

## **EXTENSION & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (ECA) - GASTON COUNTY December 2020 Newsletter**

### **UPCOMING ECA MEETING - ONLINE OR PHONE**

*Thurs., December 3rd - 10:00am*

We do not usually have a meeting in December but we will be installing our officers at this time. Please join us for this special called meeting.

Join us for our monthly meeting - you can participate online or by phone via Zoom:

<https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/94528105518?pwd=NFJRNHB3Q1hTVnYwSTAyVitDbSsxdz09>

Join by Phone: 1-470-250-9358

Meeting ID: 945 2810 5518

Passcode: 620226

Thanks to everyone who participated in last month's meeting. We had 10 individuals who joined in and it was great to check in and hear your voices. Although our online meetings do not replace seeing folks in person, the online option is a critical tool for us to conduct business and make decisions. Your flexibility and willingness to try new things is greatly appreciated!

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

*Thurs., December 17th | 10:00am - 11:30am*

All board members are requested to attend this online meeting - please contact Patti Wells if you are unable to participate. This meeting is open to all members, but only Executive Board members can vote during this time. Also, any member who would like to have an issue discussed at the next monthly meeting is encouraged to attend the Executive Board meeting.

You can participate online or by phone via Zoom:

<https://ncsu.zoom.us/j/94359650377?pwd=UEkvaFM5WWdRRm5MQi9wMXIxTG5yUT09>

Join by Phone: 1-470-250-9358

Meeting ID: 943 5965 0377

Passcode: 652851

### **BUILDING CLOSINGS**

- December 23rd - 25th: Christmas Holiday
- January 1st - New Year's Day

### **ECA 2021 MEMBERSHIP DUES**

Membership fees for 2021 are now due - please note the following 2021 membership options were recently approved by our full membership:

- \$20 - active members
- \$15 - additional members in same household

- \$10 - alumni members (former active members who are unable to attend meetings)

Applications were mailed to you and should be submitted individually to Pam Bryson, ECA Liaison. The deadline for submission was November 6th - please submit asap if you have not already done so. The dues are due to the State ECA by December 1st.

### **STATE ECA CULTURAL ARTS COMMITTEE**

The State ECA has formed a cultural arts committee to look at the definition for the categories in the Cultural Arts Competition and also to look at suggestions for categories to add or eliminate. Rose Cotton is the chairman of this committee and Linda Jozwiakowski is one of the committee members.

Rose invites any ECA member to offer positive suggestions for categories or definitions. Please let Linda Jozwiakowski or Rose Cotton know of your suggestions. The committee will be working on revisions for the 2022 competitions. The current categories will apply for the 2021 competitions.

### **THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING FUNDRAISER**

At this time we do not know how much we made on the fundraising; however, thank you to all who participated. The manager said we had a lot of participation so here is hoping we get a nice check. We will let you know the amount as soon as we know. Thanks again for going out on a rainy day to support ECA!

### **Building Use Policy for the Lucile Tatum Center - Effective October 2, 2020**

The following COVID-19 guidance is provided in accordance with the Governor's Phase 3.0, NC State University, and Gaston County Government:

1. The Lucile Tatum Center is currently open to the public by appointment only and individuals must wear a face covering. The building is not available for rental use during this time.
2. Visitors and volunteers are to enter the building through the front entrance only. Temperatures will be checked before entering the building. Anyone that has a temperature reading of 100.4 or higher will not be allowed to enter the building. Three questions will also be asked to everyone entering the building. If they answer yes to any of the questions they will not be allowed in the building. Staff will follow county protocol and participants will not be allowed in the building.
3. During this time building use is for business only – this includes Extension & Community Association (ECA) activities. Volunteers are restricted from using the Center for personal activities.
4. The Multipurpose Room can be reserved for ECA workshops (members only), community projects, and small group meetings for a maximum duration of three hours. This room is limited to five individuals, plus one instructor. Face coverings are to be worn and individuals are required to practice social distancing.

Individuals are required to clean everything that is touched (including tables, chairs, used equipment, etc.) with provided sanitizing wipes.

5. The Ceramic Room can be reserved for loading/unloading the kiln for ECA workshop activities only. This room is limited to one individual at a time for a maximum duration of two hours. Face coverings are to be worn and individuals are required to practice social distancing. Individuals are required to clean everything that is touched (including tables, chairs, used equipment, etc.) with provided sanitizing wipes. Disposable gloves will be provided and should be worn when loading/unloading the kiln and handling molds. No painting or other ceramic-related activities are permitted at this time.

