



Tar Heel **HOMEMAKERS** E-news

December 2014

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2013-2014 Leadership Team

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Past President - Dianne Brown

VPs

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Southeast - Juliette Thompson

North Central - Laura Lloyd

South Central - Shelby Ford

West - Cindy Harmon

Parliamentarian - Abby Sparks

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Advisor - Geri Bushel

CVU Chair - Anne Gaddis

Cultural Arts Chairs -

Audena Spain & Gloria Smith



**May the peace and blessings of Christmas be yours;
And may the coming year be filled with happiness**



**May you have
the spirit of Hanukkah
which is Peace,
the gladness of Hanukkah
which is Hope,
and the Heart of Hanukkah
which is Love**

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Across the State!

Northeast

Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Edgecombe, Franklin, Gates, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Nash, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Pitt, Tyrrell, Wake, Warren, Washington

The Northeast District had many representatives attend State Conference in October. Audrey Askew and Stephanie Parker-Helmkamp from Hertford County; Nan Liverman and Dee Furlough from Tyrrell County; Yvonne Mullen from Pasquotank County; Wanda Denning and Robin Landsman from Wake County; Shelly Coburn and Beulah Bennett from Martin County; Jo Costello, Juanita Nobles, Phyllis Weatherington, Theresa Sawyer and Lena Darden from Pitt County.



Awards for Excellence was presented to Pitt, Martin, Wake and Dare Counties. Lena Darden received the Leadership Award for Northeast District.

Everyone enjoyed the meeting and learned a lot. Asheville was beautiful and so inviting!

Pasquotank County

Pasquotank ECA members were extremely involved with the 56th Annual Craftsman's Fair, October 24-26. Members served as board members, hostesses, ticket sellers, and worked in various capacities from planning to putting things away making this year a success. We even had some husbands participating. We regret being unable to participate in state council as long as there continues to be constraints involving travel and NCECA conference schedules. Once again, we request your thoughtful consideration of our members as you plan for the future. Although many hands make light work, we simply have not found ways to be in two places at the same time 411 miles apart!



We had 23 members and guests for our October 30, 2014 Fall Social. Gail Sonnesso and her husband Angelo came and gave us some information on Dementia. We all enjoyed the potluck foods from various members. Since the Fall Social was the day after NCECA State Council, we got an update from our liaison agent, Yvonne Mullen. Cultural arts items were returned to their owners as we all shared in congratulating their NCECA successes.

Pictured above are Brenda Simpson and Nancy Sawyer with a newsboy character actor for the Ghostwalk. The evening was beautiful and we learned so much about local history, house by house.

This fall has found us gathering school supplies, money and canned goods for Albemarle Food Bank. Donations to Salvation Army, Union Mission, local fire departments, needy families, Albemarle Hopeline and individuals along the way with immediate needs. Members continue to volunteer at the hospital and nursing homes as well as local schools.

We share with Faytie Johnston, as she decorates her room at the Eastern 4-H Center. Perhaps a springtime day trip will be in order for the dedication of the new furnishings.

Pasquotank ECA sends wishes for a Merry Christmas and multiplied Blessings in the New Year!

Tyrrell County



Members of the Teen ECA Club were Santa's Elves as he came to town to visit with children on Friday night and again after the Parade on Saturday. TECA put together the goodie bags and donated the chocolate that went in the bags!



The Tyrrell ECA County Council made a generous contribution to the 13th Annual La Posada and several members assisted with this event. Approximately 200+ people participated in this Hispanic traditional event during Rivertown Christmas.



Tyrrell ECA sponsored the 14th Annual ECA Culinary Confections Contest as a part of the 4 day Rivertown Christmas. Participants won ribbons and cash prizes!

