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*"extending clothing
knowledge and skills"*

KENTUCKY
MASTER
VOLUNTEER
IN
CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION
PROGRAM

July
2004

VOL 14 NO 2



Bobbin along with Marjorie

Let me introduce myself! Many of you met me last fall at the training at Jabez. I taught the workshop on machine appliqué. What a wonderful experience it was, being a part of your training. I look back at this like it was a baited fishing pole. Linda tossed it out and I got "hooked." Now less than a year later, I have accepted the position as your state coordinator. Unlike the proverbial fish out of water, however, I feel surrounded by an ocean of friends and sewing enthusiasts!

I'll give you a little background that has led to my being here. My college background includes a bachelor's degree in Home Economics and a master's in clothing and textiles, both from Kansas State University. My biggest ambition in life was to get married and raise a family. So, for the last 26 years, that is what I have been doing. My husband and I have two sons, ages 24 and 21, and a 15-year-old daughter. I like to say that I am a freelance home economist, which allowed me to have a home-based sewing business as well as take on part-time teaching jobs at Georgetown College and the University of Kentucky and be a 4-H sewing and knitting leader for more than 22 years. Most recently, I have been a program coordinator for State 4-H. As the program coordinator, I oversee the State 4-H Fashion Revue and the Cloverville exhibits at the Kentucky State Fair. Being the MVP state coordinator means that I am also an Extension Associate and now occupy the office at 246 Scovell Hall, which at this moment, looks pretty bare! The last time I was here was before Linda Heaton retired, and the office was still decorated! We miss you, Linda, but know you are still close by.

I'm looking forward to a new chapter in my life unfolding as my years of being an active parent begin to dwindle. Sewing is something I have done all of my life; my mother taught me to sew at a very young age when she refused to make my Barbie doll clothes! I had a little battery-operated toy sewing machine that did a chain stitch. I moved on to getting my own Singer Featherweight when I was in junior high and then traded (I know, I kick myself now) for a machine that could zigzag stitch when I went off to college. I don't trade my machines in anymore, though. I view them as collectibles, each one working and serving its individual purpose. (Yes, I even used my treadle during the 2003 ice storm!

Marjorie M. Baker

FASHION REVOLUTION

“Beatlemania” strikes again! Hats off to the ladies who helped with the 2004 State 4-H Fashion Revue! The event was a huge success, lots of compliments from adults and youth **Emma Caswell**, MV Bourbon County, and **Coetta Combs**, MV Madison County, served as category supervisors. **Henrietta Goff**, CMV Anderson County, and Taylor County CMVs **Edna Gunsauls** and **Ann Beard** served as construction judges. Many more of you worked in you counties and perhaps had a 4-Her attend. They all represented their counties well. Thanks for a great job!



MVP Mid-rotation Training

The MVP Steering Committee appreciated the comments and suggestions you made for future training sessions. The committee has done a good job incorporating many of them in this fall's event. The schedule is designed so that you can take two major classes or one major class and two mini-classes. Before you fill out the registration form, read it closely! Here is what you will find:

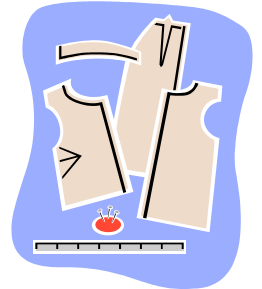
The major classes being offered for Tuesday afternoon through Wednesday afternoon are: **Sewing with Ultra Suede** and **Sewing for the Home**. The mini-class for Tuesday afternoon through Wednesday morning is a **service project** making turbans for chemotherapy patients and Wednesday afternoon will be **Machine Ribbon Embroidery**.

The major classes being offered for Thursday morning through Thursday afternoon are: **Heirloom Sewing** and **Creative Machine Stitching**. The mini-class in the morning is **Making a Sewing Caddy**, and the afternoon session will be a **New Sewing Products Showcase**. Friday morning will be revisited

by the **Knowing Sewing Skillathon**, We'll see how much you've improved over last year!

Sharing time: Your steering committee is asking each area to come prepared to set up a visual display of your past year's activities. This will be set up prior to the banquet for viewing after the banquet is over. If you have handouts you would like to share, bring copies and include them in your display.

We are planning to have representatives from Wild Ginger Software to come and share how computerized pattern making software is used. This demonstration will be Tuesday evening and is available to everyone who signs up.



Training registration is due in the state office Aug. 30. Early in September, every person registered will be sent a supply list for the session(s) for which they are registered. Your MVP contact agent is responsible for collecting money and seeing that it is in our office by Oct. 1. If you are usually responsible for paying your own way, your money will probably be due to your MVP contact agent some time the latter part of September. She should be contacting you soon.