To reserve a room or for further information:  
Pam Bryson, Lucile Tatum Center Director  
704.865.3291 or pam.bryson@gastongov.com

### **UPCOMING WORKSHOPS: NOVEMBER & DECEMBER**

1. Pre-registration including payment of registration fees is required by the registration deadline. Registration form should be completed and returned to the Lucile Tatum Center. **Note: Check only - made payable to Gaston Co. ECA - no cash is accepted.**
2. Refunds for participant cancellations made after the registration deadline will not be provided.
3. For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact 704.865.3291 within five business days before the event.
4. Be respectful of the "Fragrance Free" Policy at the Lucile Tatum Center. Do not wear fragrances - no perfumes, scented locations, body sprays, aftershave, etc.
5. Due to COVID-19, classes are for members only and may be cancelled according to COVID-19 policies.

### **Christmas Ornaments**

Date: Tuesday, Dec. 8th | 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Registration Deadline: Friday, Dec. 4th

Cost: \$5

Instructor: Pamela Myers

Paint a pretty scene to place inside an ornament. Simple to do but people will ask you..."how did you DO that?" Bring a water container and a #4 or #6 round paint brush. All other supplies will be provided. The instructor will have some paint brushes available if you don't have any.

### **Cardinal Quilt Block**

Date: Thursday, Dec. 10th | 1:30pm – 4:00pm

Registration Deadline: Friday, Dec. 4th

Cost: \$10.00 includes kit (Additional kits may be ordered when you register for the class at a cost of \$7.00 for each additional kit).

Instructor: Patti Wells

*Special Instructions: Each participant must bring a sewing machine and know how to thread the machine and fill a bobbin. Each person needs to know how to sew. Kit provided is for the Cardinal quilt block.*

*Supplies needed: sewing machine, gray or beige thread, straight pins, scissors or rotary cutter and small ruler. You will need batting and backing to finish the project. Depending on time, this step will probably be done at home.*

Using half square triangles, create an eye-catching cardinal in the barn-quilts style. This quilt block can be finished as a wallhanging, a pillow cover, a table centerpiece, or buy an extra kit to make it into a table runner.

## **FUNDRAISER PROJECT**

The cookbook project is still a viable fundraiser, but we need a committee to head this up and get it rolling. We think it would be best to let this ride until January or February 2021 so do some soul searching and see if this is something you would be willing to chair. Some of the research has already been done. There are some who have expressed a desire to help but just can't head up the project.

## **NEWSLETTER INFORMATION DEADLINE**

The deadline to submit items for the monthly newsletter is the 10th of the month. If the 10th falls on a weekend the information is due before the 10th. Information received after the 10th will be included in the following month's newsletter.

## **SUNSHINE VOLUNTEER**

Many thanks to Betty Agerton, who has agreed to send cards to ECA members who are sick, hospitalized, or experienced the loss of a loved one. Please let Betty know if any members who are in your special interest group have the need for a card. We would appreciate it if only one person from your Special Interest Group would contact Betty. If the ECA member is not part of a special interest group, please let Pam Bryson or Pamela Myers know.

## **MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE**

- December 3rd - via zoom online or by call-in (due to COVID-19)

## **ECA 2020 PROJECTS**

The following projects are ongoing and supported by all ECA clubs:

1. Ronald McDonald House: collection of drink tabs (contact: Pam Bryson, ECA Liaison)
2. Gaston County Schools: collecting Campbell soup labels and education labels from food containers (contact: Pam Bryson, ECA Liaison)

3. First Baptist Mission Trips: collecting eyeglasses (contact: Martha Spurrier)
4. Pennies for Friendship: supports Association of Country World Women (contact: Angela Nona)
5. Baby Quilts & Baby Caps: making quilts and caps for infants in the neonatal intensive unit at CaroMont Regional Medical Center (contact: Gloria Snyder & Angela Nona)
6. Surgical Pillows: sewing pillows for surgical patients of CaroMont Regional Medical Center
7. Operation Gratitude: knitting/crocheting scarves for the military (contact: Carol Dillinger)
8. Shirt Savers for Holy Angels: making shirt savers for residents – cloth/supplies purchased by Holy Angels (contact: Martha Spurrier)
9. Farmers Market Activities: local food demos provided onsite at the Gastonia Farmers' Market from May through September (contact: Linda Jozwiakowski)
10. Warm Up America: making afghans for the homeless (contact Angela Nona)

