Linda Wells

"SHARPENING YOUR PROFESSIONAL SKILLS"

By Lela Goar & Linda Wells

Linda Wells, Burnet County FCS Agent and Lela Goar, retired State Advisor for New Mexico Family, Career and Community Leaders of America and member of the Bethel EE Club, recently presented workshops on the topic "Sharpening Your Professional Skills" at the opening and closing sessions of the 2015 New Mexico Association of Family and Consumer Sciences Annual State Conference which was held October 16-17 on the campus of New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. Both Linda and Lela were members, state officers and award recipients of the NMAFCS professional organization when they lived and worked in New Mexico. It was a wonderful opportunity to "reconnect" with colleagues and friends from all over the state during the professional conference.

The theme for the conference was "Sharpening FCS Skills to Build Strong Families". Lela and Linda shared information and experiences that targeted the conference theme and the basic reasons why everyone should strive to continue learning and developing skills in every situation so they can enjoy living a positive and productive life that adds value for themselves and those they come in contact with.

It is important to surround ourselves with a great growth environment. The world we live in is constantly changing and if we expect to keep up, we need to be willing to change and learn new things and ways of doing what we have always done. Sharpen your skills by connecting with friends and colleagues. As John Maxwell so aptly stated, "When I first realized I needed to grow, I sat down and penned what I call 'My Growth Environment' ". It will help guide your

decisions concerning personal growth. An excellent example of a "Growth Environment" is:

- Others are Ahead of me.
- I am continually Challenged.
- My focus is Forward.
- The atmosphere is Affirming.
- Failure is not my Enemy.
- I am often out of my Comfort Zone.
- I wake up Excited.
- Others are Growing.
- People desire Change.

Also making the trip were Lynda French and Polly Krenek, members of the Oatmeal EE Club. Side trips included Santa Fe and Albuquerque where the group toured the state capital and rode the Sandia Peak Tram.



Linda Wells, Lela Goar, Polly Krenek, & Lynda French atop Sandia Peak.

After a great trip to New Mexico, the ladies are back home and at work in Texas. Linda and Lela will be presenting a similar program entitled "Sharpening Your Personal Skills" during the month of July for all of the EE Clubs in Burnet County. The "axes" story and analogy will be shared at that time.

TEEA MEMBERS JUDGE BURNET COUNTY 4-H FOOD & NUTRITION CONTESTS

By Linda Wells

Burnet County EEA members, Ollie Ann Baker, Lynda French, Lela Goar, and Polly Krenek volunteered as judges for the 2015 Burnet County 4-H Food & Nutrition competitions held October 27 at the Burnet County Extension Office. Contests held were Food Challenge, Food & Nutrition Quiz Bowl, Food Show and Food & Nutrition Educational Exhibits. Roxanne Dunegan, President of Burnet County Master Gardeners and a TEEA member

assisted with Food & Nutrition games for participants while they waited to compete. The afternoon and evening was filled with competitions, nutrition games, and activities as well as nutritious snacks for everyone, coordinated by FCS Agent, Linda Wells. The highlight of the event was the award presentations where each participant received recognition with the high point individuals and teams advancing on to the district competitions held in November and December. The judges also received appreciation gifts for their support of the 4-H program in Burnet County.



4-Hers and parents play nutritious games while waiting. Roxanne Dunegan is in the background.



Ollie Ann Baker & Lynda French judge the Food Challenge.



Lynda French & Ollie Ann Baker make comments on the Educational Exhibits.



Polly Krenek & Lela Goar visit with 4-Hers' Food Show plate.



Pictured L-R: Linda Wells, Karen DeZarn, Melanie Potter and NEAFCS National President, Peg Ehlers. Not pictured: Jennifer Page.

DISTRICT 7 FCS AGENTS RECEIVE NATIONAL AWARD

By Burnet & Lampasas TEEA Linda Wells, Karen DeZarn, Melanie Potter and Jennifer Page, County Extension Agents for Family and Consumer Sciences in District 7 were honored recently at the National Extension Association for Family and Consumer Sciences 2015 annual session, "Tradition to guide us, Knowledge to share, Innovation to succeed." They were members of the team that received the 2nd place National and 2nd place Southern Region Family Health & Wellness Award at the conference held November 2-5 at the Greenbrier Resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. In receiving the award, the agents, Linda Wells of Burnet County, Karen DeZarn of Lampasas County, Melanie Potter of San Saba County and Jennifer Page of Llano County taught the Multi-County Dinner Tonight! Healthy Cooking School in each county between January and May 2014. While there are many groups who conduct cooking schools, the Dinner Tonight! Healthy Cooking School has a unique niche with demonstration recipes that are cost effective, easy to prepare and fit into a healthy meal plan. They target busy people who still want to make time for meal preparation and feel good about what they are feeding themselves and their family. The

goal is to promote family mealtime, teach families healthy meal planning and food preparation techniques, and promote Texas Agriculture.

The Family Health and Wellness award recognizes innovative programs that promote and improve the health and wellness of families in areas such as nutrition, fitness, family meals, meal planning, time or stress management, healthy lifestyle and more. This team's commitment to meeting the needs of individuals, families and communities is exemplary.

JONES COUNTY NEWS

By Pam Jones

The Jones County Extension Education Association hosted the Annual Interpretation for County elected officials and employees on December 14th in Anson. A volunteer hours "check" was presented to the County Judge Dale Spurgin in the amount \$51, 888.



Coleman County Good Neighbor Club

By Dora Newman

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

Fiesta de la Paloma

October was off to a big start with the Fiesta de la Paloma during the first weekend. This was a community project sponsored by CEEA / Good Neighbor Club. Members did publicity, set up, and registered entries on Friday, Oct. 2. During the Fiesta the

next day, the group was in charge of the judging and afterwards assisted with displays of the exhibits, all of which took place in the Bill Franklin Center.

