

EXTENSION & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION (ECA) - GASTON COUNTY July 2021 Newsletter

Building Use Policy for the Lucile Tatum Center - Updated 5.18.21

The following COVID-19 guidance is provided in accordance with North Carolina Governor's Office, NC State University, and Gaston County Government:

1. The Lucile Tatum Center is resuming normal weekday operations as follows:
8:30am - 12:00pm & 1:00 - 5:00pm (closed 12-1pm)
2. Specialty interest groups can resume their regular meetings and do personal projects inside the building.
3. All limits on mass gatherings along with social distancing requirements have been lifted.
4. Effective Monday, June 21st, the Lucile Tatum Center will be available for public rentals. This delay is to allow for new cleaning and setup protocols with the maintenance staff.

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION RUN: MATCH UPDATE

The Executive Board is happy to announce that we received a total of \$2,607.50, which supports our ECA Scholarship Program. A special thanks to Audrey Hunt for representing ECA at the meetings and to Pam Bryson for being our virtual walker.

HOLIDAY CLOSING

The Lucile Tatum Center and NC Cooperative Extension offices will be closed on Monday, July 5th for the Independence Day Holiday.

ECA MONTHLY MEETING

As a reminder, there is no monthly member meeting in July. The next meeting will be held on August 5th from 6:30 - 8:30pm at the Lucile Tatum Center.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Thurs., July 15th | 10:00am - 11:30am - Lucile Tatum Center, Gastonia

All board members are requested to attend this meeting - contact Audrey Hunt if you are unable to participate. This meeting is open to all members, but only Executive Board members can vote during this time. *Please note that a contact person from each committee needs to participate in monthly Executive Board meetings.* Also, any member who would like to have an issue discussed at the next monthly meeting is encouraged to attend. We will be talking about 2022 officers.

ECA WEBSITE UPDATE

Please note that information has been updated on our website, located at: <https://gaston.ces.ncsu.edu/gaston-eca/>. At this site, you can find copies of the newsletter, forms, scholarship applications, and operational guidelines for ECA at both the state and county level.



OPERATION GRATITUDE UPDATE

Please be aware of size requirements for scarves: no smaller than 4" x 48" or larger than 6" x 50" for Operation Gratitude scarves. Length of most scarves were within that but width was sometimes as little as 3-inches. We will save those for gifting to schools in the fall, along with

ear warmers. Thanks for all your work. Mailing of those in stock will go out soon. Thank you - Rita Kincaid

ECA WORKSHOPS & CLASSES COMING SOON

We're excited to announce that the Program Committee is now able to schedule in-person classes with members and non members. Keep in mind that all Building Policy Guidelines do apply for these workshops.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Workshop Registration Information:

1. Pre-registration including payment of registration fees is required by the registration deadline. Registration form should be completed and dropped off or mailed 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. Please note that class location, time, and fees vary with each class.
4. For accommodations for persons with disabilities, contact 704.865.3291 within five business days before the event.
5. Be respectful of the "Fragrance Free" Policy at the Lucile Tatum Center. Do not wear fragrances - no perfumes, scented locations, body sprays, aftershave, etc.
6. Gaston County strives to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to access its programs, services and activities. If you will require assistance to participate in a program, service or activity of Gaston County, we request that you contact our office at least 5 business days before the event.

Christmas Gnome Diamond Art Class: Fri., July 16th

Time: 2:00pm - 4:00pm | \$10 - members; \$12 - non-members (Price includes 12 x 16-inch kit with everything needed for class: canvas, tool for placing crystals, tray to hold crystals, adhesive to apply to tool and all the crystals)

Limited kits available - 4 participants only.

Instructors: Patti Wells & Pam Bryson

Registration deadline: July 9th - contact 704.865.3291 or pam.bryson@gastongov.com



Enjoy a "Christmas in July" class, that includes a full drill

diamond painting kit,
“Christmas Gnome” Round with Crystal Rhinestone Embroidery Painting. Designed for adults and beginners. This is a very satisfying project and will help relieve stress...and who doesn't need that?

Note: You will not finish this project in class, but you will receive instructions needed to complete this at home.

