

THE TEEA MESSENGER

VOLUME 2

SPRING 2017

TEEA MESSENGER

225 CR 207A

BURNET, TX 78611

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MARBLE FALLS, TX



“MILLIE’S TIDBITS“

Hello Everyone,

The Holidays are over and most of us have eaten too much and now are trying to get back in shape. I gained about 5 pounds and now I am “paying the piper” to drop those extra pounds, however, it was great fun eating all that good food!!!!

I hope everyone has been working on getting new members... we need them. A few ideas to spread around:

1. Invite a friend, neighbor, church member to your next club meeting and if necessary offer to pick them up.
2. Invite your hubby or significant other to attend a meeting and join. Our club has several husbands as members and they come in so handy to do some of the heavy lifting!
3. Have an “open house” coffee/tea and dessert. Invite the public and advertise this “open house” and make sure literature on TEEA is available to hand out. This can be presented as a club or as an association with as many TEEA members present as possible.
4. Lunch and Learn – wonderful time for an educational program and literature on TEEA and a warm invite to all attending to join us.
5. Attend other organization lunches or meetings and

Talk up TEEA. Invite them to one of your meetings. Give them some literature on TEEA.

6. Place an article in your local newspaper giving details of TEEA talking about what we do, what we stand for and why we would like to have them as our guest and member.
7. When your club or association has a function place an article in the newspaper and always include pictures. (This is how I found out about TEEA – I read an article in the paper – they were having fun and I wanted to be a part of it).
8. Believe in our creed and prayer. Dynamic, says it all.

Share ideas with other members and clubs so we can all be working on getting those new members – you may be doing something that other clubs can use.

STATE CONFERENCE 2017 “THE GREAT OUTDOORS” “WILDFLOWERS, LAKES and WILDLIFE”

We have been working diligently on this conference- what a wonderful place to have a conference; HORSESHOE BAY RESORT in Horseshoe Bay, Texas just outside Marble Falls. September 12, 13. All under one roof – once you arrive you do not have to leave until ready to go home. Room charge is \$129.00 + taxes. CALL 877-611-0112 **AFTER FEBRUARY 15 TO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION. STATE YOU WANT THE TEEA BLOCK.** Registration will be Tuesday at 8 am, or earlier if you are there, and the Early Bird workshops will start at 9 am and 10:15 am. If you plan to come on Monday, September 11,

feel free to come as we do have plenty of rooms reserved. We will be working on the conference reservation cost and the banquet dinner charge and will let everyone know at a later date.

This is such a nice place, like no other we have had before. We want you to be able to take advantage of as many outside activities as possible. Just a few examples of the fun that we have planned – a Tropical Bird show - an outside program on the beautiful landscaping – such gorgeous plants – a walking trail for those that usually take a stroll everyday – waterfalls – a full size miniature golf course available for playing – cost is \$15.00 per person – patios to sit and have a cup of coffee or glass of iced tea and just relax with friends.

Jan Meador, Second Vice President of Programs is working with the Education Chairs on the Educational Workshops to be presented and from what I have heard they will be FANTASTIC. Carrol Davig, District 11 and Claudine Hare, District 9 Director are hard at work organizing the Early Bird workshops and the optional member workshops.

Your District Director and County Chair will be passing along information on the conference as it progresses and of course the summer issue of the Messenger will have full information for all. Registration forms will be given to the District Directors at our May Board Meeting. I hope everyone has been putting money in your piggy banks for the conference as we are going to be educated, have fun, eat good food and most important have wonderful fellowship!!

As always, I am here for you, if you have any questions, need help or just want to talk, call me, email me or write me a letter.

That is what I am here for; **YOU** the TEEA Members.

With Love and Laughter,
Your President,
Millie

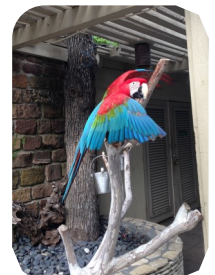
millie@txol.net

254-631-6228

609 County Road 461

Eastland, TX 76448

TEEA...Bigger and Better



STATE PROGRAMS FOR 2017

JAN MEADOR
2nd VP for Programs

Greetings from the Panhandle!

I hope everyone has not had too bad a winter, I know up here there is sure to be more to come!

Horseshoe Bay is a beautiful area of our state and I think you all will enjoy the facility and grounds. The views are beautiful and there are several activities to enjoy around the resort. During our tour of the resort we enjoyed some great food so you can look forward to some treats during your stay. I know many of you are making plans to attend, the in house meeting areas will be so nice this year!

We are introducing a new education chair from District 4, Janet Reed. She will tell you more about herself in her article in the next issue. We were sad for Clara Ball to need to resign but understand her time is needed to care for her husband. I know he is showing some improvement now. Everyone please include Clara and Jerry Ball in your prayers.

I am very pleased with the topics from our Education Chairs this year. The Education Chairmen have been preparing programming and communicating with presenters and myself so I know they have been busy.

Title of District 4 Education Chair Janet Reed's program is "Hearing Loss - Causes, Affects & Options for Help" This will cover some causes of hearing loss, how it affects our lives and some resources for help. This will be some very beneficial information for all of us.

Title of District 6 Education Chair LaJuana Thame's program is "Who Do You Think You Are?" Finding your Ancestry. La Juana has some great research tips on how to discover why your family members may have some of the health issues that they do.

Title of District 7 Education Chair Linda Roger's program is "Make a Plan to Control Your

Aging Years". Getting older means the day may come when you need help to manage your life, either for an episode of illness or for a longer-term situation. The sharing of vital information and crucial choices in advance of the need is the most important step you can take to maintain control. Debbie Pearson is a Registered Nurse with forty years of experience to demonstrate how to Age Your Way. The formula is easy:

- Gather your information
- Document your wishes
- Avoid the unthinkable

Title of District 8 Education Chair Gayle Pomykal's program is "Benefits of a Healthy Bedtime" offering information on preparing for and getting a restful night's sleep, resulting in better habits and over-all improved well-being. This program will be presented by Andrew Crocker.

The hosting districts will be planning the early bird and member workshops. They have some great ideas and resources so I know the programs will be enjoyable and informative.

All presidents and county chairs please remember to use those monthly club and county report forms for your club and association meetings so preparation of the yearly report can be prepared easily by the District Directors. Then the directors can get them to me on time so I can have the State report prepared for our State Conference in September!

I'm looking forward to seeing you at Horse Shoe Bay!!

REXINE SCARBOROUGH

State Secretary

The Board had a very busy meeting in November. The committees accomplished a lot with the planning for the 2017 State Conference. Watch for updates in the spring. I am looking forward to the Conference at The Horseshoe Bay Resort, it is a beautiful facility and the programs being prepared are new and informative subjects; I hope you all are planning to attend.

As we closed out 2016, we reflected on whether we accomplished or did not accomplish what we planned we then set new goals for 2017. Of course, we plan to succeed in completing our goals. Hopefully we did not set our goals so high that we cannot reach them.

As I reflect on the past, and look forward to the future, I plan to get more organized and be on time with all activities I plan to accomplish. Working with others is a must to accomplish some of my goals for 2017. Some are personal goals and hopefully I have not set them too high for me to accomplish. I wish you all success in completing all your goals in 2017.

I am honored to be your Secretary and I'm looking forward to accurately record all minutes of the meetings and get them posted to the TEEA web site.

Best of luck to all in 2017.

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

KAY JACOB

State Treasurer

Hello again ladies and gentlemen, I hope everyone had a GREAT HOLIDAY SEASON with family and friends and had a WONDERFUL beginning to the New Year. I did because I had the opportunity to meet my newest granddaughter, Karis Faith, the minute she came into this world. My son, Tony, and his wife, Jamie, adopted her after being unable to have children for thirteen years. We are so blessed to have her in our family. My oldest grandson, Jacob is graduating from Texas A&M with his degree as a Registered Nurse in May. I could go on and on about my ten grandchildren but I know we all are so proud of our grandchildren. Ok, back to business.

2017 promises to be an eventful year for TEEA... community work...obtaining new members...and meeting new friends.

Through January 25, we have 2517 members of which 170 are new members. Congratulations to the clubs with

new members and BIG WELCOME to our new members and clubs. Last year we had 2688 members and we have lost 337 members due to loss of life, age, and other activities.

This year the filing of the **Club's, County's, and District's 990's** are the responsibilities of your treasurers to file. Remember they are due by **May 15** so please get these done as soon as possible. I am still working with the IRS on the problems we have had over the last year. Some of the clubs have had success and many others were rejected. We are NOT the only tax free organization having these problems with the IRS so please be patient and I will continue to try to solve this problem. If you should have any problems, please feel free and contact me so we can resolve them in a timely manner.

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

We are planning a wonderful state conference in Marble Falls. The host districts are already hard at work too. So I am really looking forward to seeing everyone there!!

Till next time, have a bountiful Spring!!!!

*"Unity is strength...
when there is teamwork
and collaboration,
wonderful things can be
achieved."*

~ Mattie Stepanek

BARBARA SANDLIN-SAMPSON

4-H Representative

" I really have enjoyed my first few months as your TEEA Representative to 4-H Foundation. I attended a quarterly meeting at Texas A&M in September & met everyone & learned the function of the Foundation. It was a little overwhelming but enjoyable. By the time you read this, I will have attended our second meeting - January 30, 31 at Texas A&M. My grandson -Dale Sandlin - former 4-H member -told me Christmas that one member of the Foundation is Chris Boleman - Texas 4-H Director, who was on Dale's graduate committee when he was getting his Masters at A&M. I can't wait to tell Chris that Dale is now Hawaii Beef Board Director and lives in Honolulu. Small world isn't it?

MEDIA CHAIR

Gayle Pomykal

As Media Chair Person and Administrator for the state Facebook Page, each district is encouraged to select a representative to submit a monthly "post" on Facebook which shares activities of your counties. Participation will get the word out about TEEA, social media is an excellent advertisement for our organization. When searching for the official TEEA Facebook Page, please enter: Texas Extension Education Association, Inc., not being specific will bring up alternate pages. You will currently see several informational "posts" by me, just to create some activity, however TEEA club, county, and district activity is preferable for posting.

Also, the Media Committee has undertaken the updating of TEEA's TAMU website: <http://teea.tamu.edu> This undertaking is currently in progress, check it out for the latest information along with postings regarding the upcoming State Conference in Marble Falls.

"Stop looking for happiness in the same place you lost it."
~ Author Unknown

ALUMNAE NEWS

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 2016.

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, 2017, one copy to Alumnae Chair Grace Glaze and one copy to State President Millie Barrow. 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 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 or e-mail me (979-543-4168) Email 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.

WARREN RETIRES!

By Dr. Joyce Cavanagh
State Advisor

A New Year, a new outlook! Dr. Judy Warren, TEEA Advisor Emerita, retired from AgriLife Extension on January 31 after 36 years of service. Over the span of her career, Judy held a variety of positions including Extension Gerontology Specialist, Program Leader for Family Development and Resource Management, Associate Director for Human Sciences, and Special Initiatives Coordinator. While in her role as Associate Director, Judy assumed the role of TEEA Advisor. During her time as Advisor, Judy facilitated the development of the TEEA website and assistance in publishing TEEA's work online, including the TEEA Manual, Board Meeting Minutes, State conference information and Educational Programs. While Judy will be missed as advisor, she maintains her membership in TEEA and looks forward to attending district meetings and state conferences. We wish Judy and her husband, Peter Hugill, a long, healthy and joyous retirement!!