Signing of Proclamation for TEEA Week Oct 4 – Oct 10

Members of the CEEA / Good Neighbor Club met with the Commissioner's Court for the signing of the proclamation for TEEA Week Oct. 4 – Oct. 10. Pictured at the signing of the proclamation were County Judge Billy Bledsoe and Commissioners Rick Beal, Mike Stephenson, Alan Davis, and Mark Williams. Club members present were Helen Cross, Dora Newman, Jean Langford, and Nina Childress.



Appreciation Luncheon for Commissioners' Court

An appreciation luncheon was held for the Coleman County Commissioners' Court in the Coleman County State Bank Clubroom on Monday, Oct. 26. Honored were County Judge Billy Bledsoe and Commissioners Rick Beal, Mike Stephenson, Alan Davis and Mark Williams. Also present were *County Clerk Stacy Mendoza, County Treasurer Jerri Ann Chambers, Assistant Treasurer Shirley Sansing, Extension Office Manager Nancy Baker, and Michael Palmer County Extension Agent-Agriculture/ Natural Resources.*

Annual reports were given by Association / Good Neighbor President Helen Cross and by Agent Michael Palmer. Members present to host the event included Nina Childress, Helen Cross, Anna Jenkins, Jean Langford,

Dorothy McDonald and Cassie Shultz.



Agent - Mike Palmer, Commissioners - Mike Stephenson, Alan Davis, County Judge - Billy Bledsoe, Commissioners - Rick Beal, Mark Williams



Hostesses: Helen Cross, Nina Childress, Dorothy McDonald, Cassie Shultz, Anna Jenkins, Jean Langford.

District 7 Fall Training Meeting at Coleman

Coleman CEEA / Good Neighbor Club hosted the District Fall Training Meeting in Coleman Nov. 12. In attendance were 50 from counties in District 7. Presiding was Brenda Camp District 7 Director. Mary Frances Smith and Kandace Everett were given special recognition at the meeting. Mary Frances was recognized as the oldest and Kandace as the youngest in attendance. Mary Frances is 85 years old and has been a TEEA member in Coleman County since 1973, currently being a member of Good Neighbor Club. Kandace is 24 years old and has just begun her career as an CEA-FCS agent in Sterling and Coke Counties.



2015 STATE MEETING PROGRAMS PRESENTATION

By Glenna Bell Orman,
Bethel EE Club

Do you know the signs of depression? Does your family have an Emergency Plan of Action? Do you know how to deliver a "knock out" presentation? Are you eating properly? Are you putting knowledge into practice? Could you pass a driving test? The answers to these questions and many others were given on Tuesday, January 26 when thirty-eight members of the Burnet and Lampasas County Extension Education Associations gathered at the Highlander Restaurant Meeting Room in Burnet. This is the second year that TEEA members have assembled to hear the Texas AgriLife Extension's annual required programs which are presented by TEEA members who have attended the previous Annual Texas TEEA Conference. The members gained valuable knowledge and enjoyed visiting during the break times and at lunch. This day of education truly supported the TEEA Motto: Family, Education, Leadership and Service.

After reciting the TEEA prayer and pledges to the United States and Texas flags, the ladies attentively listened to the following programs:

"Don't Let the Blue Get to You" presented by Roberta Eacott, Vice Chair, Burnet County TEEA Council, Member of the Redbud/Oakalla EE Club.
"Driving for the Mature Driver" by Lisa Zinz, Assistant Treasurer, Burnet County TEEA Council, Member of the Lake Victor EE Club.
"Eating What You Grow and Prepare" by Roxanne Dunnegan, President, Burnet County Master Gardeners, Member Redbud/Oakalla EE Club.

"Tips for Delivering a Knockout Presentation" by Lela Goar, Parliamentarian, Burnet County TEEA Council, Member of Bethel EE Club.

"Emergency Evacuation" by Polly Krenek, Chair, Burnet County TEEA Council, Member of the Oatmeal & Marble Falls EE Club.

"From Knowledge to Practice" by Ollie Ann Baker, Member of the Marble Falls EE Club.

At Noon the members were invited to obtain their lunch plates from The Highlanders daily lunch buffet. Numerous door prizes were presented during the meeting and several unique and simple craft ideas were presented throughout the meeting by Lynda French, Treasurer of the Burnet County TEEA Council and member of the Oatmeal EE Club and Polly Krenek.

A beautifully decorated birthday cake was presented to Milli Williams, member of Redbud/Oakalla EE Club on her 91st birthday and was heartily serenaded with "Happy Birthday" by all the TEEA members. As always, Bethel EE Club's resident comedienne, Lorene Denney, was called upon to share several jokes. Check for dirt on your husband's shoes!

The meeting ended at 2:00 p.m., and all the members present commented on what a great meeting it was and how appreciative they were of those who prepared and presented the programs. We will implement all that we learned this coming year and look forward to next year's Education Seminar.

"There's a humorous side to every situation. The challenge is to find it."
~ George Carlin

DISTRICT 8

HAMILTON COUNTY NEWS

By Linda Pledger

Hamilton County is preparing for it's annual Spring Fling. This year there is a new date and place. April 9. Hamilton High School Auditorium, College Street. Just off 281 also called Rice. Just south of the square go up the hill one block to College. Turn left on College as the High School is the last school on the street. The day begins with registration, \$10 this year, as we enjoy more space, excellent speakers, the famous salad luncheon and plenty of vendors to blow our last penny before Uncle Sam gets it.

Hamilton County has worked hard to put together a program that will please even the most critical among you. We are looking forward to seeing our friends from around Texas as we celebrate Spring returning to our little neck of the woods.

MCLENNAN COUNTY NEWS

By Betty Hubbard

McLennan EE had a successful fundraiser at Applebee's in Waco on November 21 to raise money for 4-H Scholarships.

Pictured: L-R Mary Hodde, Jean Vorderkunz, Betty Hubbard, Willie Frances Smith, Eunice Dick, Blanche Willis, Andrea Baker.