**GASTON CO. ECA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2020**

President - Patti Wells    President-Elect - Audrey Hunt    Secretary - vacant  
 Treasurer - Dana Croston    Advisor - Pamela Myers

**Committee Chairs:**

- Building Committee - vacant
- Ceramic Room Committee - Rita Kincaid
- Marketing Committee - vacant
- Program Committee - Linda Jozwiakowski
- Scholarship Committee - Kathie Andrews

**LUCILE TATUM CENTER**

Location & Mailing Address: 959 Osceola St., Gastonia, NC 28054

Office Hours: Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 5pm (closed daily from 12-1pm)

For More Information:

Pam Bryson - Gaston County ECA Liaison

Phone: 704.865.3291                      Email: pam.bryson@gastongov.com

**NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

Mailing Address: PO Box 1578, Gastonia, NC 28053

Physical Address: Citizens Resource Center, 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Hwy., Dallas, NC

Office Hours: Monday - Friday | 8am - 5pm

For More Information:

Phone: 704.922.2111    Website: [gaston.ces.ncsu.edu](http://gaston.ces.ncsu.edu)

NC Extension & Community Association website: [go.ncsu.edu/nceca](http://go.ncsu.edu/nceca)

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:**

@gastoneca (Gaston Co. ECA)

@ExtensionHealthyLiving (NC Cooperative Extension: Nutrition & Wellness Programs)

@GastonExtension (NC Cooperative Extension)

## Meeting Minutes

Gaston County Extension & Community Association  
November 5, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order via ZOOM at 10:00 a.m.

Attending: Patti Wells, Pam Bryson, Pamela Myers, Linda Minges, Linda Jozwiakowski, Angela Nona, Dana Croston, Rita Kincaid, Nina Tarte, Billie Taylor, Audrey Hunt, Diego Garzon, Carol Dillinger, Mary Upton

Patti Wells opened meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Reminder to turn in your hours to Pam Bryson via US mail (959 Osceola St Gastonia, NC 28054) or via email (pam.bryson@gaston.gov) .

Minutes were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report provided. Electricity for kiln is being turned off. We can reconnect at a later date. This saves us money. Approved at published.

Thought for the Day read by Linda J.

On the Border fundraiser: November 12 from 11am-10pm. You can do lunch and/or dinner. All those who have sent in an RSVP will get a reminder email. Tell them BEFORE you order. ECA will get 20% of your bill. We have 25+ who have signed up. Pam Bryson sent flyers to the library.

Christmas Party: Discussion about doing a Christmas party. We normally do the installation of officers in December. Decision made to do just a regular business meeting. We still need a Vice President. Pam Myers will do the installation.

Ceramic Room: One last firing of the kiln before electricity turned off. We need to form a temporary ad hoc committee to look at how to use the ceramic room. Rita Kincaid volunteered. Patti Wells volunteered. Those who have paid 2021 dues should be on this committee. Linda M suggested that we get someone from each SIG to have input to how the room might be used. Audrey could send an email to the contacts and request a volunteer. Old paint needs to be discarded and fired items need to be removed from the room. We need to follow the strictest guidelines we've been given by the county, the state, and NC State. Currently no ceramic activities are being allowed at any Parks and Recreation facilities. Discussion of the water drain in the sink. Never plug sink or pour a large amount of water into sink. The water will overflow due to the way the plumbing was installed.

State Meeting update from Linda J: State meeting was very successful. Over 100 sites were signed in with some sites having multiple participants. Very good speakers. Geri Bushell hopes to have a tape of the meeting and slides available online next week. Might be a possibility at one of our meetings to have one of those tapes shown (Alzheimer's Association, virtual tour of Boys & Girls Home). New program at Boys/Girls Home called Bright Hope that houses children of parents who are in rehabilitation/treatment for drugs, etc. Suggestion to send the home some games/toys. Motion by Linda J to send toys or gift cards to Boy & Girls Home for Bright Hope. Dana made second. Linda will get specific needs from the home and

Pam Bryson will send an email next week with details and instructions.

Baby Quilt Update: Linda and Angela delivered 33 quilts to the hospital.

Programming Report: Pam Myers teaching a painting class of a chickadee on a pot and a watercolor class to create earrings and a December class for ornaments. Quilt classes of a Christmas Tree and a Cardinal being offered. Limited number of participants. We are looking at how to video tape one of the painting classes so we can post on Facebook.