Dr. Judy Warren and her husband, Peter Hugill



**LYNN WENZEL
TEEA Website Administrator**

Have you ever wondered who is responsible for keeping our TEEA website updated and looking so good? Here she is. Lynn is also the one who loads the Messenger onto the website after it is finished each time. She does a phenomenal job and we say **THANK YOU LYNN FOR TAKING SUCH GOOD CARE OF US.**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD
OFFICES 2017-2019**

By Millie Barrow

We have several Executive Board offices to be filled for 2017 - 2019:

**PRESIDENT-ELECT
FIRST V P OF LEADERSHIP
TREASURER**

As stated in our bylaws, **Article VIII**, Nomination and Qualification of Officers: **Section 1.**

A candidate for state office shall be endorsed by the club, county and district in which membership is held. No candidate shall be presented who has not consented to serve. A club may not present a candidate until thirty days following the close of the TEEA State Conference. A candidate must be a member of TEEA.

Two weeks prior to the District Spring Conference, a club presenting a candidate shall notify in writing the County Association and the District Director, giving the name and qualifications of the candidate for the particular office for which presented. The endorsement must be signed by the president and secretary of the club. Candidates must also be endorsed by the county association to which they belong prior to the District Spring Conference. The County Association Chair shall

IN MEMORY

- Ruth Kinkaid - Plainview - Hale Co. - D2
- Inge White - Early - Brown Co. - D7
- Winona Baugh - McLennan Co. - D8
- Kathleen Herold - Richmond - Fort Bend Co. - D9
- Sue Montgomery - Houston - Harris Co. - D9
- Merle Broyles - Nederland - Jefferson Co. - D9
- Mona Travis - Brazoria Co. - D9
- Jessie Mitchell - Gillespie Co. - D10
- Verda Krause - Travis Co. - D10

notify the District Director in writing.

A majority vote of the Delegates at the District TEEA Spring Conference at which the election is to be held shall constitute the endorsement of the district. The District Director shall notify in writing the TEEA President of any endorsed candidate by May 1.

Section 2.

To be eligible for the office of President-Elect, a candidate must have served at least one year as a member of the Executive Committee.

Section 3.

To be eligible for the other state offices, candidates must have served at least one year as an elected or appointed District Director or Education Committee Chair.

Section 4.

A candidate for Treasurer shall be eligible for bonding, knowledgeable in bookkeeping, and familiar with long and short term investments.

Section 5.

To be eligible for the office of District Director-Elect or District Director, a candidate must have served at least one year as County Chair or Vice Chair.

Section 6.

Nominations from the floor may be made only by a member of the same county association as the person nominated. The nominee must meet the same qualifications as other candidates. Written notice of a proposed nomination from the floor shall be given to the President prior to the session in which nominations are in order. Eligibility for nomination from the floor at the TEEA State Conference is not affected by the May 1 deadline.

Also, please read Chapter 9, page 2 – Declaring Candidacy for State Office.

Please abide by these two rules.

Remember, these are important positions to be filled. Make sure your candidate is qualified.

“No person is your friend who demands your silence, or denies your right to grow.”

~ Alice Walker

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HERBY, THE LADYBUG- PUT SOME SPICE IN YOUR TEEA LIFE

By Glenda Gibson

District 2 is working on our TEEA Spring Conference. It will be March 30 at the Colonial Hill Baptist Church in Snyder. Registration will be at 9:30 a.m. and the conference will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Our program will be presented by Regina McVey from Roscoe with McVey Native Nursery. She is going to be sharing about the care and planting of herbs and the medicinal uses of herbs. She will also help us with a make and take workshop that afternoon. Our lunch for the day will be chicken spaghetti from Miss Cathey's and salads and fruit pizza provided by the agents and TEEA members of our southeast cluster. We are planning entertainment during the lunch hour and a fun day of visiting and getting to know the ladies of our district. Registration of \$17.00 is due by March 16th to our District 2 Treasurer, Gail Gladden at 1723 West Avenue E Muleshoe, Texas 79347. If you have any questions, just call our District 2 TEEA Director, Glenda Gibson at 806-995-3726. We welcome anyone that would like, to join us in Snyder for lots of fun with Herby, the Ladybug!!

“A negative thinker sees difficulty in every opportunity. A positive thinker sees an opportunity in every difficulty.”

~ Zig Ziglar

LEVELLAND NEWS

By Gail Turnipseed

The Moonlighters of Hockley County celebrated Wynelle Donnell's 80th birthday in September. Pictured are: Front row: Ruby Thompson, Wynelle Donnell, Verna Bowman, and Sharon Robertson. Back row: Betty Mathies, Nell Morris, Kay Brown, Crystal Riggins. (Not pictured Gaily Turnipseed)

Wynell made the quilt that is in the background.



December was a busy month for the Moonlighters. On the first they met at the Hockley County Senior Citizens board room to fill the annual Christmas gift bags to be handed out to the Meals on Wheels senior citizens. The bags were hand-crafted by the members and were filled with drinks, snacks, word puzzle books and fun Christmas gifts.

The Levelland Moonlighters had their Christmas party December 15 at Sharon Robertson's barn. For the lunch there were two kinds of soup and finger foods. Kaye Brown, one of the members, provided games and prizes which were enjoyed by all. Those attending were: Sharon Robertson, Kaye Brown, Ruby Thompson, Tina O'Connor, Betty Steward, Crystal Riggins, Nell Morris, Betty Mathies, Wynelle Donnell and Gail Turnipseed. Sharon's barn is a very special place.

The Hockley County EEA members would like to honor a special lady, Ella Mae Ward of the Ropesville Club. She is 101 and has been an extension club member since 1945. She still lives by herself in her home, attends club, church, beauty shop and grocery store, but has given up driving. Congratulations!

“The one thing that you have that nobody else has is you. Your voice, your mind, your story, your vision. So write and draw and build and play and dance and live only as you can.”

~ Neil Gaiman

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PARKER COUNTY COUNTRY CROSSROADS NEWS

By Carol Arrant

The October 20 meeting of the Country Crossroads chapter of TEEA included an informational presentation by Debra Sue Waters, president of the Weatherford Art Association and Firehouse Gallery. She gave us a quick overview of the history of the organization and she also invited any interested parties to join the organization and enjoy future events. Several examples of the art available through the Association at the Firehouse Gallery were shown.

Following are a couple of Ms Waters works.



A silent auction was held following the meeting for the purpose of raising money for various projects including 4-H scholarships and other community projects.

Dates to remember are the “Home for the Holidays” event on November 10 and the next meeting on November 17.

“Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will.”

Mahatma Gandhi

SPRINGTONTOWN EE CLUB NEWS

By Cita Honeycutt

The TEEA District 3 Fall Training meeting was held on November 17, 2016 in Seymour, Texas. It was well attended. the lunch was wonderful and the information well presented by District Director, Dixie Range. Five members from the Springtown Extension Club and our County Agent, Kathy Smith attended.



Our November meeting followed our annual Greenwood Community Thanksgiving covered dish lunch. Over seventy people attended. Our Christmas potluck meeting was held in the home of Joyce Ennis. Those in attendance were Nancy Ennis, Nadine Gage, Joyce Ennis, Carole Shaffer, May Haubold, Suzy Willford, Dixie Range, Paulette Jackson, Bubbie Ashley, Marilynn Collins, Ann Holloway, Gerry Galloway and Linda Hood. In lieu of presents, we made a donation to WARM. We had a report of shopping for five Christmas Angels and we gave extra money to Slidell School for food for needy children during the Holidays.



DISTRICT 3 TRAINING MEETING

By Ronda Wilson

The District 3 Training Meeting was held November 17 in Seymour. Baylor, Knox and Haskell counties were host for the meeting. Thirty-eight members of District 3 enjoyed a morning of coffee and visiting. Dixie Range, District 3 Director was in charge of the training. The Seymour EEA Club hosted the noon luncheon.



We have started the New Year off with a great attendance for our January meeting. New officers for 2017 were installed by Tanya Davis, FCS Agent. New officers are: Bobbie Ashley, president; Joyce Ennis, vice president; Suzy Williford, secretary; Linda Hood, treasurer; May Haubold, parliamentarian; and Janis Millican, county delegate.

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RAINS COUNTY EEA NEWS

By Kay Chastain

The Piecemakers Quilting Guild of Rains County, District 4 EEA proudly displays the almost 300 Christmas stockings made this year for the Rains Angel Tree. This is an annual project that the guild has participated in for several years.



HUNT COUNTY EEA NEWS

By Judy Clingan

Hunt County enjoyed the holidays with a long overdue Christmas party, good food, fellowship and a guest songwriter and singer, Guy Hill. His blessing of Christian and Christmas songs was awesome. All clubs donated for Christmas to different places and felt blessed to be able to give.

A couple of days in February have been work days on Alzheimer aprons and CPS blankets. A new project is in the making. We are all looking forward to the spring conference and members are hard at work on cultural arts entries. We are looking forward to seeing everyone. Until then be safe and stay warm.

*“Adversity causes some men to break; others to break records.”
~ William Arthur Ward*

GREENWOOD EE CLUB NEWS

By Bobbie Ashley

We were well pleased with our Fall Festival. This allows us to do all the things we plan to do for the coming year. Pictured below are Marilynn Collins, District 3 Director - Dixie Range, Bobbie Ashley and Tanya Davis - FCS Agent who attended the Fall Training in Seymour.

COUNTRY CROSSROAD EE CLUB NEWS

By Carol Arrant

The Country Crossroads Club of Parker county got together to provide some assistance to new mothers through Hope House by making Nursing Covers; a light weight blanket that serves the privacy of both mother and baby. They were delivered on Feb 2.

The November program guest speaker was Trish Stuart, a local resident in the county. Trish is a nationally known and published quilt designer/artist extraordinaire. Her trunk show of designs was a lesson on color value. We are privileged to have her talents in the county.

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

~ Mother Teresa

VAN ZANDT EEA NEWS

By Carolyn Minor

The Van Zandt EEA group ended a busy 2016 year with their annual Christmas party and luncheon. After a brief business meeting the party got under way. A Show and Tell sharing was the first activity. Members shared their favorite Christmas memories. Some brought ornaments and shared with their stories. Then a game of name the desserts brought a lot of laughs. That was followed by a Chinese take away with the gift exchange and then an ugly sweater contest. Jimmie Lou Buchanan was the winner of a Christmas Cactus. Closing out the day was our luncheon.

Everyone is ready for another great year. As one member was heard to say as she was leaving, "We had a swinging good time."



Front - L-R: Cathy McKey, Betty Honea, Jerry Moore. Back row - L-R: Polly Vardeman, Barbara Vinson, Wanda White, Virginia Gage, Johnnie Parker, Martha Bundrick, Jacque Endsley, Brenda Reeves, Liz Buckner-FCS Agent, and Linda McAlister.