COWBOY WISDOM
REMEMBER TO LOAD YOUR BRAIN BEFORE YOU SHOOT YOUR MOUTH OFF.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY TOURS LOCAL SAFETY FACILITY

By Charlotte Watson

Fifteen members of Williamson County EE Clubs met at the new Public Safety Operations and Training Center in Georgetown for a guided tour. Police Detective Ruben Vasquez, shown on the right, and two Police Volunteers guided them through the wonderful new facility. What a great opportunity to see behind the scenes of police work in Georgetown. As they toured, Vasquez told them so many interesting facts and answered all their questions. How interesting it was to see the dispatch area, the forensic lab, interview rooms, the Emergency Operations Center, and the police chief's office. Georgetown can be very proud of this state-of-the-art facility.



BELL COUNTY NEWS

By Polly Elizondo

The Tanglefoot Club from Bell County celebrated the Christmas Season with a luncheon at their monthly meeting in December. The members enjoyed ham and tasty sides with delicious desserts provided by the members and festive seasonal decorations. The club is led by President Joy Scott.



"For me, literacy means freedom. For the individual and for society."
~ LeVar Burton

BELL COUNTY EEA

By Gayle Pomykal

"New Member Recognition" and Christmas Luncheon honored five Bell County ladies who became EEA members during the past fiscal year. Pictured are left to right: Laurie Veatch - county chairman, Laquita Gruver - Tejas EEA, Rosemary Chudej - Leedale EEA, Nancy Urbantke - Leedale EEA, and Ethel Horn - Tejas EEA. Not pictured: Verna Johnson - Tanglefoot EEA.



Tejas EEA was awarded the "token gavel" which is forwarded to the club who gained the larger number of new members during the year. Laurie Veatch was the recipient of Texas Treasure Award for Bell County. Christmas Carols were led by Laurie Veatch and Christmas themed games were enjoyed by attendees. Members donated toys to Temple Fire and Rescue's program "Rescue Elves" for needy children. Thomas Pechal, spokesman was present to receive the collected toys.



BELL EEA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT SUCCESS STORY

By Gayle Pomykal

Brooke Ashley Hoelscher, granddaughter of Bell County Tanglefoot EEA member Nora

Sodek, was awarded one of two \$500.00 BEEA Scholarships in 2012. She also received a TEEA Alumnae Scholarship in 2015. Graduating from Mary Hardin-Baylor University in three and one half years (Summa Cum Laude) with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Visual Communications, she was awarded the Provost Medal for a perfect overall 4.0 GPA. Following graduation she accepted a position at the SPJST Home Office in Temple as Communication Assistant for the weekly publication "Vestnik".

Brooke is the daughter of Brian and Brenda Hoelscher of Temple Texas. She is the granddaughter of Lewis and Nora Sodek and Leon and Shirley Hoelscher.

Bell County EEA is proud to support our 4-H members who so diligently pursue their goals, keep their record books updated, and make the most of awards and scholarships. Miss Hoelscher is an excellent example of what it takes to attain an education and begin a career in her chosen field. BEEA recognizes Brooke as one of Bell County 4-H's high achievers and encourages her future efforts.



DISTRICT 8 HOLDS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

By Michaelene Perry

November 17 was the date the Leon Extension Education Association (EEA) members along with 9 other counties met in Glen Rose, TX at the Glen Rose Technical Institute for their annual District 8 Leadership Training. Alice Lance, Texas Extension Education Association (TEEA) District 8 Director, coordinated this program.

Thirty nine attendees from 9 of the 14 counties in TEEA District 8 were present for the all day session. After the welcome by Alice, Bell County led the group with the TEEA Creed, Prayer and Motto, and pledges to the United States and Texas flags. Roll Call was completed by District 8 Secretary, Pat McNeely. Recognition of the AgriLife Extension Family Consumer Science Agents and each County Chairperson was made by Alice.

The purpose of this yearly Leadership Training is three-fold: 1) to review the officer responsibilities at the club and county levels; 2) to review state forms to be completed by each club, county and district for reporting purposes; and 3) to discuss and reinforce the proper ways to complete TEEA forms. The County Chairpersons, Vice-Chairs, Presidents and Vice-Presidents met in one area with Laurie Veatch and Nyanza Price explaining the information related to those officer positions. In another breakout session the Secretaries and Treasurers met with Alice Lance to thoroughly review their duties. All members whether current or future officers and even those who yet do not know that they, too, will one day be officers attended one of the two sessions.

Following the sessions Erath County gave the prayer before the luncheon of deli

cious barbeque and all the trimmings.

The afternoon session confirmed the attendance with their Credentials report given by Leon County. Donations were collected for Coins for Friendship (\$22.77) which will go towards the Brownwood Center for 4-H camps and Dollars for Scholars (29.50) which is donated towards scholarships for 4-H senior high school students in the District 8 area.

The closing session by Alice was regarding revisions to the TEEA Manual, chapters 5 and 6 and the TEEA State officer position opening in 2016. Anyone wishing to nominate a club member to one of these positions can review the criteria for said position and submit paperwork and letter(s) of recommendation through the proper channels. Lastly, the updates on coming events for 2016, Spring Conference, District 8 Retreat, and TEEA State Conference, were discussed. All were encouraged to attend these events to be more active with TEEA.



Audience participants in a breakout session



L to R—Alice Lance, District 8 Director, and Pat McNeely, District 8 Secretary, reviewing officer responsibilities to audience



Ten members from Leon County EEA attended Fall Leadership Training. L to R - Marcia Lewis, Leona-Centerville EE, Leslie Hensler, Buffalo, EE, Michaelene Perry, Mamie Bell, Dianne Paden, Nyanza Price, Judy Hutchison, Carol Russell, Celia Bell, Jewett EE, and Clara Jones, Leona Centerville EE.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY NEWS

By Ellen Dutkiewicz

In December 2015, The Morning Glory Club baked 44 dozen cookies as a service project. President Florence Frost, and Ellen Dutkiewicz delivered them in mid-December to the Williamson County Juvenile Detention Center, on the outskirts of Georgetown. The director of the Center noted that no other group had ever donated holiday cookies to the residents, many of who remain incarcerated during the Christmas holidays.



