ECA ECHO

Buncombe County Extension & Community Association

Message from the Liaison—New ECA Liaison Named

On November 1, I became the liaison for the Buncombe County Extension and Community Association. Due to reduction in funding for the 4-H Program Assistant position, Mary Clayton-McGlaflin found it necessary to relinquish her leadership to spend more of her time devoted to the 4-H program. Mary has done a wonderful job with ECA that will make replacing her difficult shoes to fill.

I want to introduce myself for those members that are not familiar with me. I have been on the Buncombe County staff for over ten years as one of the Family and Consumer Science agents and with Extension over 16 years.

My family has lived in western North Carolina for over 30 years. For 14 years in Jackson County where we owned various small businesses including a campground, white water rafting business and real estate office.

My husband and I now live in Arden and are fortunate to have all three of our grown children and their families now living in North Carolina especially my three grandchildren who recently moved to Weaverville with their parents from Washington DC.

I look forward to meeting each of you and becoming better acquainted over the coming months and would like to schedule a brainstorming session in early 2008 to discuss how together we can increase the membership in the Buncombe County ECA. I am also interested in how we can reach out to younger women to share all the gifts and knowledge that our current members have available.

Please feel free to call me at the office with any suggestions you may have prior to our brainstorming session.

I am looking forward to working with you during 2008. Have a Happy Holiday Season!

Nancy Ostergaard
Aka to many ECA members as Mama!

DATES TO REMEMBER:
♦ January 11—9:00
  Executive Board Meeting
♦ January 25—9:30
  County Council Hostess Club: West Asheville

Inside this Issue
Upcoming Programs 2
IRS & EIN # 2
Fall Issues Training 2
January Leader Training 3
Club News 3
Winter Safety 4
Upcoming Club Programs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue Coordinator Responsible</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>January:</strong> Building Healthy Families</td>
<td>The Skinny on Fats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>February:</strong> Carolyn Rice &amp; Carole Campbell</td>
<td>What's in Your Top Kitchen Drawer? --A Workshop on Teamwork and Diversity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February program will be at the Valentine’s Day luncheon

Roster of ECA Members

You will find on the insert in this newsletter a complete roster of all the current ECA members. I would suggest taping it to the front cover of your phonebook and keeping it handy during the next year.

IRS and EIN Numbers

Don’t forget the IRS is now requiring filing for non-profit status to be completed on-line by May 15, 2008. An EIN# is needed and may be obtained by telephone, on-line (there is a charge for on-line), or you may use the county EIN#. The 900-N, an informational report will need to be filed annually on-line (e-postcard). If you prefer, Buncombe County will file each club’s information after the March, 2008 County Council meeting. Remember that 100% of the earnings for a non-profit organization must be directed toward non-profit use and not for the benefit of the members.

Fall Issues Training

The fall training was held October 23 at Trinity United Methodist Church. The Education Issues Training was presented to the entire group by the respective Issue Coordinator. In addition to programs being available on CD’s there are several that can be obtained from websites.

With the re-districting for CES being effective January 1, 2008 it was suggested to invite Polk and McDowell County ECA’s to our District Day. The secretary and new president will write letters of invitation to both counties.
January 25 Leader Training

*Dealing With Clutter* is the title for the January 25 Leader training. The program is scheduled to be delivered during the Club meeting in March. The Issue Coordinator responsible will be the Safe & Healthy Environment.

Do you have overflowing closets? Trouble disposing of unused items? Can’t find the warranty for a broken appliance? Do you find yourself just restacking papers then unable to find what you need when you need it? Then this program is for you. The information provided will assist you in beginning the task of “freeing” yourself from clutter.

Winter is a good time to begin since it’s too cold to go out and there are less visitors to see us in the process. This will be the ultimate in spring cleaning.

CLUB NEWS

The West Asheville ECA Club was formed this past summer on July 13. We have 5 members as of now—June Wiggins, Carole Campbell, Deborah Harmon, Nancy Kimmons, and Pam Good. They are a pretty crafty bunch, each one of them has a different specialty. So far, they have made and delivered 124 breast cancer pillows for the patients after their surgery; 8 baby blankets for the Down Syndrome babies, and 4 boxes of various school supplies for the needy students at Johnston School—crayons, pencils, notebooks, and other supplies.

For over 15 years the Reems Creek Club has been decorating the Christmas Tree at the Vance Birthplace, State Historic Site. The ornaments made by the club have varied widely over the years, from clothes pin reindeer and salt dough cookies to ornaments made from recycled light bulbs or a variety of natural materials. This year the club made over 100 fabric covered styrofoam balls to give the tree an old-fashioned quilted look.

The tree is one of the attractions at the annual Christmas open house. One of the employees at the Vance Birthplace mentioned that one family comes every year for the candlelight tour, lets each of their children buy an ornament and then takes them home to hang on their own tree.

But the tree reaches even farther: the Vance Birthplace employees kindly agreed to sell the ornaments straight off the tree and all the money raised benefits the North Buncombe Samaritan Ministries and helps to feed hungry neighbors.

In the last years, the club has added another tradition to reach out to neighbors during the holiday season. Each year the club makes over 400 small Christmas cards out of last year’s recycled cards and delivers them to area nursing homes. Sadly enough, this is often the only holiday greeting many of the old persons will receive.

After all this very enjoyable work the club celebrates by having a Christmas party complete with a gift exchange and lots of good food.

Wishing all of you a Very Merry Holiday Season, the Reems Creek ECA Club.

West Asheville Club

In October, they made 25 fall-themed centerpieces to put on the dining room tables for the patients at Aston Park. On November 28, they took 25 Christmas themed centerpieces to Aston Park. The patients were all pleased and happy with the decorations. They are planning future holiday decorations for them in
By the time you have read this newsletter, I am sure you have noticed the new format. I would like to get your feedback as to what you want to see in the newsletter and what would make it easier to read.

2008 District Officers

During the WDEAC Fall Education Issues training the following individuals were installed as West District officers for 2008.

President—Betty Whitlow  
Secretary—Dianne Brown  
Treasurer—Nellie Jo Maney  
Advisor—Mary Jo Drake  
Liaison Agent: Beverly Nelson, Yancey County

Happiness & Health in 2008

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention suggests the following: If you are over 65 years old, place an easy-to-read thermometer in an indoor location where you will see it frequently, and check the temperature of your home often.

Buncombe County Extension & Community Association

94 Coxe Avenue  
Asheville, North Carolina 28801

An Affiliate of North Carolina Extension & Community Association, Inc.