In January, the Rusk County EEA enjoyed guest speaker librarian, Pam Pipkin from the Rusk County Memorial Library. Mrs. Pipkin is a storyteller and delighted members with a few of her favorite stories.



**WHITEHOUSE EXTENSION CLUB
DECEMBER**

By Joyce Morrow

Members of the Whitehouse Extension Club enjoyed a delicious lunch at the December meeting held in the home of Sara Cooper. The agenda covered the annual plans for the club.



Our members donated quilts constructed over the past year to the Troup UMC Women. They were given to people in the community with gift bags for Christmas. In addition, the club adopted an angel tree

child (a 3 year-old girl) again this year. The little girl received a full set of clothes, shoes, and educational toys.



PONTA CLUB CELEBRATES EARLY THANKSGIVING

By Marylyn Hoy Bennett

The Ponta Club of Cherokee County celebrated an early Thanksgiving on November 14 at the home of member Elna Perkins. Members brought delicious pot luck dishes for a bountiful feast! The Honorable County Judge Chris Davis joined the celebration, and amused the group with his funny stories about folks and activities in east Texas. Club members are Virginia Barefield, Marylyn Hoy Bennett, Virginia Bush, Zoe Ann Conway, Dawn Elliott, Elna Perkins, Peggy Rosamond, Bobbie Russell, and Mary Nell Wofford. Our FCS agent is Jennifer Pearman, and the Ponta Club is celebrating 83 years as a club in 2016!



The Southern Bells Quilt Raffle "Chicken Scratch Quilt Squares" appeared at Cultural Arts and at the East Texas Yamboree.



UPSHUR EEA NEWS

By Gwendolyn Jewett

2016 was a very good year for us. Yes, God granted us his divine guidance in our 2016 plans and accomplish our goals.

In the Spring the Easter Bunny and Elvis returned to the Nursing Home. FYI ... There is a Bean Luncheon Fundraiser in July and we had a great turnout. We welcome other EEA County Clubs to join us in our fundraisers!

"Show respect to people who don't even deserve it. Not as a reflection of their character, but as a reflection of yours."

~ Dave Willis

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RUSK COUNTY NEWS

By Wanda White

The Rusk County EEA held their annual Christmas Party, December 8 2016. It's always a good time to gather and socialize with one another. Each year in conjunction with the party, members bring an unwrapped toy for either a boy or girl and donate them to the Rusk County Children's Advocacy Center. They also give funds to help with other needs for the Center. The Rusk County EEA also participates each year in a food drive to help families in need.



Seven members attended the September State Conference in Plano.
(seated from left) Betty Kather, Sandy Coppedge, Lesa Jackson. (standing from left) Julie York, Joan Warren, Annette Johnson, and Joyce Raabe

The November Joint Meeting was at the Lantana Event Center in Gilmer. Over 30 members and guests in attendance, including several County Commissioners. County Chairman Joyce Raabe led an informative and educational program. Lesa Jackson was recognized as 2016 Member of the Year, and Upshur 4-H member, Zac Poorman gave a presentation on Celiac Disease.

In December Project Leader Dolores Stevens - Glenwood Club, in action with the 4-H Food Challenge Junior Team. Also, the Upshur County Courthouse Christmas tree was available to all those who entered.



The Southern Bells and Glenwood Clubs started the year with a great fundraiser. On Jan 25 Upshur County TEEAs' Southern Bells and Glenwood Clubs held a Chili Luncheon fundraiser to support 4-H and other programs. Successful event!



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GOOD NEIGHBOR CLUB MEMBERS ATTEND STATE

By Dora Newman
County TEEA Chairman Cassie Shultz, and delegates Helen Cross and Dora Newman attended the TEEA State Conference held September 13, 14 at the Plano Centre in Plano. Theme of the conference was "Spread Your Wings and Fly" which was based on the beauty and symbolism of butterflies. In attendance were 331. Keynote Speaker was Dr. Don Newbury from Howard Payne University in Brownwood. After business sessions each attended educational workshops. These included "Adult Bullies", "Navigating Pinterest", "Being Mindful with Less Stress", "Dementia and Caregiving", "Nutrition: Myth or Fact" and "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?" These will be presented to the Good Neighbor Club during the coming year which begins in October.

"It is wise to direct your anger towards problems, not people; to focus your energies on answers, not excuses."
~ William Arthur Ward

DISTRICT 7 PLAYS BUNCO AT ICE CREAM SOCIAL

By Sherrel Cauldwell
The District 7 Gathering at the TEEA State Conference in Plano in September was held at the Magnuson Hotel. Those attending enjoyed an "Ol' Fashioned Ice Cream Social" with everyone making their own sundaes with the numerous toppings available. As the ice cream and cookies were being finished, the group played a round of Bunco. Those receiving prizes for their Bunco scores were Dale Henderson, Linda Huckaby, Aimee Price and Carla Vest. Some of the attendees had not played Bunco before, but most folks commented on what a good time they had! We also enjoyed the company of special guest Nancy Horton, Brown EEA member, who has been unable to attend some of the recent events.



OATMEAL EE CLUB NEWS

By Polly Krenek
The Oatmeal EE Club elected new officers for the 2016-2017 year: Polly Krenek, president; Lynda French, vice president; Joyce Edwards, secretary and Carolyn Smith, treasurer. Several members of the club attended the "Friend to Friend" and TEEA week luncheon and program. In November the Club had the first annual Veterans Day Luncheon honoring Veterans living in the community. Also, the club members invited our husbands to come and join us. Several of our husbands served in the military and it was interesting finding out what branch of the service they were in and where they served. The club is planning on making this an annual event and hopefully getting more veterans and people of the community coming to honor them.

In December the Club hosted the third annual Oatmeal Community Christmas potluck supper. As always we had wonderful food and approximately 85 people to attend. The community looks forward to meeting the neighbors and visiting. This year we had several new people interested in becoming members of the Oatmeal EE Club. We have three new members and hopefully several more will decide to join the Oatmeal Club.

The club members are excited about the new programs and all the upcoming events. In February, "Walk across Texas" getting our team together and walking and exercising for eight weeks. On February 16, the presentation of the four 2016 state conference programs, including lunch, culture arts and a fun day with the Burnet and Lampasas TEEA ladies. Several members are making plans to attend the spring conference and retreat in March. We also have the Lawn and Garden show where we help the FCS agent man the concession stand and man a TEEA booth. Many of us are members of the Burnet County Fair Committee and working very hard to have another great County Fair in June.

"We must come to see that the end we seek is a society at peace with itself, a society that can live with its conscience."

~ Martin Luther King, Jr

LAMPASAS RUMLEY EE CLUB

By Diana Fisch
This reporter must apologize for not getting in our news to the Messenger in time for the October due date. That does not mean we were not busy! We did some fun things, met new people and learned a lot. 2016 was another busy year!
In February. The Lampasas FFA did a roll play of Parliamentary Procedure and my head was spinning. Glad I am not in politics. These FFA kids knew their stuff.



Lampasas FFA Parliamentary Procedure Team and Advisor

In March, we invited Melanie Potter, the San Saba County Agent to show us all about her love of jewelry making at the home of Elke White. It seemed like she had hundreds of beads and colors that she puts together for the current styles or for the personal taste of for whom she is making the jewelry.

In April, Polly Krennek talked to the club about wreath making and explained about how the different materials work with different wreath forms and had many beautiful items to show. She did make it look so easy but you do need the right tools to work with. April was the month of "Bloomin' Fest" in Lampasas and the Rumley Club had a booth to sell plants and baked goods - which is one of our money making events each year.



In May we joined the Burnet EEA on the Vanishing River Cruise on Lake Buchanan and for lunch. It was a beautiful and relaxing boat ride. Our tour guide was great and gave us the history of the river.



We held our May meeting at the Campbell Park Sculpture Gardens in Lampasas for a picnic lunch. Tina Matney from

Lampasas Association of the Arts toured us through all the sculptures and told us about the pieces and about the artists. She talked about how their organization got started and about their annual events to make money to purchase pieces each year for the gardens. They wanted to bring Art education and appreciation to our local community. In June Dr. Craig Benton from Chiropractic Health Care joined us (on his Birthday) to talk to us about the importance of keeping a balanced diet and exercise to keep your body in good condition. He let us know about some of the new things coming up in his chiropractic field.

The second half of 2016 started off not only with a big bang (July 4th), but with our Lampasas County Fair and Spring Ho. The Rumley Club sponsors the Fair event in total from registration on entries, to getting out flyers, obtaining judges, getting ribbons and hosting people to view all the entries.



In August, we decided on a potluck luncheon at the home of Siddonia Umphres. We decided to have a fun day and everyone sat at tables to play games. There was plenty of good food and good company with a relaxing afternoon. September came around and we went on another field trip to the new Lampasas Fire Station. We had planned to take a tour but the firemen were called out on an incident. Our local Fire Chief, Reese Oestreich explained the duties of firemen, their training and talked about safety products in the home. Member, Mary Ann Rhodes gave a personal donation to Chief Reese for the

wonderful work the department does in Lampasas and other neighboring counties.

Our October meeting was "Rally Day." We invited the Bend club and members had friends attend. Our theme was "All For Country" and we talked about patriotism and how the country pulled together for WWII. Club members Diana Fisch, Pat Clepper, Cherryl Luker, Karen DeZarn, Julie Williams and Arlene Wingo did a rendition of Boogie Woogie Bugle Boys by the icon group, the Andrew Sisters. Dressed in different military uniforms they danced and sang.



Jason Bobo, the Lampasas County Texas Ranger, was our guest speaker. He is the new replacement for Jesse Ramos who is now the new current Lampasas County Sheriff. We had pot luck and a silent auction on the program.



Shirley Beyer, opened her new home to the members for the November meeting. Diana Fisch gave a demonstration of what we can easily make as Christmas decorations for our home or give as gifts. Karen DeZarn presented the state program on "Disaster Preparedness for Emergency Evacuation." Our December meeting was held at the home of Mary Kemper. We had a terrific potluck luncheon and enjoyed a Christmas gift exchange to "The Night Before Christmas".

BURNET COUNTY NEWS

By Lisa Zinz

The Lake Victor EE Club visited the Oaks Nursing Home in Burnet and handed out handmade gifts to the residents. The man in the picture is Mr. Dagger, who is a retired teacher. He is also in his 90's. He was also one of the ladies' teacher when she was in the fourth grade. Members in the picture left to right are: Elaine Holbrook, Dortha Collins, Lisa Zinz, Sarah Sultemeir, Jane Parker, Aubrey Hill, lady by Mr. Dagger is Maggie Feild. The members visit two Nursing Homes every year.



TAYLOR EEA ENJOYS "SOUPER" LUNCH

By Sherrell Cauldwell

On December 8, the extension education club members of Taylor County celebrated the holidays by enjoying a "souper" lunch. The luncheon was held at the Taylor County Extension Building Conference Room. Both Taylor EEA clubs were represented by the seventeen ladies who attended. Many crock-pots of delicious soups were provided by the attendees, as well as several desserts and condiments.