Florence Frost
and
Ellen Dutkiewicz

GRANBURY NEWS

By Carol Southward

The November club meeting in Granbury was really busy and having a great time. One of our members, Victoria Barrett, received 25 packages of ladies toiletries to be distributed where needed. The club decided to send them to the Ada Carey/ Women's Shelter in Granbury. The club also filled approximately 25 shoe boxes of gifts for the children living there with their mom. What a fun day and a "feel good" day. Now that's what Christmas is all about.



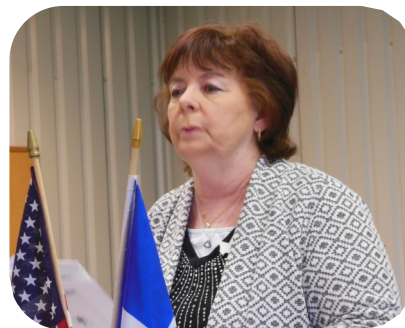
In October, the club provided a lunch for approximately 25 workers for the Habitat for Humanity helping to build houses in the Granbury area. That meat loaf, veggies, and, of course, dessert hit the spot. Yum, yum!

BELL COUNTY NEWS

By Gayle Pomykal

Club members received an educational program titled, "Surviving Emergencies" presented by Linda Willis, member of Tanglefoot EEA. Traveling to each Bell County EEA club, Linda shared helpful and enlightening information. Additionally she related her own personal incident of being caught in rising flood waters. Losing the power of her vehicle and with no control, her car was stopped only when it hit a road barrier. Linda's "emergency" situation supported her suggestion to ensure that each individual in attendance purchase a small hammer to break car windows and a knife capable of cutting a seat belt. Keep both in each vehicle that you own.

Both of these items can be purchased at Walmart in the Automotive Department.



Linda Willis

WILLIAMSON COUNTY NEWS

"Jammies for January"

By Charlotte Watson

Each January, Noontime EE Club donates brand new pajamas to the Austin/Round Rock/Cedar Park Chapter of the Pajama Program. Shown here are Noontime members, Nelda McCain, and Peggy Blair, holding a few of this year's donation which totaled eleven pairs of PJ's, six t-shirts, three pairs of slipper socks, and 1 pair of slippers.



The Pajama Program "delivers warm sleepwear and nurturing books to children in need". The pajamas have come to represent people who care, and they offer security and love for a child abandoned in a shelter or waiting for a foster home.

They often arrive with only the clothes on their backs. For many, this is their first new pair of pajamas and their first book of their own.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY NOONTIME NEWS

By Charlotte Watson

Peggy Blair, President of Noontime EE Club, smiles while holding her certificate indicating that members of Noontime EE Club voted her as Club Volunteer of the Year! Peggy not only leads her club well, but she is also involved in everything her club does and all the activities of the County EE Association. Peggy is a great leader, and her club's achievements are a good measure of her capable leadership.



At the recent Christmas Dinner and Awards Program in Williamson County, Noontime EE Club won the award for "Most Publicity." Holding the certificate is Club President, Peggy Blair. Standing with her are club members, L to R, Mary Johnson, Nelda McCain, and Charlotte Watson. The club is small in number but big in community involvement. They publicize their activities and community projects in all available media.



A shopper is seen filling in her bid for homemade peanut brittle at Noontime's Annual Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction. Displayed on the auction tables were many handmade crafts and home baked goods. Displayed here are a Chocolate Basket, Cookies in a Jar, Photography cards and poinsettia napkin rings. Other home made cookies and candies, handmade glass lanterns, scarves, and hand made potato jewelry were big sellers. This year's proceeds exceeded the past two years totals! All proceeds go towards the many community projects Noontime does throughout the year. Everyone enjoyed the delicious foods Noontime Club members provide for lunch. It was another winning club activity.



LEON COUNTY NEWS

By Michaelene Perry

On January 11 the Jewett Extension Education (EE) Club had their first meeting of 2016 at the Jewett Civic Center Community Room. Celia Bell, President, called the meeting to order. Decorating the meeting room in angels, blue flowers and snowmen were the hostesses for this event Jane Ann Durbin, Cheryl Anderson and Cleo Streater. All expressed Happy New Year to those present.

Leon Extension Education Association (EEA) will be having our annual Education and Cultural Arts Day on March 22 at the Jewett First Baptist Church Family Life

Center. Come join us for this exciting event displaying crafts in 24 categories and providing helpful tips to better ourselves that is **free** to the public with door prizes and lunch included. Mark your calendars now to attend this worthwhile day.

Following the business meeting Karen Hale, Jewett EE Vice President for Programs, presented thank you gift donations from the Jewett EE Club. Each of the organization's recipients gave an updated report about their services to the area, as well as equipment status, and fundraising events so that we may become more active. The following groups were present and discussed services to our community:

Jewett Chamber of Commerce, Kristy Vandegriff, mentioned upcoming events to be held in Jewett at the Civic Center and information about enrolling as a Chamber of Commerce member; **Jewett EMS**, Colby Legalley and Jennifer Travis, described continuing education EMS staff attend to update their medical skills for better patient care, the public relations activities in the area and schools, response times for 911 calls, and tips about providing pertinent patient information to the EMS and VFD first responders; **Jewett VFD**, Darrall Severs provided information on their drive to install smoke alarms to homes for the needy through grant monies from area businesses; **East Lake Limestone VFD**, Tommy Womack, reviewed the Emergency Service District (ESD) benefits for the community which cover approved costs for much needed equipment, such as thermal detection technology now available to scan a home for the location of humans and/or pets in a burning home while keeping the firefighters out of harm's way and show access to extract those in the

home safely, the service area ELLVFD covers and average response times for 911 calls; **Marquez VFD**, T.J. Foley, stated training is a priority at present with classes held online and in various physical facilities to keep responders knowledgeable; and **Leon Community Food Pantry and Clothes Closet**, Judy Hutchison, a newly organized, not-for-profit group, which currently receives funds through the East Texas Food Bank until next fall for feeding those in need. At that time the Food Pantry will be funded only by community and business donations. Judy let our audience know what donations of financial, food and clothing would be helpful for those most needy in the Jewett and Marquez area.