Project Room: Pat Mantooth cleared off the table of the donations recently received.

Marketing: Patti met with Jen Sherman. Jen is managing the Facebook page. The On the Border fundraiser has been posted. She's working to create an Instagram account as well to post pictures of activities.

Quiltmakers Grant: Patti and Linda looked at the sewing machines to determine the types of 1/4 inch foot and walking foot we need to order.

Scholarships: This is the time we need to get information out about district scholarships. No one attended the Community Run meeting.

Next meeting is December 3 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

## **ECA Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Gaston County Extension & Community Association (ECA)

October 29, 2020 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order via ZOOM at 10:04 a.m.

Attending: Patti Wells, Pam Bryson, Audrey Hunt, Pamela Myers, Linda Jozwiakowski, Dana Croston, Pat Mantooh, Audrey Hunt, Linda Minges

Meeting opened at 10:04 a.m.

Meeting minutes of September Board Meeting accepted as published.

Checking Account update – Dana Croston: Suggestion made to move Cotton Ginning Days monies held over from last year to General Fund. Quiltmakers Grant—when does money need to be spent? Linda will research deadlines and what needs to be purchased. Patti and Linda will set time next week to look at machines to identify types of feet needed. Financial report accepted as published.

Treasurer Communications: Dana has set up a separate email address gceca2020@gmail.com. Please send anything to that address for treasurer/ECA business. Dana working on creating an electronic form. You can take a picture on your phone and send it to Dana.

Fundraising with On The Border: 24 RSVPs to date. When we do the call tree for general meeting suggest people use take out to support this fundraiser. RSVPs should be made by Nov 9. RSVP not required. Organizer (Patti) needs to be there 15 minutes before start. Suggest we do an additional call tree the week of the 9th to remind people to order food. Information is on our Facebook page.

State Meeting Recap: Went really well. Program on Alzheimer's Association with ideas about how ECA could partner with them. This will be a state project for 2021. Update given on COVID-19 and food. Eating will not give you the virus—it's contact without masks that spread virus. Virtual tour of Boys/Girls Home in Waccamaw and new program (Bright Hope) for children of parents who are doing rehab for drugs/alcohol. This is another possible project for us to support. Might be another place to send baby quilts. Linda J is going to try to get some of the screens that listed longevity for CVUs for Achievement Day. Over 100 people dialed in for the meeting. Suggestion to bring games and toys or gift cards to the center to be mailed to Boys/Girls Home in early



December. To be discussed at November meeting.

Lifestyle Update: Last month had a sewing a painting class with a few people. November has a painting class and a painting class. Still offered only to ECA members with limited participants. Linda Minges gave update on doing Facebook Live classes. Encouraged us to try doing this at our next class. Discussion of how to utilize this application. Might be able to use Dana's new gmail to post YouTube video. Extension requires a hearing impaired transcript for YouTube.

Ceramic Room: Only 3 members have paid firing fees for 2020. Bill for Feb and Mar was \$53. When no firing is done bill is about \$30. Enough money now to pay 2-3 months. Further months will have to come out of General Fund. This is not a new problem. The room has been underutilized for the last 5 years. Suggest that the membership decide whether they will support paying for the kiln costs out of the General Fund. Who is the room benefiting? Can the room be better utilized for other purposes? Suggestion made to create an ECA committee to review the uses and needs for that room. Kiln is old but it still works and will probably work for at least another year. The molds are also getting old. Cannot really sell kilns or molds. No market for them. Research done in the past with recreation center determined that they did not even want them if donated. Suggest that electricity be turned off to save money. Dana researched reconnect fee which is \$25. Pat can load kiln a final time next week. In order to sustain the cost, need to have at least 15 people 4 times a year. Motion made by Pam Myers to turn off electricity after final firing made within next two weeks. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat Mantooth. Unanimously passed. Electricity will be disconnected on November 13.

Standing Committee Reports: We can open an Instagram account which would allow us to post pictures of our activities. Jenn Sherman has been given our social media policy. Patti will make an appointment with Pam to clean off donations table. 33 baby quilts and 10 baby caps were given to hospital. 30 Operation Gratitude scarves were mailed. We could send an additional box if we have enough scarves. Dana and Patti have volunteered to add people to the RSVP list for South of the Border if they do not have the ability to do it themselves. Pam Bryson will print copies of the flyer and send to the library.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Pamela Myers