After lunch, the group exchanged gifts by playing the "Dirty Santa" game where you can steal another person's gift. After two steals, that particular item becomes "frozen" and stays with the last "thief".

Everyone in Taylor Extension Education Association is looking forward to the programs and events scheduled for 2017.



BURNET COUNTY NEWS

By Linda Wells, CEA/FCS

The Texas A&M AgriLife in Burnet County has a NEW location! Burnet County, which provides space for the AgriLife Extension Service as well as other support, recently entered into a 10-year commitment to "lease" a portion of the former Burnet Elementary School. They have re-



modeled classrooms that will serve as offices for the agents, with a storage area for program materials & supplies. In addition to the office space and storage areas, there are two meeting rooms, as well as an auditorium and commercial kitchen. The commercial kitchen will be used by the Meals On Wheels program and shared with AgriLife Extension for programming purposes.

The new address is 607 North Vandever, Suite 100, Burnet, Texas 78611. The telephone number is also the same - 512-756-5463. The AgriLife Extension Service staff looks forward to enjoying the new location and continuing to serve Burnet County with Family & Consumer Sciences, Agriculture/Natural Resources and 4-H programming.

The Extension Education Association of Burnet County was the first group to hold a meeting in the new conference room. There were eighteen members and FCS Agent, representing all five TEEA clubs in the county, who met on January 24. They were very excited to have the opportunity to use the new location for their monthly County Council meeting.



"Our differences in beliefs do not truly separate us, or elevate us over others. Rather, they highlight the rich tapestry that is humanity."

~ George Takei

GOOD NEIGHBOR EE CLUB NEWS

By Dora Newman

Fiesta de la Paloma

October was a busy month for Good Neighbor Club beginning with the Coleman County Fiesta de la Paloma during the first week-end. The club sponsored the exhibits section of the Fiesta. Members did publicity, obtained judges, set up the building, and registered entries. The day of the Fiesta members were in charge of the judging and assisted with the displays afterwards. All of this took place in the Bill Franklin Center.

Signing of Proclamation for TEEA Week Oct. 3-7

Members of the Good Neighbor Club met with the Commissioners' Court for the signing of the proclamation for TEEA Week October 3-7. Present for the signing were County Judge Billy Bledsoe and Commissioners Rick Beal, Mike Stephenson, Alan Davis, and Mark Williams. Club members present were Nina Childress, Jean Langford, Dora Newman, Cassie Shultz, and CEA/FCS Janet Nelson.

Appreciation Luncheon for Commissioners' Court

A luncheon was held October 24 to honor Coleman County Judge and Coleman County Commissioners. This was to show appreciation to them for supporting the many phases of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension program in Coleman County. Good Neighbor Club hosted the event in the Fellowship Hall of Coleman FUMC. Honored were County Judge Billy Bledsoe, and County Commissioners, Mark Williams, Rick Beal, Mike Stephenson and Alan Davis. Special guests were Stacy Mendoza County Clerk, Jerri

Ann Chambers County Treasurer, Shirley Sansing Assistant Treasurer, Jean Farrow Assistant Treasurer in Training, Extension Office Manager Nancy Baker, Janet Nelson CEA-FCS and Michael Palmer CEA- Agriculture.

Annual reports were given by Good Neighbor President Helen Cross, and Agents Janet Nelson and Michael Palmer.



Pictured are Michael Palmer, Mike Stephenson, Janet Nelson, Mark Williams and Judge Billy Bledsoe.

Special Program for Good Neighbor Club -- Archie Lancaster & K-9 Dog Nica

Good Neighbor Club has six state programs monthly during the year. At other meetings special programs are given. On November 4 Archie Lancaster from the K-9 unit of the Coleman County Sheriff's Department did such a program. He gave background information about his partner the Dutch Shepherd K-9 dog named Nica. He told of their living together, training together, certification and how the two work drugs in Coleman County. He then brought the dog in and demonstrated how she searches and finds hidden drugs.



Archie Lancaster & K-9 Dog Nica

Christmas Project for Coleman Holiday Hill Nursing Home

Members of Good Neighbor Club met Tuesday, November 29 at Helen Cross's house to prepare tissue holders as Christmas gifts for Holiday Hill Nursing Home in Coleman. A total of 90 were completed. The holders were handed out to nursing home residents December 2 after the club's Christmas party.



BETHEL EE CLUB HOSTS ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

By Ann Cosper

The Bethel EE Club hosted the 2016 annual Burnet County EEA Christmas Party December 8. The event was held at the Burnet County Fair Building convention room. In spite of 25-30 degree temperatures and high winds, fifty members and visitors attended. Each club was asked to have their new members recognized by standing and introducing themselves. Each club brought items for the silent auction and CEA/FCS tables with the proceeds of the auction issued to the appropriate clubs. This created lots of interest and the money earned was greatly appreciated.

We introduced our county CEA/FCS Agent, Linda Sue Wells, who spoke briefly and welcomed members and guests. In appreciation for her leadership and support, she was presented with a beautiful, large pot plant of poinsettias. Lynda French, County Chair, also presented the Woman of the Year Award to Lisa Zinz, President of the Lake Victor EEC.

Activities enjoyed throughout the day were Christmas Trivia and Christmas Bingo with the winners able to pick their prize

from the prize table. Each club entertained by singing a Christmas song. After a few games, everyone was ready to eat. A Christmas ham was served with a large variety of delicious salads and desserts.



Redbud/Oakalla singing Rudolph w/accompaniment by Glenna Orman



Marble Falls singing Rudolph w/accompaniment by Glenna Orman

The Bethel EEC has selected the Highland Lakes Pregnancy Resource Center as our service project for the 2016-17 year. As host of the annual Burnet County Christmas Party, Bethel asked the other four clubs to bring items for the center. A host of diapers, baby wipes, other items, and \$568.64 was collected. The HLPRC was overwhelmed with gratitude for the generosity of all members.



"To be one, to be united is a great thing. But to respect the right to be different is maybe even greater."

~ Bono

BROWN COUNTY EEA NEWS

By Dale Henderson

We held our annual achievement day in October and installed new officers for all clubs and county council. After lunch we held a teach and learn session with programs from the State Conference. Pictured below are the 2017 Officers: Back row (l-r) - Shot Harris, Treasurer - Owens; Liz Handy, Vice President - May; Sandy Jackson, Secretary - May; Martha Baker, Vice President - Owens; Ruby Goodwin, Treasurer - McDaniel. Front row (l-r) - Dale Henderson, President - Owens; JoAnn White, Council Chair - Owens.



With December came the annual Christmas party which was hosted by the McDaniel EE Club and also attended by the May and Owens clubs. Everyone enjoyed the many soups served as well as the favorite sweets. Entertainment was provided by the Bangs grade school choir. The kids new every word for every song and they were very good!

January has been a very busy month. First came the Brown County Youth Fair. Some of the EE members volunteered as workers and food judges. There were over 1,900 entries this year and over 900 in the home economics division.

Since we have had to change the date for our Hobby and Craft Fair, from June to February, we have been very busy with radio and newspaper coverage to get the word out. Last year we had quite a few non-member entries and we hope it will continue this year.

March 16-17 are the dates for our annual Stuffed Spud Sale fundraiser. All three clubs participate in the preparation and delivery.

Last year we served over 600 potatoes. Funds raised enable us to give 4-H scholarships, donations to area entities. A number of Owens EE members volunteer at Good Samaritans Ministry each month. May and McDaniel members volunteer in other areas that they choose. Several members from each club plan to attend the District 7 Spring Meeting and Retreat at the 4-H Center at Lake Brownwood later in March.

Patsy Storey, a member of the Owens EE Club presented a very interesting program about the Owen Community History. In 1959 the state held a contest for small communities to showcase the improvements that the residents did to their homes and their property. This was a statewide competition and Owens won first place. Over 500 people attended the presentation at Owens at that time. Patsy has been an EE Club member for over 60 years and presented this program again at the Hobby and Craft Fair of February 9.



"I, not events, have the power to make me happy or unhappy today. I can choose which it shall be.

Yesterday is dead, tomorrow hasn't arrived yet. I have just one day, today, and I'm going to be happy in it."

~ Groucho Marx

BURNET EEA NEWS

By Polly Krenek

The Burnet County Extension Education Council and members of the five county clubs started off the 2016 - 2017 new TEEA year by helping Linda Wells, AgriLife FCS Agent, with the annual "Friend to Friend" breast, ovarian and cervical cancer awareness program and luncheon on October 25.

Approximately 40 people attended, including the public and TEEA members. A local surgeon and breast cancer specialist and a mammographer were the guest speakers and really gave wonderful presentations and answered all the participants questions.

Immediately following the "Friend to Friend" program the Burnet County Council and Clubs held the annual fall installation of all the officers celebrating "TEEA Week". Linda Wells, the FCS Agent, did the installations with a beautiful installation ceremony. Council officers are: Lynda French, Council Chair; Elaine Holbrook, Vice-Chair; Mary Ann Copp, Secretary; Joyce Edwards, Assistant Secretary; Roberta Eacott, Treasurer; Lisa Zinz, Assistant Treasurer; Polly Krenek, Publicity Chair; Betty Sue Chaney, Historian; Joyce Edwards, Parliamentarian; Hazel Gatliff, Sergeant at Arms.

During this meeting Lisa Zinz was presented as the "Woman of the Year" for Burnet County. Each of the four nominees was presented flowers and a certificate for the great job and outstanding contributions they make to their clubs and civic organizations. The four nominees were: Bethel, Lorene Denney; Redbud/Oakalla, Roberta Eacott; Lake Victor, Lisa Zinz; and the Oatmeal, Tricia Rutledge.

Five members attended the Fall Training held in Anson, Texas. Our District Director, Brenda Camp did a wonderful job reminding and presenting information for the clubs. We all enjoyed getting to see new country, meet new fellow TEEA

members, and enjoyed a wonderful soup and cornbread luncheon. It was a interesting fall meeting. Great job ladies!

All the Burnet County TEEA clubs are very busy each month having their regular monthly meetings plus all the activities in the county. December was especially busy with the annual Christmas party hosted by the Bethel EE Club. Thank you ladies for a wonderful and fun party.

Our membership is growing and Burnet County has almost reached the 100 membership mark. Each club is working hard to get more members and telling them of the great people, wonderful friendships, interesting programs and information that is available through TEEA. Invite someone to your next meeting today.

REDBUD/OAKALLA EE CLUB NEWS

By Roberta Eacott
"Redbud Oakalla EE Club members (Roberta Eacott, Janie Vance, Linda Rogers, Skeeter Smith, and Sara McDuff) look over the walls of the Oakalla Community Center as they plan a spring "Painting Party." As one of their community service projects, the club members plans to help repaint the interior of the local community center. "



Use clothes pins to prevent your toothbrush from touching dirty counters when travelling



D I S T R I C T 8 BELL COUNTY NEWS

By Polly Elizondo

The Bell Extension Education Association met Monday, Oct. 3 at the Bell County AgriLife Extension Meeting Room. Officers for the 2016-17 year were installed. They are (l to r): Maxine Kalkbrenner, Treasurer; Laurie Veatch, Secretary; Linda Willis, Vice-Chair; Gayle Pomykal, Chairman; Margaret Wood, Tiger Club 4-H Ambassador who led the installation; Mary Stuessel, RADA Chairman; Nancy Urbantke, RADA Co-Chairman; Polly Elizondo, Reporter and Reconciler."