Wake County

On October 23 Wake County commemorated 2014 at their annual Achievement Day luncheon at the North Carolina Rural Center in Raleigh. Susan McGuire, Care Coordinator with Resources for Seniors was an excellent guest speaker. All 10 clubs brought displays of their skills and examples of their outreach and contributions to our community. The highlight of the event was surprise recognition to Pam Fitzgerald, Extension Secretary, who has supported Wake County ECA for 20 years.



Cary ECA Club decorates the historical Mordecai House every year for the holidays. Pictured are Joan Quinn and Pat Naderman.

Southeast
 Bladen, Brunswick, Carteret, Columbus, Craven, Duplin,
 Greene, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, New Hanover, Onslow,
 Pamlico, Pender, Robeson, Sampson, Wayne, Wilson

Duplin County



The Stanford-Duplin County ECA members have furnished and decorated a Christmas tree for the main lobby of the Lois G. Britt Agriculture Service Center, home to the Duplin County Center-NCCE, the Farm Service Agency/USDA, and the Duplin Soil and Water/NRCS offices. Pictured (l to r) Eloise Coston, Olivia Williams, Ruby Brinson, Pat Wilson, Doreatha Roberts and club president Theresa Bowles. The tree is decorated with ornaments handmade by club members.

Wayne County



Town and Country ECA Club members working the Christmas Bazaar.

Town & Country E C A Club crew preparing to feed a group at the Wayne Center



North Central

Alamance, Alleghany, Ashe, Caswell, Chatham, Davidson, Davie, Durham, Forsyth, Granville, Guilford, Orange, Person, Randolph, Rockingham, Stokes, Surry, Vance, Wilkes, Yadkin

Person County

Person County ECA members celebrated their annual Achievement Program on Tuesday, December 9. The program was held in the Person County Office Building Auditorium. Gary Greene, NC Boys and Girls Home Director, served as our guest speaker for the event highlighting all of the work that they do and how instrumental ECA has been to their efforts and how we can continue to help their organization. At the end of the program, our ECA presented him with a donation for the girls' home. During 2014, the total of volunteer hours reported was over 3200 hours, saving the county roughly \$73,600. We also installed our 2015-2016 ECA County Council officers. Thanks to all of our ECA members and volunteers whom we rely so heavily on!!

Pictured: L-R; Naomi Johnson, Advisor; Joan Long, President; Sylvia Bradsher standing in for Estelle Thomas, President Elect; Cornelia Jay, Secretary; and Gloria Jones, Treasurer



Orange County

Interesting, rewarding, informative and enjoyable are words that describe the annual Achievement Program of the Orange County ECA Council which was held Saturday, December 6, 2014 at the Russell Steakhouse in Hillsborough, NC with about 50 members and guests in attendance.

County Council president, Barbara Warren presided exhibiting her enthusiasm for, confidence in, and appreciation for all of the County ECA accomplishments. Secretary, Becky Smith gave an inspirational thought to which each person could relate. Greetings from the Orange County Board of Commissioners was given by commissioner Barry Jacobs who indicated that he had been in attendance and asked to make remarks for the past 3 years. He also stated that ECA was an impressive organization dealing with community and its needs. Looking at the Collect by Mary Stewart, he indicated that it contained a message for other organizations as well. Commissioner Jacobs also complimented and congratulated retiring Register of Deeds of Orange County, Deborah Brooks, also an ECA member. He ended his greetings by thanking the group for all it does for Orange County.

Cooperative Extension Director Carl Matyac greeted the group and complimented it on the many years of community volunteerism. He noted the organizations archival documentation, activities in family issues, food preparation and nutrition, and the ability to share and work together. The newly elected chair of the Orange County Board of Commissioners, Earl McKee was also present and commented that his mother was a dedicated ECA member. President Warren gave each of these gentlemen a copy of the newly published ECA History book.