BABY QUILTS

Even though ECA has not been able to gather together like we used to, we have still had opportunities to do our good work. Several of us have been working on getting kits put together for the NICU baby quilts. I now have about 7 kits ready for sewing.

If you would like to get one of these kits (for the tops only) and sew it up, please contact Patti Wells at 980-636-3841 or pawells123@gmail.com. You can also contact Pam Bryson at 704.825.3291.

We will handle getting them quilted. You are more than welcome to do the quilting yourself if you want. Just let us know and we will make sure you get the batting, backing and binding. You will get some extra love for that!

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Please note that staff rely on the input from ECA members for the information presented in monthly newsletters. Since there have been recent comments that information is incorrect and/or missing, the newsletter is now being reviewed by the Executive Board prior to being distributed.

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. Please note that information needs to be submitted in written form to Pam Bryson.

SUNSHINE VOLUNTEER

Many thanks to ECA member, Betty Agerton, for sending cards to 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 notify Pam Bryson or Audrey Hunt.

The Martha Goebel Special Interest Group is our new call tree partner that will provide reminder calls to members each month for the monthly ECA meetings. Thank you Martha Goebel Special Interest Group.

MEMBER UPDATE

Many of our members are dealing with health issues and the isolation restrictions created by COVID continues to be a burden. Please reach out to ECA members with a phone call or card - your contact is so important and a great way to help check in with our members.

Please let others or Extension staff know if you become sick, develop health concerns, or have special needs, during this most difficult time. We are family and can work together to help look after each other!

ECA 2021 PROJECTS

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

1. Ronald McDonald House: collecting drink tabs (contact: Pam Bryson, ECA Liaison)
2. Gaston County Schools: collecting school supplies in August (contact: Pam Bryson, ECA Liaison)
3. First Baptist Mission Trips: collecting eyeglasses (contact: Martha Spurrier)
4. Pennies for Friendship: supporting Association of Country World Women (contact: Dana Croston)
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 (contact: Pat Mantooth)
7. Operation Gratitude: knitting/crocheting scarves for the military
8. Shirt Savers for Holy Angels: making shirt savers for residents – cloth/supplies purchased by Holy Angels (contact: Martha Spurrier)
9. Farmers Market Activities: providing local food demos at the Gastonia Farmers' Market (contact: Audrey Hunt)
10. Warm Up America: making afghans for the homeless (contact: Angela Nona)
11. Habitat for Humanity Women's Build
12. Food Pantry: collecting food supplies for local pantries, twice a year
13. Gaston Skills: providing workshops for adults with special needs (contact: Audrey Hunt or Pam Bryson, ECA Liaison)

GASTON CO. ECA EXECUTIVE BOARD 2021

President - Audrey Hunt President-Elect - vacant Secretary - Billie Taylor
Treasurer - Dana Croston Advisor - Patti Wells

We still need a President Elect for 2021. It is time to decide on our 2022 board.
If you are interested in serving on the board please contact a member of the board.

STANDING COMMITTEE CONTACTS

- Building Committee - Jean Caldwell, Peggy Dameron, Jane Falls, Sandy Hamrick, Pat Mantooth, & Martha Spurrier
- Marketing Committee - Dana Croston, Sandy Hamrick, & Patti Wells
- Program Committee - Pamela Myers & Patti Wells
- Scholarship Committee - Chairperson: Karen Rhyne, Martha Spurrier, Billie Taylor, & Patti Wells

The 2021 Executive Board Meetings are scheduled for every 3rd Thursday of the month at 10:00am:

July 15th	August 19th	September 16th
October 21st	November 18th	December 16th

2021 ECA SPECIALTY GROUPS

- Lucile Tatum - contact: Martha Spurrier
- Martha Goebel - contact: Mary Upton
- Quiltmakers - contact: Patti Wells
- Scrappers Unlimited - contact: Betse Cordell
- Creative Needlers - contact: Rita Kincaid

2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

- Independence Day - July 5 (Monday)
- Labor Day - September 6 (Monday)
- Veterans Day - November 11 (Thursday)
- Thanksgiving - November 25 & 26 (Thursday & Friday)
- Christmas - December 24 & 27 Friday & Monday