Fifteen members of the Bell Extension Education Assn. attended the District 8 Leadership Training on Nov. 15, 2016 in Normangee, led by County Chair, Gayle Pomykal. One of the highlights was a presentation by members of the Buffalo 4-H.



Bell Extension Education Assn held its Christmas meeting on Dec. 5, 2016 in Temple. Members of the 3 clubs in Bell County; Leedale, Tanglefoot, and Tejas, presented toys and monetary contributions to the Temple Fire and Rescue representative, Thomas Pechal. The toys and money are used for the children in Bell County through the Department's "Rescue Elves" program.



NOONTIME EE CLUB NEWS

By Charlotte Watson

Every month Noontime EE Club, Williamson County, District 8, participates in a community project. In this photo, they are holding their January donation (nine pairs of pajamas plus five pairs of boxer shorts and three t-shirts). Standing L to R, back row, Nelda McCain, Mary Johnson, Mary Lindsey, Dedie Johnson; front row Carola Meister, Peggy Blair, and Stella Guzy. Their donations to the local chapter of the Pajama Program helps provide new pajamas for children and youth taken to emergency shelters many times with only the clothes on their backs.



Noontime EE Club Member, Charlotte Watson, attended the Educational Workshop on Pinterest at the 2016 State TEEA Meeting. She came home prepared to present the program to the clubs in Williamson County. To her surprise, Williamson County 4-H'er and member of local Mentor-Up group, Hannah Chambers, had already prepared a Power Point on Pinterest, and Hannah offered to go along with Charlotte and present the workshop to the clubs. Here Hannah is explaining some aspect of signing up for Pinterest and how to navigate the different boards. Some Noontime club members already had a working knowledge of Pinterest while others were clueless as to the wonderful and fun things one can do on Pinterest. After Hannah finished, members were encouraged to just sign up and try it. Hannah and Charlotte offered to do a follow up program at a later date to help the members learn even more. Pinterest if FUN!



Every December Noontime EE Club hosts a free Christmas luncheon, with club members providing all the food dishes, and a silent auction to raise funds for their monthly community projects for the year ahead. The December 2016 Luncheon and Silent Auction was another huge success. So many people commented that the homemade foods kept getting better and better each year. In this photo, some attendees looked and looked at all the wonderful silent auction items, most of which were homemade, while others went through the food line and ate first and then bid. An estimated sixty people attended last December's event. The proceeds, \$720.50, were the highest ever. Noontime club is very involved in their Georgetown community with monthly projects that help children and families. Although Noontime is a small club, each club member helps make this annual event be successful.



"Climb the mountain not to plant your flag, but to embrace the challenge, enjoy the air and behold the view. Climb it so you can see the world, not so the world can see you."
~ David McCullough

WILLIAMSON COUNTY EEA CHRISTMAS DINNER AND AWARDS PROGRAM

By Charlotte Watson

Pictured here is singer, songwriter, musician Georgetownite, Taylor Weaver, who was the entertainment for the Williamson County Annual EE Christmas Dinner. Each club has a responsibility at this event, and Noontime EE Club was responsible for arranging the entertainment. Taylor Weaver is an excellent vocalist and pianist who also teaches both in the local area. Everyone loved the Christmas program which included seasonal instrumentals while attendees ate dinner, group singing of favorite carols, and special music by Taylor, which included several songs she had written. Food was delicious! Entertainment was enjoyable! It was a winning evening - a great way to get everyone's holidays off to a great start.



LEON COUNTY EE CLUB REORGANIZES

By Nyanza Price

In September of 2016, thirteen ladies met to discuss the reorganization of the Oakwood EE club. Including in the numbers were then Second Vice President for Programs, Nyanza Price and District Director Elect, Clara Jones. After much discussion, the ladies decided to form the club. Initially, 11 ladies paid their dues, since then 2 more have joined. The officers were then selected. They are: Judith Thomason, President; Nyanza Price, Vice President; Shirley Teinert, Treasurer; Barbara Kloesel, Secretary; Debby Johnson, County Liaison; and Jacquelyn Morrow, Alternate.

Since then, the group has

been very busy. We worked booths at the Leon County Health Fair, served as workers at the Leon County Sale Extravaganza, served as judges for the Food Challenge for the county. Five of our members attended the District 8 Leadership Training held in Normangee and hosted by Leon County. Everyone has participated fully. We are busy preparing for the Oakwood Christmas celebration which will be held December 17, 2016.

Because many of our members are working, we chose to meet in the evening to accommodate them. At our last meeting, we had a great presentation on fall flowers and the interest was high.

We look forward for a new year. Our goal is to raise money for at least one scholarship.



L to R: Jacquelyn Morrow, Shirley Teinert, Barbara Kloesel, Judith Thomason, Nyanza Price, Debby Johnson.

HAMILTON COUNTY IS READY FOR SPRING

By Linda Pledger

Out of doors may still look like winter but Hamilton County is gearing up for it's annual Spring Fling. This year Spring Fling will be on April 1. We will gather at the Hamilton High School for a day of visiting, learning, buying and eating. Visiting with friends not only from Hamilton County, but friends from neighboring counties and District 8. All are welcome for a small donation of \$10.00; the day's activities from 8:30 to 3:00 are all at your fingertips.

Learning about "Home and Garden" is our theme and is not only picked up in the speakers' presentations but also in our vendors wares. Buying is a ladies favorite activity if you listen to husbands. Vendors come from all

over Central Texas and you can find "one of a kind" handmade in Texas items that any recipient will appreciate.

Eating is something we all like to do. The ladies of the county prepare a Salad Luncheon which is a treat to any who partake.

Hamilton County's EE Club is growing. New faces bring new ideas, revitalize our resolve, and give us hope for the future of Extension Education in Hamilton County. Serving our community with educational programs, volunteering in community organizations and developing friendships is our goal and it strengthens our community for the good of all.

Here are some pictures from Spring Fling 2016.



NOONTIME WINS AT WILLIAMSON COUNTY ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

By Charlotte Watson

At the 2016 Williamson County Awards program, Noontime EE Club won the Special Projects Award for their long-term involvement in "Stamping Out Literacy." This included a small monetary award which the club will put back into community projects.

Literacy projects have included "First Book for New Baby" initially begun with new baby books given to each new baby born at Georgetown Hospital. This year, books have also be given to moms and babies at the Pregnancy

Help Center, Annunciation Maternity Home, and to the children at Head Start. Last February, three Noontime members went to Head Start and read several books in each of the 3, 4, and 5 year old classes.

Another countywide project has been to donate good, used paperback books to Project Better Chance, a program of the Literacy Council of Williamson County at the Williamson County Jail. Over the years, Noontime has donated 1,800 paperback books plus another 100 dictionaries and resource books.

Another successful Noontime literacy project has been a partnership with the Austin American-Statesman. What began as a \$150 per year cost for a classroom to get 25 copies of the newspaper one day each week has grown to a cost of \$300 per year for the entire school to get an electronic edition of the Statesman each week. One teacher said, "having the newspapers available to use in math, history, English/literature, and science classes has really helped with our state-required curriculum."

This year, Noontime also donated 100 paperback and hardback books to help begin a new library at a new senior adult long-term care facility, The Dulaney.

The current statistics on illiteracy in Williamson County are still staggering. Have we made a difference? We believe we have, beginning with the youngest children, challenging the mothers to begin reading to their babies from the day they are born, to local school children, and to the senior citizens.

Our best conservative estimate is 300 hours donated plus \$6,750 spent. This includes time spent in raising the funds especially to support the Partners in Education (PIE) with the Statesman, purchasing books, delivering them to the "First Book" coordinator, delivering books to the jail and senior adult facility and delivering books and reading at Head Start.

At Williamson County's Annual Awards Program, an outstanding volunteer is honored from each club, selected by that club's members. Mary Johnson was honored by the Noontime EE Club as their Outstanding Volunteer for 2016. Mary is not only the club treasurer, but she is an active club member, helping to make this club successful in everything they do, both in the community and in countywide activities and events. In particular in 2016, Mary led the club's project of making wreaths for their club's donation for Homemade Holidays. She invited the club members to her home to make the wreaths plus fed them delicious pulled pork sandwiches she made from scratch! Also this year, she went with two other club members and read to preschoolers at Head Start. When Noontime hosts their annual Christmas Luncheon and Silent Auction, you can count on Mary Johnson to bring the most delicious homemade foods plus make many creative crafts to sell at the Silent Auction. Mary also wins many ribbons at the County's Exhibition Day - both for foods and crafts. Creative, dependable, involved, and always present are just a few of the words that describe this Outstanding Volunteer!



"The general limits of your freedom are merely these: that you do not trespass upon the equal rights of others."
 ~ Dwight D. Eisenhower

NOONTIME EE CLUB NEWS

By Charlotte Watson

Noontime EE Club donated breakfast bars for Backpack Buddy Program at Tippit Middle School in Georgetown. They usually kit five items in each bag for students who qualify (and have parental approval) to take food home for the weekend. They added the breakfast bars (always a favorite of the students) from Noontime EE Club in this kitting. These students already qualify for free or reduced lunch while at school. Because of their being in a low socioeconomic family situation, many of them do not have enough food in the home for the family to eat over the weekend. Since this began in Georgetown in 2009, Georgetown teachers and counselors have seen a significant difference when that student returns to school on Monday morning more ready to learn. This year Georgetown BPBP is providing food for 850 students - serving all ten elementary and all three middle schools.



L to R are (back) Nelda McCain, Carol Frymire, Becky Lycan, Mary Johnson, Mary Lindsey, Charlotte Watson; (front) Stella Guzy, Dedie Johnson, Peggy Blair.

JEWETT EE CLUB NEWS

By Michaelene Perry

October 10 the Jewett EE Club met for their monthly meeting and was honored to have the Jewett Mayor, John Sitton. He gave us a brief history of his work and civic activities and reviewed the progress of Jewett since taking office. Many of the improvements benefiting the community were done without using city funds. Also Mayor Sitton listed

possible improvements in the upcoming years. Hostesses for this meeting were Beth Jones, Donna Ellis and Doris Dyess.



John Sitton and Jewett EE Vice President Karen Hale



Beth Jones, Donna Ellis and Doris Dyess.

November 14 EE members worked on our annual craft project for the Centerville Nursing Home residents' Christmas gift. Hostesses for that meeting were Joyce Sanders, Celia Bell and Brenda Rae.



Joyce Sanders, Celia Bell and Brenda Rae.



L side-Donna Ellis and Peggy Bloomer; R side-Celia Bell, Mamie Bell, Judy Hutchison

On December 12, the Jewett EE members had their last meeting of the year with the annual gift exchange and plans for the 2017 activities. Hostesses were Carol Russell, Colleen Milliken and Donna Warren. The Christmas Gift Projects to the Centerville Nursing Home were delivered by president Celia Bell and vice president Karen Hale on December 15.