Each ECA County club had to complete and turn into the ECA office a score card by November 1, 2014. Based on the information listed on these cards, awards were made for special projects and other activities. Listed is a summary of the special project items: Cancelled stamps 13,153; Campbell soup labels/Box Tops for Education- 1451; Fish eye patches for school use- 6701; cancer caps- 52; mastectomy pillows- 17; mastectomy tote bags- 29; aluminum drink tabs for Ronald McDonald House- 18.75 lbs.; eyeglasses for underdeveloped countries- 74 pr; cultural arts entries- 8; Operation Christmas Child- 117 shoe boxes; lap quilts/ packages for shut-ins- 704. Every club received a gold certificate for its accomplishments.

Great items were donated for the silent auction which raised \$180. The gross amount from the 50/50 raffle was \$1805 of which the winner received \$902.50. The ECA member who "sold" the winning ticket had purchased tickets in the names of several people in the community whom she thought could use an unexpected windfall. In choosing her names she thought about people who may really need the money. The winner was a single father with 2 teenage sons. Someone is going to have a very special Christmas.

Ann Fernald made presentations to the Cultural Arts winners and also provided the table decorations. Frances Vanhooke was recognized for 50 years of membership in ECA. Betty Matthews and Pat Stewart were recognized for 25 years of membership. Barbara Warren expressed appreciation to retired ECA agent Alice Pettit and Agent Deborah Taylor for all they have done to make ECA a successful community organization.

The program ended with the installation of incoming officers by Deborah Brooks.

Orange County ECA History Book Published



In 2001 the Orange County ECA club members began corralling and organizing the organization's history. Thirteen years of work and the receipt of an NCECA Foundation Innovative Grant provided the opportunity to write and publish our history - - "Honoring Our History, Celebrating Our Future." The book is dedicated to Orange County Extension and Community Association members, past and present, with appreciation for their consistent efforts to make Orange County a better place to live. It was presented to Orange County ECA members at the annual Achievement Day on December 6, 2014.

Forsyth County

North Forsyth ECA Club member Jane Bodenhamer won a Blue Ribbon in the Chair Bottoming category (No. 12). Kate Thomas won 3rd place in the State scrapbooking category (No. 28). Judging was held in Asheville during the State Conference in October, 2014. Congratulations to Jane and Kate. Keep up the good work.

NORTH FORSYTH CLUB COLLECTING USED SHOES

The North Forsyth ECA Club collected 227 pairs of used shoes for those in need in Africa. These shoes will be used by those who do not have shoes and who live in areas where their land is wet and muddy. There is a definite need. The club received a check for \$105.00 for their shoe collecting project during the month of September 2014. More used shoes were collected at the November meeting and will be shipped to third world countries.

NORTH FORSYTH ECA CLUB HEARS SPEAKER FROM THE PIEDMONT DIAPER BANK

The North Forsyth ECA Club donated 812 diapers for distribution by the Piedmont Diaper Bank. Carrie Scott shared her passion for helping babies in our community with the club in May 2014. Carrie works with the Piedmont Diaper Bank and she said this amount of diapers would keep over 30 tiny ones healthy and dry this fall.



OUTSTANDING MEMBER - NORTH FORSYTH CLUB - WINS BLUE RIBBON AT DIXIE CLASSIC FAIR OCTOBER 2014 Lillian Willard of the North Forsyth ECA Club was the winner of a blue ribbon for her hand-made special pillow cases entered in the Dixie Classic October Fair in Winston-Salem, NC. Lillian also won 3rd prize for her embroidery on her Santa Stocking. Congratulations.

During the month of October 2014, Lillian made 1 dozen baby caps for newborns, 1 blanket and 14 small Christmas stockings for children who are hospitalized. All these items were crocheted. Thank you to a special person who provides for others.



Jane Bodenhamer of the North Forsyth ECA Club entered the "Raw" category in the Dixie Classic Fair's food Division Contest in October, 2014. She collected herbs, vegetables and fruit from her fellow community gardeners in order to create a special salsa. The judges selected her entry for the first prize. Tomatoes, a cucumber, bell peppers, hot peppers, banana peppers, raspberries, tomatillos and all kinds of herbs went into the mix. She shared her prize of \$600. with the Community Garden in Rural Hall where she had collected several of her ingredients.