After the gift presentations, guests and members enjoyed a chicken and dumpling and taco soup luncheon with salad, French bread and a variety of desserts to warm us up on a cold January day. Hats off to our hostesses for a wonderful meal!

For more information please call the Texas A&M AgriLife office, 903-536-2531.



L-R: Jennifer Travis, Jewett EMS, Tommy Womack, ELLVFD, Colby Legalley, Jewett EMS, Celia Bell, Jewett EE President, Karen Hale, Jewett EE Vice President, T.J. Foley, Marquez VFD, Kristy Vandegriff, Jewett Chamber of Commerce, Darrall Severs, Jewett VFD, and Judy Hutchison, Leon Community Food Pantry and Clothes Closet Board Vice President.



Hostesses L-R—Jane Ann Durbin, Cheryl Anderson and Cleo Streater

DISTRICT 9 NEWS

DISTRICT 9 NEWS

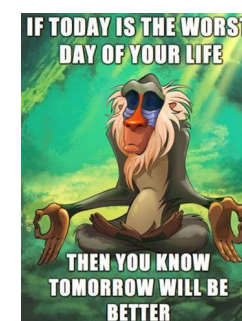
By Diana Marlowe

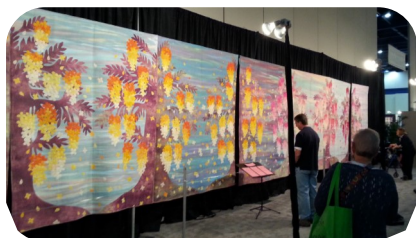
District 9 visited The Brookwood Community on December 3.

Brookwood provides an educational environment that creates meaningful jobs, builds a sense of belonging and demands dignity and respect for adults with special needs. Luke gave us a 45 minute tour of this beautiful campus and ate at the cafe at Brookwood with delight. This campus is located at 1749 FM 1489, Brookshire, TX 77423. They also have a gift shop and greenhouse to shop in afterwards. Such a wonderful experience. Can't say enough about this place.



A picture of all the attendees in the beautiful church located at the entrance of Brookwood.





District 9 had a wonderful time at the Houston International Quilt Show. The bus was full and we had a beautiful day.

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEWS

By Claudine Hare

Following tradition, the Port Neches EE Club of Jefferson County hosted a Christmas luncheon for the clients and their parents from the Fedder's Center for challenged adults. A monetary gift was given to the center and Walmart gift cards were given to each client.

Four and Five year old children from the church's school provided entertainment by singing Christmas songs. This was followed by Renella Priemeaux's line dancers with several numbers - of course accompanied by Christmas music. Club members provided food for the noon meal which included turkey, ham and ALL the trimmings.

Seventeen club members were present as was our agent/advisor, Barbara Evans. Fifteen guests from the Fedder's Center along with seven other guests all joined us for our Christmas luncheon.

After the meal, a gift box of toiletry and personal hygiene items was delivered to the office for the Women and Children's shelter in Beaumont.



FORT BEND NEWS

By Natalie Heimann

The Texas Extension Education Association (TEEA) ladies have once again made baby blankets and/or collected items for the Activities Supporting Adolescent Parenting (ASAP) babies. LCISD has a program called ASAP that is designed to help encourage teen parents and their families and to help support and motivate them to graduate from high school and pursue further education. The items are so very appreciated. The items are so special because of the time, talent and love put into making these baby blankets and caps. Kelle Kipping is the LCISD ASAP Coordinator. Pictured are Cherie Heimann and Pat May of Countryside Club.



BURLESON COUNTY NEWS

By Karen Gaas

The Snook EEA Travel Club hosted a Christmas Spectacular Show trip to Grapevine, Texas, The Christmas Capital of Texas, on December 13 - 15. EEA members along with family & friends had a great time visiting the Texas Tenors Show "Deep in the Heart of Christmas" at the Palace Theater, "A Cold Hearted Christmas" dinner and show at the Texas Star Dinner Theater, a visit to Santa's Wonderland at Bass Pro Shop, the exhibit "ICE, featuring CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD" at the Gaylord Texan Resort,

the spectacular Christmas light show and shopping on Historic Downtown Main Street and a visit to the Collins Street Bakery and Deli. The Snook EEA members who enjoyed the trip were Charlene Lednicky, Gloria Conrad, Lydia Faust, Ann Sebesta, Frances Sebesta, Renee Preston, Don Preston, Betty Anderson, Betty Hubenak, Karen Gaas and Dennis Gaas. Tour Guides for the trip were Karen Gaas and Betty Hubenak.



The Snook EE Club toured "The Settlement to City Museums" to learn the history of Grapevine, Texas on their trip. Pictured are tour guides Karen Gaas and Betty Hubenak.



The group enjoyed lunch at the Weinbergers Delicatessen in Grapevine where they had over 100 different choices of sandwiches to choose from.

INSTALLATION OF THE 2015-2016 BURLESON COUNTY EEA COUNCIL OFFICERS

By Karen Gaas



Pictured L-R: Ann Sebesta, President; Jackie Clark, Vice President; Karen Gaas, Secretary; Betty Anderson, Treasurer; Maggie Freeman, Council Delegate; Lydia Faust, Council Delegate; Charlene Lednicky, Council Delegate.