Carol Russell and Colleen Milliken.



Karen Hale and Celia Bell with some of the Centerville Nursing Home residents.

"Life is like a prism. What you see depends on how you turn the glass."
 ~ Jonathan Kellerman

To bring in the New Year, the Jewett EE Club had their meeting on January 9 at the Jewett Civic Center Community Room. Hostesses Cleo Streater, Judy Hutchison and Geri Cox decorated the room in icicle blue and white for a wintery theme. Karen Hale, V-P and Program Chair introduced our speaker and new AgriLife Family and Consumer Science (FCS) Agent Kim Brown. Kim started her job on December 1 and is looking forward to being active with the Extension Education organization in our county. She has much civic activities in her background experience and will be an asset for all of us and the community.



Milam County EEA will host the District 8 Annual Spring Meeting in Rockdale on April 25. The Progressive Club of Cameron gave a \$50.00 scholarship to the Cameron 4-H. Barbara Walker of the Branchville Club received the Outstanding Homemaker of the Year Award for 2016. Congratulations to all of these clubs and their members for all the work they do throughout the year.



MILAM COUNTY EEA NEWS

By Barbara Walker

The members of Milam County EEA held their annual Christmas Cottage Fair November 3. The clubs of Milam County sold food. The Branchville Club sold stew, cornbread and teacakes. The Progressive Club of Cameron sold baked potatoes and the New Salem Club of Rockdale sold sweets. We had lots of vendors who sold all kinds of Christmas crafts. The fair was a great success.

The Branchville Club also worked hard to make gifts for the Cameron Nursing and Rehab Center. They made 80 Christmas stockings and stuffed them with candy, chips, cookies, peanut butter crackers and a package of Kleenex. We gave the stockings to the patients at their annual Christmas party. They were very happy and surprised to get the stockings. Pictures are Rosie Steamer, Gloria Sullivan, Eula Holt, Barbara Walker and Jackie Fields stuffing the stockings.

MORTON VALLEY EE CLUB NEWS

By Millie Barrow

Morton Valley EE Club hosted their annual Pecan Pie Competition. This was an annual fund raiser in conjunction with the Eastland County Pecan Show.

Judging the pecan pies were: Kailey Miller, Intern at AgriLife Extension Office, Terry Slavens, General Manager KATX Radio Station, Ronnie White, Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1. Thanks to these judges and their great "taste buds". A big THANKS to all that purchased the pecan pies.



First place winner of the Traditional Pecan Pie was: **CYNDEE GROCE**.
First place winner of the Special or Other Pecan Pie was: **MILLIE BARROW**.

Following are the winners and their recipes of the first place winning pies:



TRADITION PECAN PIE:

Cyndee Groce

- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 3 Tbsp. brown sugar
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 cup corn syrup (light or dark)
- 1/3 cup melted salted butter
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 3 whole eggs beaten
- 1 cup heaping chopped pecans
- 1 9" unbaked pie crust

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix the sugar, brown sugar, salt, corn syrup, melted butter, vanilla and eggs together in a bowl. Pour the pecans in the bottom of the unbaked pie shell. Pour the syrup mixture over the top. Cover the top and crust lightly/gently with foil. Bake the pie for 30 minutes. Remove the foil and then continue baking for 20 minutes, being careful not to burn the crust or pecans. The pie should not be over jiggly when you remove it from the oven (it will jiggle a bit). If it shakes a lot, cover with foil and bake for an additional 20 minutes or until set. Required baking time seems to vary widely with this recipe, sometimes it takes 50 minutes, sometimes it takes 75.

"He who never made a mistake, never made a discovery."

~ Samuel Smiles

DERBY PECAN PIE

Millie Barrow

- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 eggs beaten
- 3/4 cup white Karo syrup
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/2 cup mini chocolate chips
- 3/4 cup pecans - whole or chopped
- 3 Tbsp. Bourbon

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cream butter and gradually add sugar. Add beaten eggs, syrup, salt and vanilla. Stir in bourbon. Add chocolate chips and pecans. Pour into unbaked 9" pie crust and bake 45 to 50 minutes. Use a pie crust ring if the crust starts getting too brown. The middle of the pie will jiggle a little. Best served warm garnished with ice cream.

"Never attempt to teach a pig to sing; it wastes your time and annoys the pig."

~ Robert A. Heinlein

LEON COUNTY EEA NEWS

By Michaelene Perry

On September 27, the new Leon EEA officers were installed by Richard Parrish, AgriLife Agriculture/Natural Resources Agent. He presented a clever program using a Master Chef developing a recipe to show the importance of each of the ingredients (officers) for a successful outcome. Taking office on October 1 are Clara Jones, president, Marcia Lewis, vice president, Helen Torrance, Treasurer with all three from Leona-Centerville EE Club and Beth Jones, secretary and County Chair, Judy Hutchison both from Jewett EE Club.



Clara Jones, AgriLife Ag Agent
Richard Parrish, Beth Jones,
Marcia Lewis, Judy Hutchison,
Helen Torrance, and
Michaelene Perry

Tuesday, November 15, the TEEA District 8 Leadership Training was held in Normangee, TX with a theme of "Building a Strong Foundation – Strategies for Success." We were honored to have our TEEA State President Millie Barrow present. She discussed learning strategies for the office of Treasurer since she filled that position at every level (club, county, district and state). Nyanza Price gave us valuable information for the office of President. For Secretary Gayle Pomykal was our speaker; and parliamentary procedures were demonstrated in a skit by 4-H students in the Leon County area with the help of Laura Petty, AgriLife 4-H & Youth Development Agent. Following the 4-H group District 8 Director Clara Jones gave pointers that elaborate the skit information the 4-H students presented plus additional key elements of running a meeting properly. All EE members who attended were able to learn officer duties as future leaders in their counties.

was a style show by members of Leon County EE Clubs and the AgriLife Office showing dressy hairstyles and/or party attire from the casual to the dressy event. Tiffany Deal of Creative Cuts in Buffalo, TX arranged the hair styles on JoFran Edwards and Diana McCall. The final entertainment was a clever dance by the Leon EEA Country Dancers to the song "I'm Gonna Lasso Santa Claus." Clara Jones presented appreciation gifts to JoFran Edwards, Richard Parrish and Laura Petty, AgriLife staff, for all their work and assistance to Leon EEA throughout the year. The annual Silent Auction was successful for raising much needed funds for Leon County 4-H scholarships.



L-R front row—TEEA State President Millie Barrow, District 8 Director Clara Jones and District 8 Education Committee Gail Pomykal; back row—District 8 Director-Elect Laurie Veatch, Treasurer Jerri Cage and Secretary Mamie Bell

December 7 the Leon EEA had their annual Christmas party and toy drive for children in need. The toys are donated to the Leon County Child Protective Services. Entertainment was by the Buffalo High School Holiday Band Ensemble directed by Jeff Villareal. The music was very good and the high school should be proud of the students' talents. Also there



Clara Jones, Leon EEA President, JoFran Edwards and Richard Parrish, AgriLife Office staff and J.P. Borah



Buffalo High School Holiday Band with Jeff Villareal, Band Director



Clara Jones, Gail Huffine, Leslie Hensler, DeLonn McCall, Marcia Lewis and Lora Nichols



Michaelene Perry, JoFran Edwards, Diana McCall, J.P. Borah and Judy Hutchison

Tuesday, October 11 the Leona-Centerville EE Club had their new officers installed by TEEA District 8 and Jewett EE secretary Mamie Bell. Officers are DeLonn McCall, president, Lora Nichols vice-president, Marcia Lewis secretary, Pat Ferguson EE club delegate, Helen Torrance parliamentarian, and Carole Huebner treasurer.



We welcome back our newest EE Club—Oakwood EE. After several years, the group has reformed with the following officers: Judy Thomason, president, Nyanza Price, vice president, Barbara Kloesel, secretary, Shirley Teinert, treasurer, Debby Johnson, and Leon EEA delegate with Jackie Morrow as alternate delegate. We wish them and all their members well and offer to assist when needed. Installation took place on October 17.

Normangee EE installed their new officers on October 19 by outgoing president Rhonda Exley using the "Yellow Brick Road" theme for each officer position. President is Gail Huffine, vice president - Mary Greer, secretary - Rhonda Exley, treasurer - J.P. Borah and Leon EEA delegate, and Amy Kelton - alternate delegate. Normangee's EE Club is very active in the community with the senior citizens center.



Cleo Streater, Judy Hutchison, Kim Brown, Geri Cox and Karen Hale

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SNOOK EE CLUB NEWS

By Karen Gaas
The Snook EE Club members bake Christmas cookies for the Burleson County Senior Citizens Center in December. The members prepared 50 Christmas bags and delivered them to the center for the senior citizens to enjoy.



Karen Gaas was chosen as the 2016 Snook EE Club member of the year. She received this award for being a strong leader in the club. Shown here is Audrey Swain, club president, presenting Karen with her Member of the Year plaque.



The Snook EEA Club enjoyed a covered wagon tour of the Royalty Pecan Farms. The members learned about the different variety of pecans grown in Texas, the care of the pecan orchards, and the harvesting of the pecans. After the tour everyone visited the visitors center and enjoyed sampling the many different flavors of pecans.



PORT NECHES EE CLUB NEWS

By Claudine Hare

For the sixteenth year, Port Neches EE Club hosted the clients and parents from the Fedders Center for their annual Christmas party. Denise Franz, a new club member, led the clients in a few games of Christmas Bingo followed by presenting the clients with gift cards. Children from the Day School sang for the crowd.

Then Claudine Hare, with her guitar, led the group in some familiar Christmas songs. Twenty members along with eighteen guests were in attendance. Before lunch (provided by the club members), Katherine Richards, club treasurer, presented checks to the Fedders sponsor and to the church pastor in appreciation of our club's having a regular meeting place at the church. After lunch and clean-up it was "Merry Christmas to All" and "See you next year."



SNOOK EEA TRAVEL CLUB PLANS TRIP TO MACKINAC ISLAND & NORTHERN MICHIGAN

By Karen Gaas

The Snook EEA Travel Club invites you to an exciting and educational 10 night/11 day, guided, chartered bus trip to Mackinac Island and the beauty of Northern Michigan. Travel dates are Friday, June 9 through Monday, June 19. The cost is \$1,168.00 per person (double occupancy). Included in the tour fee are hotel accommodations for the 10 nights, 21 meals (all breakfast and all dinners), the bus driver's gratuity, tips for the step-on guide and tour guide, tips for all dinners, admissions and transportation to and from all scheduled events, baggage handling, snacks and drinks along the way. Payments may be made in increments with the final payment paid by April 1.

This great adventure includes: a visit to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois, visit to Bass Pro Shops, 4 days exploring Sault Sainte Marie, the birthplace of Michigan, a cruise through the Soo Locks, gambling at Kewadin Sault Casino, ferryboat ride to Mackinac Island and famous Mackinac Island Carriage Tour, guided tour of quaint Mackinaw

City and the Old Mackinac Point Lighthouse, sight-seeing in Chicago, a visit to the Missouri Civil War Museum and more.