NORTH FORSYTH ECA PERFECT ATTENDANCE

The North Forsyth ECA Club experienced perfect attendance at their November 2014 meeting. Thanks to everyone for your volunteer hours, your help with our used shoe collection, your collection of used stamps, sharing your old magazines, your collection of bottle caps, and medicine bottles for reuse, your help in supplying food for the needy and our social each year! Let's keep up the good attendance in the New Year!



South Central

Alexander, Anson, Cabarrus, Catawba, Cumberland, Gaston, Harnett, Poke, Iredell, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Rowan, Scotland, Stanly, Union

Lee County



At the November meeting, Hearts & Hands ECA Quilt Guild filled 36 Hum Bug bags that our guild members had sewn. The bags were filled with toiletries for people who would be staying at the Fisher House on Ft. Bragg. Injured military and their families stay at this hostel while visiting injured warriors or having medical procedures at the base hospital.

Extra toiletries are donated to Homeless Vets.

The Hearts & Hands ECA Quiltmobile was in the December 1st Christmas Parade in Sanford. The attendees really enjoyed the car. The guild made this Quiltmobile cover last year from orphan blocks to advertise our October 13th parade. It was even a CNN news clip. Our biannual quilt show is a big hit here in Sanford. We had over 1000 attendees and some of the guys came to see the car. Our mission is to preserve the art of quilting.



Pictured are members from the Lemon Springs ECA after decorating a table for the annual Ladies Luncheon. The theme was to decorate on a choice of a variety of holidays this year. This stimulated lots of conversations, fellowship and friendship at the luncheon.



Rachel Monteverdi, Family and Consumer Science Agent, Franklin County Center, spoke on " Celebrating With Gusto". Good teamwork and creativity was displayed with their hard work. Pictured from left to right are Carol Cox, Secretary of ECA, Rachel Kelly, Peggy Abshear, Community Participation Chair, and Betty McNeill. Not pictured was Mildred Smith, President of ECA..

Alexander County

The Alexander County ECA provided lunch for the Habitat for Humanity volunteer workers, who were hard at work on their latest house project. The Friendship ECA Club provided the sandwiches, Rocky Spring ECA Club provided the cookies and chips, and the TLC (Tuesday Ladies Club) provided the drinks. Lee Jan Waddell, Gail Farmer, and Bera Stevenson, ECA members delivered the lunches to the job site. Matt Cooksey, Alexander Habitat for Humanity, Executive Director, gave a tour of the house under construction to the members present.



Moore County

Moore County ECA held its 10th annual Creative Christmas Table event on December 5, 2014 at the Chapel Hall at the Village Chapel in Pinehurst. Visitors were inspired to get in the Christmas spirit by viewing elegantly decorated tables.

Demonstrations included chair caning, reed basket weaving, Color Me Beautiful, bow tying, wreath making, and how to make truffles. A silent auction was held with a wide selection of gift baskets. Two local authors were present for book signings, local vendors sold art work, reed baskets, pottery and hand crafted items made by women of Moore County ECA. Raffle tickets were sold for chances to win cash prizes as well as gift certificates to local restaurants and shops.



For the first time, viewers had the opportunity to vote for "People's Choice". The most votes for "People's Choice" went to "A Farmstead Christmas" decorated by Susan Peters of Southern Whey and Sue Stovall of Paradox Farm Creamery. They were awarded \$100 for their effort donated by Filly and Colt's of Longleaf.

We particularly want to thank the large group of Bladen County ECA members and agents who made the long drive to Pinehurst to support our Moore County Christmas event.



Moore County ECA will offer seven Heritage Skills & Crafts Classes in 2015. All classes will be held at the Moore County Agricultural Center and will be open to the public. The only fees charged will be to cover the cost of materials required.