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEWS

By Claudine Hare

At the regular January meeting, members of Jefferson EEA honored Barbara Evans with a reception that included refreshments. In expressing our appreciation of her help and staunch support, Barbara was presented a special angel and a pillow. The pillow was embroidered with the names of all of the clubs in the county as a remembrance of our time together. The Quincy EE Club, separately, gave her a beautiful crystal bowl. Barbara has been a diligent supporter and advisor for our organization during her years with the TX A&M AgriLife Extension. Though she will be direly missed, we wish her the very best in her retirement.



Barbara Evans

SNOOK EEC NEWS— BURLESON COUNTY

By Karen Gaas

Snook EEA Club members Betty Anderson, Michelle Zuckert and Karen Gaas prepared and served breakfast for the Snook school students during the Sylvan Learning Program. Over 80 students enjoyed a breakfast of pancakes during this 7 week program.



Quilts entered in the Fair.



Toni Tax presents Brenda Buelow with flowers for being named high point individual of the Brazoria County Fair.

BRAZORIA COUNTY NEWS

By Brenda Sturman

The Extension Education Association of Brazoria County participated in the Brazoria County Fair in October. The exhibits were set up in the newly completed building. This building replaced the one that was built in the 1940s by members and their husbands.

In addition to the beautiful craft items, the sale of homemade cookies was another favorite this year. Sales of cookies earned \$1,260.13. Members were kept busy baking cookies to replenish the stock. Chocolate items were definitely a hit.

Members made Thomas Worrel of Pearland, TX won the raffle for the lovely Cowboy quilt that was raffled off on the last day of the fair. This is an annual fund raising activity and plans are being made for the 2016 quilt.

Ms. Brenda Buelow of the Alvin EEA was the high point individual, receiving 951 points which included sixteen (16) Best of Show awards.



The featured speaker was Ms. Mary Moreno with Military Moms and Wives. She gave a very informative talk about what our soldiers need and the care packages her organization prepares and ships to those overseas. She also told of the difficulties soldiers and their families must deal with after the

soldiers return from the Middle East. Following the presentation of awards, a luncheon of Cordon Bleu, dressing and gravy, etc. was catered by Filipp's restaurant in Danbury, TX.



Mary Moreno with Military Moms & Wives.

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GILLESPIE COUNTY PILOT KNOB EE CLUB NEWS

By Helen Usener

The Pilot Knob EE Club attended the October 30 Medina County Women's Conference in Castroville as their annual Fall Tour. Ten members including Ilene Crenwelge, Mary Louise Dittmar, Alicia Frantzen, Barbara Jacoby, Corine Klose, Sharon Kott, Roslee Lochte, Janie Nielsen, Emmie Usener, Helen Usener and FCS Agent Shea Nebgen attended. Topics and speakers included Breast Cancer by Dr. Sharon Wilks, "Eating Well for the Health of It!" by Amanda Rothe registered and licensed dietitian, "Around the World: Where Adventure Meets Health" by Dr. Andy Crocker of Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and "More Than Meets the Eye" by author and motivational speaker Joan Brock. The event also included shopping, health checks, silent auction, lunch, style show, and prize drawings.

Gillespie County hosted the District 10 Fall EEA Training on November 17, 2015 at the Gillespie County Extension Building in Fredericksburg.



Roslee Lochte, Corine Klose, Helen Usener, Ilene Crenwelge, and FCS Agent Shea Nebgen represented Gillespie County.



Roslee Lochte, Ilene Crenwelge, and Sharon Kott prepare the refreshments.

On December 11 the Gillespie Co. / Pilot Knob EE Club Recognition Luncheon was held at the Gillespie County Extension Building. Members enjoyed sharing inspirational Christmas readings, the covered dish lunch, installation of officers, and wrapping Christmas gifts for the two families adopted through the Hill Country Needs Council.



Officers of the Gillespie County EE Council and the Pilot Knob EE Club: Ilene Crenwelge, president, Helen Usener, Vice-president and historian, Corine Klose, secretary, and Alicia Frantzen, treasurer.



Ilene Crenwelge, Emmie Usener, Helen Usener, Roslee Lochte, Alicia Frantzen, Judy Leddy, Corine Klose, and Janie Nielsen are shown with two vehicles loaded with Christmas gifts and other items for the two families adopted through the Hill Country Needs Council.

NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS FROM SAN MARCOS EEA

By Camille Stephenson

Wow! What a year it has been with so many things to be thankful for. State Convention was enjoyed by all and we are so proud of Alicia Luna who earned a first place ribbon for her 'Christmas Tree Skirt'. A generous donation was given by Dr. R. Botla to enable us to continue our work.



Alicia Luna & her Christmas tree skirt.

Many of our members were judges in Bastrop, Lockhart and Dripping Springs, and we had a fantastic time with old friends and meeting new ones.

Our club's Christmas luncheon was celebrated with much flair. The most delicious meal was provided by our members, present and absent, and was attended by members and their families, friends and special guests. Our Agri-Extension home was beautifully decorated by

the extension employees. Angel Gifts were donated by all members and were much appreciated by CASA. With full tummies we played the white elephant game which brought loads of laughter and fun. A wonderful time was had by all. 2016, here we come.



San Marcos EEA Christmas luncheon.

SPRINKLE EE CLUB - TRAVIS COUNTY NEWS

By Una Kunkel

Members of the Sprinkle EE Club were proud to celebrate the 90th. Birthday with long time member, Verda Krause, on December 21st. The group met at Luby's for lunch and then on to Club President, Julia McNamara's beautifully Christmas decorated home for Birthday Cake and Coffee.