If interested in this exciting trip, please call tour guide, Karen Gaas at (979) 272-8873 or (979) 224-6301 or tour guide, Betty Anderson at (979) 229-3778.

BRAZORIA EEA NEWS

By Brenda Sturman

Brazoria County Commissioners Court proclaimed October 2-8, 2016 as the Texas Education Extension Association Week. Toni Tax, Chairperson for the Brazoria County Education Extension Association accepted the proclamation. Other members in attendance were Mary Sinco, Julia Sikes, Brenda Buelow, Joyce Taylor, Georgia May, and Kathy Wise. Commissioners were David Linder, Precinct 4; Stacy Adams, Precinct 3; County Judge Matt Sebesta; Dude Payne, Precinct 1; and Ryan Cade, Precinct 2.



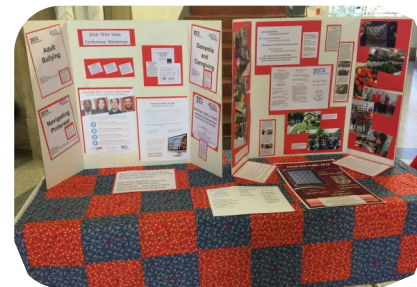
BURLESON COUNTY CELEBRATES TEEA WEEK

By Ann Sebesta

Lyons and Snook EEA Clubs of Burleson County celebrated TEEA Week October 2016 at the Burleson County Courthouse and Courthouse Annex. Refreshments, information displays, and handouts were available to the public during this time. Members donated homemade cookies for the event. Printed information regarding membership benefits, scholarships, and programs available through TEEA were distributed. Participating members agreed this was a successful event to make the public aware of the activities of Burleson County EEA Clubs.



Snook EEA members Audrey Swain and Gloria Conrad at the Courthouse Annex.



Two displays showing programs available through TEEA, and various educational and community activities of the Lyons and Snook EEA Clubs.)



Lyons and Snook EEA members at the Burleson County Courthouse: Autumn Harry, Peggy Robinson, Linda Faust, Jackie Clark, and Ann Sebesta.

"What is life? It is the flash of a firefly in the night. It is the breath of a buffalo in the wintertime. It is the little shadow which runs across the grass and loses itself in the sunset."

~ Crowfoot

D I S T R I C T 10

CALDWELL EEA NEWS

By Kathy McCown

New county officers were installed in late fall: Judy Wheeler, chair (Glenvoir Club); Mary Briceno, vice chair (Lockhart Club); Frances Rodriguez, secretary (Lockhart Club); and Clara Smith, treasurer (Lockhart Club).

Members were busy many hours preparing handmade items to sell in our booth at "Dickens on the Square" in downtown Lockhart in December. This annual event is our major fundraiser. Even though a cold and very rainy weekend allowed our booth to be open only on Friday evening, we still managed to accrue part of our goal.

The annual Christmas party was held December 8 at Lyton Springs Baptist Church, hosted by the Glenvoir Club. Members from Lyton Springs, Lockhart and Luling gathered for fun, food and fellowship.

We were notified in October by Central Texas Food Bank that they would be making changes in the coming year. As of now we are not yet aware how this will affect our bi-monthly food distribution throughout the county. We have participated in this effort since 1995. We did have food distribution in December and February. When a final decision has been made by CTFB members will assess how this affects our efforts.

Even though Caldwell County EEA is facing changes in this new year, members are ready and committed to finding new ways to accomplish our goals of service to our community.

"Books are the carriers of civilization... They are companions, teachers, magicians, bankers of the treasures of the mind. Books are humanity in print."

~ Barbara W. Tuchman

GUADALUPE EEA NEWS

By Valerie Posey

The Guadalupe EEA clubs met in January at the You're So Crafty store to enjoy one another and make beautiful jewelry. Seven ladies from the Elm Creek EE Club and FCS agent, Dr. Charla Badring attended the January 11 party and eight ladies from the Marion EE Club attended January 12. Ladies were impressed by the selection of beads and possibilities. Members were also able to remake jewelry pieces from beads brought from home. Thanks to the You're So Crafty staff, Dana Overstreet, owner and Candace Pauly, and Brandi Atchley, for all your help and hospitality.



Beth Frankenburger, Candace Pauly, (You're So Crafty staff member), Darlene Bohmfalk, and Leatha Jeffery



Maureen Koenig, Leandra Washington (guest), Dorothy Altenhoff, and Rose Marie Smalley

ROUND MOUNTAIN EEA NEWS

By Shelley Levitt District 10

The Round Mountain EEA Club ended 2016 with a successful bake sale. We held our 2nd annual 1st Day of Deer Season Bake Sale at the Harvest House Processing Plant in Johnson City, arriving at 8:00 to greet hungry deer hunters with home baked pies, cakes, and cookies. We made over \$600 in less than four hours and had a great time.



In December we held our Christmas Party at Ollie's Mexican Restaurant in Round Mountain with almost 100% attendance including our two birthday girls, Marjorie Reagor and Camilla Wenmohs who were celebrating mutual birthdays that day! After a delicious lunch, we had a fun ornament exchange and Christmas refreshments prepared by hostesses Frankie Hohenberger, Trina Burnam, and Ann Casey. We passed the hat and raised \$450 to donate to the four charities we support each Christmas. All in all it was a great party!

As we look forward to 2017 we have many good things planned for the club including several educational programs, a spring tour to a local greenhouse, and our District 10 Conference in March.

BASTROP EEA NEWS

By Kathi Gremillion

On September 21, the 2016 – 2017 Bastrop EE Association officers were installed during the McDade EE Club meeting. The installation was presented by outgoing chair Lola Cole as a "Star" theme. The "Stars" were: Kathy Prochnow, Chair; Lola Cole, Vice Chair; Kathi Gremillion, Treasurer; Melba Skubiata, Secretary; and Judy Lundgren, Reporter.

Also, during our September meeting, since it was too late to give a 4-H scholarship, the Association voted to award a scholarship to former 4-H member, Samantha Moore, who is pursuing a career as a doctor, and who is also the granddaughter of the late Dorothy Moore, a beloved member of our organization.

MCDADE EE CLUB NEWS

By Kathi Gremillion

The 2016 – 2017 McDade EE Club officers' installation took place at their October meeting. The elected 2016 – 2017 McDade EE Club officers are: Brenda Kyle, President; Kathy Prochnow, Vice President; Liz Nelson, Secretary; Loretta Dube, Treasurer; Kathy Johnson, Recreation Chair; Vernell Kastner, Inspiration Chair; Kathi Gremillion, Reporter; Christa Prewitt, Photographer/Historian; Janice Payne and Patsie Gentner, Telephone Committee; and Louise Goerlitz, Sunshine Chair.

The McDade EE Club hosted a party for the Elgin Nursing Home residents in November, with refreshments, bingo and prizes. At the McDade EE Club meeting in November, a two hour food handling class was given by Hilary Long, County Extension Agent, FCS, earning attendees a food handling certificate. On December 14, the McDade EE Club held their annual Christmas Party. Lots of homemade goodies were served, fun games were played, Christmas Carols were sung and gifts exchanged. It was a joyous occasion. Vernell Kastner was awarded our "McDade Christmas Star" award for her work in our community and club.

On January 23, the Bastrop EE Association hosted an Achievement Day at Faith Lutheran Church fellowship hall in McDade. After all items were checked in, the participants moved to another part of the building and played bingo, while the judges got to work. Refreshments were served after Bingo and many door prizes were awarded. The McDade EE Club had sixteen members submitting a total of fifty items. Out of the fifty entries, we had eighteen Grand Champion ribbons, seven Reserve Champion Ribbons, thirty-five Blue Ribbons and fifteen Red Ribbons awarded. A total of fifteen items are eligible to compete at the District 10 Spring Meeting in March. Loretta Dube was our High Point winner for the

McDade Club and for the event. With a total of eight entries, Loretta won three Grand Champions, five Blue and three Red ribbons.

Several of our club members are making plans and are looking forward to attending the District 10 Spring Meeting in Fredericksburg in March.

GILLESPIE EEA NEWS

By Helen Usener

Pilot Knob EE Club members Corine Klose and Alicia Frantzen planned a Pink Party with a representative from Hill Country Memorial Breast Center presenting the program for the October meeting.

On October 21 six Pilot Knob EE Club members attended the Medina County Women's Conference as the Fall Tour. The members enjoyed hearing a number of interesting speakers. Members attending were Mary Louise Dittmar, Roslee Lochte, Barbara Jacoby, Janie Nielsen, Sharon Kott, and Ilene Crenwelge.



A program on financial planning was presented by a financial adviser at the November meeting.

Helen Usener, Corine Klose, and Sharon Kott attended the District 10 Fall Training in Seguin on November 15.



At the December Christmas Party members enjoyed visiting, eating the delicious food prepared by members, listening to Christmas readings, and wrapping gifts for the children of the two Hill Country Needs Council families adopted by the club as well as dividing other items between the two families. County and club officers Helen Usener, chairman, Sharon Kott, vice-chair, Corine Klose, secretary, and Alicia Frantzen, treasurer were installed by the Gillespie County Family & Consumer Sciences Agent, Shea Nebgen.



Helen Usener presented the TEEA program "Being Mindful With Less Stress" at the January meeting.

Gillespie County invites all District 10 EEA members to attend the District 10 Spring Conference in Fredericksburg at the St. Mary's Family Center on Tuesday, March 21. We are planning a great conference. Hope to see you there.

Another invitation is extended to all to attend our annual Spring Scholarship Luncheon at the Holy Ghost Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall in Fredericksburg on Thursday, April 27.



"Believe with all of your heart that you will do what you were made to do."

~ Orison Swett Marden

"It's a troublesome world. All the people who're in it are troubled with troubles almost every minute. You ought to be thankful, a whole heaping lot, for the places and people you're lucky you're not."

~ Dr. Seuss

BASTROP EEA HOLDS SECOND ANNUAL ACHIEVEMENT DAY

By Kathy Prochnow

The Bastrop Extension Education Association held its second annual Achievement Day on January 23, 2017 at Faith Lutheran Church in McDade Texas.

There were a good number of people in attendance, including April Kuch, who is the Bastrop County Family and Consumer Science Extension Agent for 4-H, five judges and many club members from the Elgin and McDade Extension Education Clubs, and also several guests.

Kathy Prochnow, Chair of the Bastrop Extension Education Association was the organizer of the event with assistance from numerous club members. During the judging, games were played in another part of the building and the fun generated for an informative activity. Door prizes and refreshments were enjoyed by everyone afterward.

There were fifty-six items submitted by twenty club members in the show with sixteen items eligible to compete at the District 10 Spring Conference in Fredericksburg on March 21, 2017. Deanna Tidwell, the High Point winner for the Elgin Club, submitted 2 items earning one Reserve Champion, one Blue, and one Red ribbon. Loretta Dube was High Point winner for the McDade Club and the Achievement Show. She entered eight items earning three Grand Champion, five Blue, and three Red ribbons.

If you are interested in joining one of the clubs, or if you are interested in starting a club in a Bastrop County community, contact BEEA Chair Kathy Prochnow at 512 281-2089 for more information.