On Wednesday, January 21, Bonnie Robeson will teach "Reed Basket Making". Other classes to be offered during the year are "Woven Seat for Chair or Stool", February 25 & 26; "Lap Quilting", April 15; "Quilling Christmas Ornaments", May 20; "Dried Pressed Flower Cards", June 17, "Pine Needle Basketry", September 23; "Pine Cone Wreath", October 21.

We invite ECA members from other counties to join us in our effort to keep alive the Heritage Skills that were used by our ancestors.

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West
 Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Cherokee, Cherokee Reservation,
 Clay, Cleveland, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Macon,
 Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania,
 Watauga, Yancey

Cherokee County



Unaka Community and Hearts and Hands ECA Club received a grant for being a "Community of Promise." Volunteers created the Internet "Unaka Blogger" to keep residents and club members informed, opened a satellite senior center which provides hot meals for the senior citizens three days a week.

Christmas Stockings were made and filled for the local nursing home and 132 "Pillows for Patriots" were made and mailed to patriots in Afghanistan.

Robin Johnson, a member of Hearts and Hands, made 125 bears for Victory Junction and also makes and donates numerous bears each year for Toys for Tots. Unaka Hearts and Hands serves meals each month at the Soup Kitchen in Murphy.

Grape Creek ECA Club also received a grant for their donations to the Food Bank, Relay for Life, Senior Games, and "Shop With a Cop." Pillow cases, candy wreaths and boys and girls crayon aprons were donated to a Christmas Love church project for a local church.



Members and their families of the Grape Creek ECA honored each other with a Thanksgiving Meal on November 20.

The Grape Creek ECA and Hearts and Hands make candy wreaths for the Christmas Love project for the Little Brasstown Baptist Church on November 18. These candy wreaths along with pillow cases and crayon aprons for the children will be passed out to the needy families of Cherokee, Clay and surrounding counties. Pictured are from left back, Clydie Rogers, Reta Hogsed, Glenda Sneed, Robin Martin, Doris McClure, Debby Voyles, Jan Rose, Joyce Pastore. From front row Robin Johnson, Liz Sharp, Joan Dockery and Barbara Lovingood. The Grape Creek Homemakers meet the second Tuesday of each month. Our next workshop will be on December 9 to finish making the wreaths. Our goal is 40 wreaths.





The Cherokee County ECA helped celebrate 100 Years of Extension at the Mountain Folk Center Day held November 8 at the Mountain Folk Center, Murphy, NC. The day was celebrated with ECA Mountain crafters, Bluegrass music, door prizes and a Cake Walk. The delicious cakes were also provided by the hard working ladies of the Cherokee County ECA.

Pictured at left: Carolyn Dempsey, Sue Rhodes, Carolyn Willer

Members of the Grape Creek Homemakers of Cherokee County honored our local veterans with a dinner on Monday night, November 10. There were around 90 attending the dinner. Thank you Veterans.



eNews

eNews is the electronic newsletter of NCECA. It is published six times a year and is available :

1. by email to all who have signed up to receive it ... just let Geri know if you would like to receive it.
2. on line at go.ncsu.edu/nceca
3. by asking your county extension office for a copy. It is electronically sent to ALL county offices ... to the Liaison Agent AND to the County Director!
4. from your county ECA's contact person. We have encouraged every county ECA to designate a contact person to receive all electronic correspondence and SHARE it with ALL ECA members in the county. Many counties are printing it and distributing it by snail mail or at a county meeting.

As you plan your programs and projects for 2015, remember to submit those dates to Geri for addition to the calendar that will be included with each issue of the eNews next year!! What better way to share your events and invite your neighboring counties to join you!

Dates to Remember

December

- 1 - Individual Reports due
- Pennies for Friendship
- Membership dues
- 15 - Club Reports due

January

- 1 - New officers assume duty
- 21 - Leadership Team meets

February

- 1 - Scholarship due county
- eNews articles due
- 4 - Leadership Team Conference Call



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