Those is attendance and pictured are: front row: Judy Telcky, Donna Grimm (Verda's daughter), Verda Krause, Ardis Meschke.... back row: Julia McNamara, Pat Zimmerman, Una Kunkel, and Betty Rountree. Verda has been an active member, attending District 10 Spring Conferences and State Conventions. Sprinkle EE Club looks forward to her remaining a member and enjoying her coming years.

ELGIN EE CLUB NEWS

By Judith Lundgren

The Elgin EE Club installed their new officers for 2015-2016. The following are Claudia Murphy, President; Adrene Bracewell, Treasure; Rebecca Bernhard, Secretary; Judy Lundgren Reporter.

Summer - Guest Speaker Kevin Wayne Lundgren of Elgin gave a program about organic peach production and growing peppers, and other vegetables.

Jason Mangold, County Agent of Bastrop County 4-H Youth Development Services gave his program on making 4-H better and encouraging our youth of today on subjects they can learn with different projects and summer camps.

Fall - Club members attending decorated all sizes of pumpkins to take home for their decorations.

Kathy Prochnow, Vice President, of the McDade EE Club gave a report on the state meeting that was held in Waco, Texas.

Club members decorated and embellished a lighted glass block at Adrene Bracewell home.

Winter- Claudia Murphy, President of Elgin EE Club gave a program on current and fast growing Scams.

MCDADE EE CLUB NEWS

By Kathi Gremillion

At the November McDade EE meeting, Rachel Bauer, Bastrop County Extension Agent for Ag and Natural Resources, gave a very informative presentation on native xeriscape plants. The McDade EE Club held their annual Christmas Party on December 15. A pot luck lunch was served, games were played and Christmas carols were sung! Homemade goodies and gifts were exchanged and item donations were collected for the Elgin

Nursing Home and for the District 10 4-H Care Package Service Project which provides care packages of personal items for the homeless.

On January 25 the McDade EE Club participated in the Bastrop EEA Achievement Day. This was the first annual Achievement Day since the BEEA reorganization. There were a total of thirty-one ladies in attendance, including Hillary Long who is the Bastrop County Family and Consumer Science Extension agent, 6 judges, members from the McDade and Elgin EE clubs and one guest. Kathy Prochnow, Vice President of the McDade EE Club, was the organizer of the event with help from several club members. During the judging there were several craft demonstrations presented, and refreshments were served. McDade EE Club member, Wanda Deen demonstrated how to make beads out of potatoes for jewelry making, and also how to make zinnia-like flower arrangements out of pine cones.



There were also several door prizes given away. Seventeen McDade club members submitted sixty-two items and came away with fifty-four Blue ribbons, thirteen Grand Champion ribbons and seven Reserve Grand Champions. McDade's High Point winner was Patsie Gentner, who submitted seven items and earned seven Blue, one Grand Champion and two Reserve Grand Champion ribbons.

CALDWELL COUNTY NEWS

By Kathy McCown

TEEA members of Caldwell County had a booth at Dickens on the Square in Lockhart December 4 and 5 with handmade items. Pictured helping at the fundraiser are (L to R): Frances Rodriguez, Madeline Brown and Ester Barney.



Monies raised from this project help continue the bi-monthly county food distribution, book distribution to children and 4-H support.

County members met December 10 at Mineral Springs Baptist Church for their annual Christmas party hosted by the Luling club. Thirty-nine members and guests attended from the Lockhart, Glen Voir, and Luling EE clubs. Those attending enjoyed a delicious lunch, Christmas games, songs and good fellowship.

All members are busy preparing for the District 10 Spring conference which they will host in Lockhart March 22.

GUADALUPE COUNTY NEWS

By Valerie Posey

On behalf of the Extension Education Association (EEA) of Guadalupe County members are proud of Dr. Charla Bading, family and consumer sciences agent for Guadalupe County, who has received a Superior Service Award in the distinguished career category from the

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service.



Superior Service Awards recognize AgriLife Extension faculty and staff members who provide outstanding performance in Extension education or other outstanding service to the agency and to Texans. The award was presented Jan. 12 during the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Conference awards dinner at the Brazos Expo Center in Bryan.

Dr. Bading has been with Extension for 29 years, beginning in 1986 as an assistant county agent for home economics in Guadalupe County. In her current role as a county agent, she develops and supports community coalitions and task forces addressing issues ranging from childcare to nutrition, health and wellness. In her award nomination, Bading was also cited for her work with nutrition, child care, diabetes education, health and wellness. One of Bading's major accomplishments cited was her support of the Better Living for Texans program, through the "Six Easy Bites" and "Get the Facts" series curricula, as well as "MyPlate Food Groups" and "Back to the Basics" programs.

Since 2011 Dr. Bading has also worked extensively with the Child Care Conference Task Force since 2011 to provide quality educational training for child care providers, and since 2013 has trained providers and directors who give care to 4,375 children enrolled in 68 child care

centers or family day homes. A total of 1,850 clock hours of training were provided to childcare professionals seeking to meet state-mandated training established by the state of Texas.

With assistance from the Diabetes Education Task Force, Bading also has been instrumental in organizing and delivering diabetes education through the "Do Well, Be Well with Diabetes" program. In 2013 and 2015, a total of 103 people with diabetes participated in the classes offered with 69 reported never previously having diabetes classes. She also presented educational cooking demonstrations for those with diabetes.

Dr. Bading has also promoted healthy eating and a healthy lifestyle through her leadership in the Dinner Tonight! program and Walk Across Texas initiative. She has also organized three international trips for Texas 4-H members to expose them to the culture and history of other countries.

According to her nomination, Dr. Bading also has collaborated with numerous agencies, organizations and educational institutions, as well as various charitable and human service organizations. Some major partnerships/collaboration efforts over the past several years include: the Institute for Public Health and Education Research Inc., Resolute Care Active Living Coalition, the Child Care Conference Task Force, Diabetes Education Task Force and Dinner Tonight! Task Force.