MCDADE EE CLUB NEWS

By Judith Lundgren

At our October meeting Kathy Prochnow, Vice President of the McDade EE Club came to the Elgin Extension Educational Club (EEEC) to give her report about attending the September 2016 State Conference held in Plano, Texas.

The Elgin EE Club has always been supportive of our local food pantry. We made a donation in memory of 2 passed club members Annabelle Weisner and Faye Dowdle. Pictures were taken by the Elgin Courier.

In November our EEEEC donated toys for the Blue Santa in Elgin.

January 18, Wednesday Our EEEEC planned our monthly meetings for 2017.

January 23, Monday (5) EEEEC members attended Bastrop County Achievement Fair for 2015-2016 in McDade, Texas at the Faith Lutheran Church. Deanna Tidwell entered a decorated gourd in Category 3, craft painting, won first place blue ribbon and a reserve champion ribbon. She also entered in Category 9, Machine Embroidery wall hanging, won second place red ribbon. Margaret Glassenmayer entered an Oil Painting in Category 12 Paintings and Drawings and won a first place blue ribbon. She also entered a crochet scarf in Category 6, B. Crocheting; Fiber Arts won a second place red ribbon. Adrene Bracewell entered a Cream Cheese Pound Cake in Category 26 Breads/Desserts, A. Cake and won a first place blue ribbon. Glenda Gebert entered a Beaded Heart Ornament in Category 10 Holiday Decorations and won a second place red ribbon.

"What other people think of you is not your business. If you start to make that business your business, you will be offended for the rest of your life."

~ Deepak Chopra

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DISTRICT 11 NEWS

Carrol Davig
District Director

GREETINGS:

During the fall and holiday seasons, District 11 members were busy in their counties with special events to recognize their outstanding members and meeting the needs of the citizens in their communities through financial support and giving their time through volunteering where needed.

In October, Grace Glaze, State Alumnae chair and District 11 EEA member and I attended a pre-planning meeting for the 2017 Annual TEEA Conference with the State Executive Board in the Marble Falls area at the Horseshoe Bay Resort. District 11 and District 9 will be the host of the 2017 TEEA Conference in September. Touring the resort, meeting rooms and other areas of the resort was very helpful. We discussed the duties that each district would be responsible for.

November 15, fifty-six (56) District 11 county officers and members attended the District 11 EEA Training and Planning Meeting in Victoria at the 4-H Activity Center. Information was presented on each officer position and general information was given for all club members that was obtained at the November TEEA State Board Meeting.

At the training and planning meeting we discussed our duties for the 2017 TEEA State Conference that will be held at the Horseshoe Bay Resort September 12 - 13. It will be all in-house which will make it much easier for all.

A "Show & Tell" was given by members who shared their progress on items that they are working on for the Country Store. Many neat ideas were shared. Then plans were made for the District EEA Spring Conference that will be held in Victoria on March 29.

Though it's a busy time for all the members of District 11 are excited to be able to be a

big part of the 2017 TEEA State Conference. We hope to "let our District 11 Dream Team Shine." As Yogi Berra once said, "If it's true, it ain't bragging."

GREENVINE EE CLUB NEWS

By Judith Finke

Greenvine Extension Education Club recently presented 46 infant bibs to New Beginnings Pregnancy Center. The EE members set up an assembly line to press, cut, sew and serge to create sweet individual designs.



Suzanne Kessler, Michele Daniels, (Washington EEA Chair) Sharon Steele and Daulene Hopmann

**TAITON CLUB
INSTALLS OFFICERS**

By Olivia McDonald

The Taiton Extension Education Club officers for 2016-2017 were installed October 13 at the VFW Hall by Rose Marie Strnadell using a theme of bells. As bells are used to call attention to important times in our lives, so are the duties of each officer important to the club.

Officers for 2016-2017 are Lillian Bartek, president; Irene Nohavitzka, vice-president; Jeannette Macha, secretary and Mary Ann Gerla, treasurer. Janet Holub will serve as parliamentarian and delegate to the County Association. Olivia McDonald is reporter and county delegate.

*"I don't think anybody
Anywhere can talk about the
future of their people
or of an organization without
talking about education.
Whoever controls the
education of our children
controls our future."*

~ Wilma Mankiller

**WASHINGTON EXTENSION
EDUCATION ASSOCIATION
NEWS**

By Judith Finke

Six local Extension members attended the District 11 Training and Planning Fall Conference in Victoria on November 15th. Attending were Daulene Hopmann, Sharon Steele, Michele Daniels, Stephanie Rudolph, Jeanell Dallmeyer and Suzanne Kessler.



The Washington members will be responsible for the Cultural Arts Competition at the State Conference to be held at Horseshoe Bay in Marble Falls in September of 2017 which will require volunteers to coordinate and orchestrate a detailed system. While District 9 will organize the Country Store, Washington members are asked to provide items for the sale.

Dollars for Scholars and Coins for Friendship were collected, fantastic door prizes were awarded and all were treated to lunch. Training included duty information for the Chair and Vice Chair positions.

TAITON EE CLUB NEWS

By Olivia McDonald

Taiton Extension Education Club has an extensive list of Community Service Projects. We contribute to the County 4-H Food and Fashion Shows and the Youth Fair Intermediate winner. We select a quilt for the Wharton County Association raffle for scholarships, buy and sell tickets.

We provide bingo prizes and cookies for two nursing homes. We collect gowns robes, pajamas and sweaters for the residents. Bags are given to nursery schools, and belts for school children. We collect coupons for service personnel overseas and donate money to mail them.

Donations are made to Manna Meals, the Volunteer Fire Department, Alzheimer's Association, Women's Crisis Center, Hospice, Community Thanksgiving Dinner, CASA(court appointed special advocate), Muscular Sclerosis and the Cancer Society Relay for Life. The April games party brings family members and friends to our club.

Our contributions to the community are just one facet of TEEC. We have just changed our lunches to brunches so that we can have time to visit before the meeting. We use the programs from district and state conferences to enrich our lives and those of the ones around us. We appreciate the work of our County Extension Agents and the staff who help make us the best of clubs.

**AUSTIN COUNTY EEA-
"WILLS AND TRUST -ARE
YOU PREPARED!"**

By Michelle Allen

EEA (Extension Education Association) of Austin County, which is a direct part of the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, sponsored an educational program entitled "Wills and Trust - Are You Prepared!" on Monday, January 9 in Industry, Texas. Attorney Wendy Yates, of Moorman, Tate, Haley, Upchurch and Yates, presented an informative program on wills and trust. She explained the roles of each and the items that should be considered when assets are involved. During her program she also discussed many probate misnomers related to property, taxes and the law. For more information on how you can become a part of Austin County EEA, please feel free to contact Michelle Allen, County Extension Agent -Family and Consumer Sciences at [\(979\) 865-2072](tel:(979)865-2072).



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KLEBERG EEA NEWS

By Dolores Davis

Members of KEEA hosted a Christmas Luncheon for our county officials. We had a great turnout and everyone enjoyed the meal prepared by the ladies of KEEA!

Plans are being made for the annual Kleberg-Kenedy County Livestock Show! As a fundraiser, we host a luncheon for the show judges. We will be hosting an Awards Luncheon in February.

Our Spring Conference will be in March! The host club for the conference is Falfurrias! All members are encouraged to attend.

A big Thank You to Carla Meyer for the super job she does at the Livestock Show!



“Don’t be afraid to cry. It will free your mind of sorrowful thoughts.”

~ Hopi Native American Saying

The TEEA Messenger

Lela G. Goar, Editor

teeamessenger2013@gmail.com

225 County Road 207A

Burnet, TX 78611

Summer Issue Deadline

JUNE 1

THE IDLE AMERICAN

Education at a Gallop...

Commentary by Dr. Don Newbury

They’re mere “blips” on the screen of educational innovation, now in a handful of major cities. Their name sounds like a house number, and youngsters therein are challenged to “dig deep” as a core of teachers--largely volunteers--help children 6-18 express themselves through--of all things--writing.

These store front centers (for want of a better word) are attention-grabbers, front to back. “826,” after all, isn’t a usual name. The first was San Francisco’s 826 Valencia St. It opened in 2002. If passers-by aren’t “grabbed” by the numbers, small letters on the sign help. It reads: “independent pirate supply store.”

After all, there aren’t many such Yellow Page listings there, or any place else....

What goes on at “826s” mostly are projects to hone writing skills. Is it not interesting that such a concept seems to be bubbling again to the top, even if not yet to full boil? (There are actual sales--ie, pirate supplies--with all profits accruing to the non-profit project.)

“826s” are staffed largely by volunteers who realize the importance of written expression. They now have 1,400 such volunteers in San Francisco serving a minimum of one hour weekly.

Simply stated, there is no app for that....

The concept is described as being to education what St. Jude is to hospitals. All children served pay nothing--it’s free.

In the past dozen years, “826” centers include NYC (superhero-themed); Ann Arbor, MI (robots), Seattle (space travel supply) and Boston (Bigfoot Research Institute). Similar programs are offered in Great Britain and Dublin, Ireland. Dublin’s is called “Fighting Words.”

I’ll stop “rat now,” mostly because I know so little about “826.” It seems to me, though, that retirees--particularly educators--might be interested. The concept seems both helpful and doable....

I trust the mentors bear down on the importance of careful note-taking. Throughout life, I have trusted scribbling on paper scraps, making “mental notes” and tying string around fingers. Reminders of painful experiences resulting from failures to remember are frequent and vivid.

Another one has been added to the list--instructions from the carpet store concerning what needed to be done prior to installation. I jotted down something about TVs/electronics/knickknacks. When the inevitable day of discernment dawned, I THOUGHT this “note to self” meant they’d move these items. I reasoned, obviously, that we’d need to arrange furniture removal.

We hired three husky high school footballers, and in just two hours, they had furniture piled high in the garage, bathrooms and tiled areas.

Alas, I remembered instructions backwards. The installers usually remove the furniture, but don’t handle TVs, electronics and knickknacks. They laughed about my mistake, then turned serious upon realization there was no entrance through which to bring in the carpet....

Probably the installers have “seen it all.”

Upon seeing the entrance hallway “stacked up” in a manner to challenge the most slithery of snakes, the workers shook their heads. The same was true for the garage.

What to do? “We’ll remove a window, roll up the carpet and shove it through,” one of the guys suggested. Head-shaking changed to hand-shaking....

It is finished. After the furniture was back in place, we surveyed dozens of boxes in the garage. When they are emptied, cars can be returned to the garage.

Maybe we’ll throw away half of the “stuff.” Up the way, our children likely will toss 90-95% of it in the same manner.

For now, though, we’re enjoying the “feel” of new carpet between our toes. No doubt, my enjoyment will be enhanced when Brenda allows me to remove those protective gauze shoes the installers left behind. And I’ll “whoop it up”--maybe even squeal--when my computer mouse turns up. Man of faith that I am, I expect to see it again, and soon....

Dr. Newbury is a speaker in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex. Inquiries/comments to: newbury@speakerdoc.com. Phone: 817-447-3872. Web site: www.speakerdoc.com.