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

NC Extension & Community Association website: go.ncsu.edu/nceca

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

@gastoneca (Gaston Co. ECA)

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

@GastonExtension (NC Cooperative Extension)

Extension Community Association Monthly Meeting - June 3, 2021 Minutes

Call to order at 10:00 AM by Audrey Hunt, President

Attending: Audrey Hunt, Pam Bryson, Patti Wells, Billie Taylor, Pam Myers, Dana Croston, Linda Minges, Gloria Snyder, Jane Falls, Martha Spurrier, and via Zoom - Betty Willis.

Audrey Hunt opened the meeting and did the Thought For The Day followed by the Pledge to the American Flag. Jane Falls will do the Thought For The Day beginning in August.

Please turn in volunteer hours to Pam Bryson via US Mail (959 Osceola St., Gastonia, NC 28054) or email (pam.bryson@gaston.gov) using new form created by Rita Kincaid. Dana Croston presented the Treasurer's Report.

Old Business:

- The Cookbook fundraiser has been tabled until 2022.
- We will continue doing the Zoom meetings and we have a new instrument (OWL) so we can see and hear our friends - for all you tech savvy people.
- Pam Bryson reported that we do not have a report from the Community Foundation as yet. Checks will be mailed June 10th.

New Business:

- We received an estimate on painting the old ceramic room of \$1,000. We need to come up with a way to raise the \$\$\$. Linda Minges suggested that we give the information to David Fogarty and see if he has any suggestions for help.
- "Pennies for Friendship" money (\$50 dollars) was sent in on time. We had an anonymous Donation to this fund. E-News was sent to Gerri Bushel describing what Gaston ECA has been doing. Cultural Arts was held the week of April 26th at Lucille Tatum. Pam Myers reported that we had almost as many entries as we had in 2020. Great Job!!
- Please see June Newsletter for details of winners. Thanks to Audrey Hunt's husband for taking pictures.
- District Day will be virtual.
- Achievement Day was held May 6th at CRC. Thank you Audrey Hunt for doing the Achievement Day bulletin board at Lucille Tatum.
- Please see ECA facebook page for pictures.
- South Central Cultural Arts will be June 17th at 10 AM BY ZOOM. Lucille Tatum is now open, with restrictions of no food in the building at present. Pam Bryson needs to know dates and times if clubs are to resume meeting in the building. Something Pumpkin will be virtual this year. The next SP meeting is at the end of the month.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Scholarship: Pam Bryson reported that we still have had no applications as yet. Deadline is June 30th.
- Program: Co-chair in addition to ideas for programs is needed. It was suggested that each member give 5 ideas for programs. There will be a Diamond Arts class July 16th from 2-4 pm for Christmas Knome art. There are 4 kits. See info in newsletter.
- Marketing: Dana Croston said our biggest problem is “no one knows we are here”. It was discussed about how we can reach people. Linda Minges suggested videos to reach younger age people. This is an ongoing issue as younger people’s lives are so busy, they do not want to commit to anything else and the older generation has health issues that prevent them from committing.
- Building: Patti Wells has come off this committee due to “her plate being full “ WITH other committees and there being enough members on this committee.
- The following committees are scheduled to meet at Lucille Tatum Center: Marketing June 10th at 4 p.m., Building June 17th at 1 p.m. and Program June 28th at 10 a.m.
- There are several opportunities to volunteer, sign up sheets were passed around for door Prizes for the General Meeting and for office coverage when Pam is not available.
- The workshop to help with shirt savers for Holy Angels was announced and Martha Spurrier shared that Webb Street School could use shirt savers also.
- Fliers for Something Pumpkin were passed around.....save the date.
- Please pick up fliers for Marcus Cyprian CRC event June 14 - August 3rd.
- Several members were mentioned with health issues who need our prayers.
- August meeting will be August 5th at 6:30 P.M.
- Pam Myers shared with us her upcoming adventure of moving to New Mexico.
- Meeting was closed with the ECA Collect
- The meeting was adjourned.

Billie S. Taylor, Secretary