During the time Dr. Bading served as a regional program director and district 4-H specialist, she partnered with numerous county Extension agents and subject matter specialists to plan and deliver high-quality educational programming to 4-H members and adult volunteers. She

also formed partnerships for programming with dozens of local and area agencies, municipalities, churches, libraries, senior residences and community service organizations.

Dr. Bading has served on various local, district, regional and state committees, addressing topics ranging from health, nutrition and wellness to emergency management, 4-H youth development and workforce development. During her career, she has received awards from numerous agencies and professional organizations.

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DON'T LET THE BLUES GET TO YOU

By Olivia McDonald

"Don't Let the Blues Get to You" was the program brought from the State Conference by Pat Sanders to the January meeting of the Taiton Extension Education Club. Up to five percent of citizens over 65 may suffer major

clinical depression. The good news is that it can be treated with medication or therapy. Concerned friends and family members should be patient and understanding, advocate for treatment and encourage patients to stay with treatment. The Taiton Club regularly uses programs gleaned from district and state conferences.

Our club has been successful with selling nuts, dried fruits and trash mixes because many of the members participate. Funds raised are used for various charitable donations and for scholarships which are given to members' children and grandchildren and great grandchildren.

The Wharton County Extension Education clubs, Bluebonnet and Taiton, are selling raffle tickets on a queen-sized Double Wedding Ring Quilt to raise money for scholarships. Tickets are sold at the Rice Clinic and at various businesses. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Wharton County Fair in late April.

JACKSON COUNTY NEWS

On January 25 the Jackson County EEA hosted an interpretation meeting for the Jackson County Commissioner's Court. In attendance were Jackson County Judge, Commissioners, several citizens and three EEA members. During their report, EEA members highlighted both their educational programs and volunteer service activities. Some of their volunteer activities highlighted, include teaching Sunday School, helping with the 4-H clothing and textiles projects, judging home economic competitions at the fairs in District 11, and presenting two \$500 scholarships to graduating high school seniors in Jackson County for higher education. Trois Girndt, Jackson County EEA Vice President presented a check for 2,295 volunteer hours in the county totaling \$52,945.65 for 2015.

Presenting the check and pictured below are: L - R: Commissioner Wayne Hunt, Commissioner Wayne Bubela, EEA member Jane Deyton, Judge Dennis Simons, EEA VP Trois Girndt, Commissioner Johnny Belicek, EEA member Lillie May Shafer, Commissioner Dennis Karl, and County Extension Agent Hannah Krebs.



WASHINGTON EEA NEWS

By Judith Finke

The Education Committee of the Washington EE hosted a dinner at the Cannery and then the group took in "Always Patsy Cline" at the Unity Theatre on October 1. The familiar tunes were especially refreshing.



WEEA brought back a "Pecan Sale" for the month of November. Sales went extremely well.

On December 3, the Expansion Committee presented Christmas Fables and Tables at the Christmas workshop at the Blinn College Banquet Hall. A lovely dinner was served to tables depicting scenes from Christmas fables such as "The Gift of the Magi", "Christmas Tree, Spider, and the Christ Child" and the "Fable of the Christmas Apple". One by one the committee members interpreted the fables using props to tell the story. "Twas the Night Before Christmas" was read with "to the rights" and "to the lefts" as the door prize of each table winner was determined. Christmas carols were joyously sung and three Extension memberships were awarded to guests wishing to join Extension. The Expansion Committee also introduced and passed out colorful slick rack cards promoting the organization which also have been posted in racks across town.

On December 8, the Washington EEA was honored to be the designate organization for the Brenham Country Club Gala. Our table of Christmas candies, cards, needlework and other fun items met the guests as they entered the front door.



IN MEMORY

Lou Etta Cummings - San Saba - District 7
 Imogene Hawkins - San Saba - District 7
 Jacqueline O'Neill - Oakalla - District 7
 Opal Stribling Cohen - Llano - District 7
 Barbara Harvey - Alvin - District 9
 Rose Anna Borm - Alvin - District 9
 Bonnie Rambo - Jefferson County - District 9
 Betty Cowan - Jefferson County - District 9
 Vernie Bennett - Pearland - District 9
 Tina Burnhamb - Fredericksburg - District 10
 Lorine Krakaw - Seguin - District 10
 Debbie Foster - Seguin - District 10
 Marguerite Both - Brenham - District 11
 Esther Dahmann - Prairie Hill - District 11

DISTRICT 12

HIDALGO COUNTY NEWS

By Adelita Munoz

Hidalgo County celebrated the 50th Anniversary of TEEA member Irma Calfa. Members from the different clubs were also invited and came to wish Irma their good wishes. Adelita Figueroa-Munoz, Extension Agent Emerita, presented a program on TEEA 50 years ago and now. The group enjoyed sharing memorable events they had experienced with Irma Califa through the years. They also shared the many educational activities that they had attended and how it had impacted their lives and their families. Members dressed in Halloween costumes and enjoyed delicious and healthy refreshments.

DISTRICT 9 HARRIS COUNTY NEWS

By Helen Miller

The Golden Vista EE club in Harris County has a community project at the Pasadena Care Nursing Home. We have been making kits at a member's home and taking them to the nursing home the first Thursday of each month and we help them put the kits together. We have done this for 29 years. We really get our rewards from the patients at the home and they look forward to it each month.

We have made stuffed bears, Christmas stockings, pillow case dolls, yarn dolls, cover containers, small American flags and jewelry etc. At Christmas time we donate presents for those who have no one. This past Christmas we made stockings and decorated a large tree for them.



When I die I want to be like an old quilt; faded, well-washed, used up and well-loved.

~ Lynda French

"If you cannot lift the load off another's back, do not walk away. Try to lighten it."

~ Frank Tyger

THE TEEA MESSENGER

Lela G. Goar, Editor
 225 CR 207A
 Burnet, TX 78611

teeamessenger2013@gmail.com

SUMMER DEADLINE
JUNE 1