We look forward to seeing all of you in Jabez this fall!

AUCTION 2004

Once again, we will have a silent auction following the Recognition and Certification Banquet. Everyone is encouraged to participate. Your steering committee has set the following guidelines for auction items: As many items per area may be submitted, but there should be a minimum of two. They must have a \$10 or greater value. Items may be handcrafted or purchased. Money from the auction will be used to secure professional educators for future trainings. Shelia Fawbush and Mary Brannon are in charge of the auction.



Nell Jordan,
CMV McLean County
Class of 1998

The love of sewing is both a vocation and an avocation for Nell Jordan of McLean County. It all began when she was a little girl in Logan County making doll clothes and helping her grandmother make quilts. She then began making her own clothes. Her mother had also sewed all her life, but they began to “learn to sew” and teach each other when Nell was in 4-H and home economics and her mother took training to be a 4-H leader.

Nell continued her education and earned a degree in home economics. She worked as home economics extension agent in McLean County, where she met and married her husband, Kenneth. After their daughter, Beth, was born, Nell changed careers and taught middle school for 29 years, about half of those in home economics. In addition to sewing as a career, it always played an important part in her leisure time. Nell always enjoyed making clothes for herself, her daughter, and now her grandchildren as well as sewing home furnishing items.

After being married 30 years, Nell was left a widow. When she retired from teaching, she took on the role of grandmother and became a CMV. Now her life consists of teaching sewing and quilting classes, playing with 6-year-old Jordan and 5-year-old Emily, and visiting with her

mother and other relatives in Logan and Simpson counties. She spends a lot of time on genealogy and learning about her interesting ancestors.

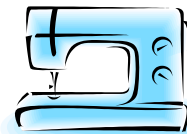
Nell teaches classes in McLean, Logan, Daviess, Muhlenburg, and Henderson Counties. One group that she works with are employees of the hospital in Henderson. They have classes at the hospital immediately following work so they don't waste time traveling to another location.

WINNING WAYS WITH WOOL

Entries are now being accepted for the Kentucky Make it Yourself with Wool Contest. Competition is open to Kentucky residents and students attending school in Kentucky. Adult categories are ages 25 and older. Items can be made for yourself or others. There are three youth divisions with the top junior and senior advancing to the National Competition. A brochure and entry form may be obtained by contacting Dorothy Vale, state director at (859) 887-2312 or valerdv@aol.com. The entry deadline is **Oct. 1, 2004**. The contest will be held in Versailles on Oct. 30, 2004.

°DOROTHY DO RIGHT°

**Why is my
machine
messaging up?**



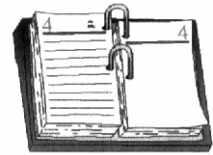
So many times when teaching sewing, my students would complain that their machine didn't like them, the tension is messed up, or the machine is making funny noises. Do any of these sound familiar? Nine times out of 10 the cause for distress was that the machine wasn't threaded properly. So the first thing to do is take the thread completely out and rethread it, making sure the thread

passes through the upper and lower tensions properly.

If after sewing a test sample, the problem still persists, it may be that lint has built up and a gentle cleaning is in order. Always disconnect the power cord when cleaning. If you need the light, turn a desk lamp on your work. Remove the needle and throat plate. Using a stiff brush (a paint brush will work if the bristles are stiff), brush lint out and away from the feed dog and bobbin area. A vacuum with small attachments is also a handy tool. But whatever you do, don't use canned air to blow the lint out and then suck the air up with a vacuum. Sucking canned air into a vacuum cleaner makes for a loud explosion! (I'm lucky it didn't destroy my vacuum.) Pay close attention to lint that may build up within the upper tension disks. Slide a piece of card stock between the disks to clear the lint out. Finally, add a drop of sewing machine oil to the moving part of the bobbin case. Refer to your owner's manual for other areas that may need to be oiled. If your machine is self-lubricating, that means you have to run the machine at least monthly to keep it moving. I know that's not a problem for any of you!

Now, put everything back together. If you can't remember when you last changed your needle, throw it out and replace it with a new one. Needles should be replaced after every eight hours of sewing or pretty much at the beginning of a new project. I keep an empty film canister by my machine to collect, heaven forbid, broken and dull needles in a safe place. When it gets full, I dispose of the entire canister. I refer to this as hazardous waste! There are a number of needles on the market for specific uses; be sure you use the right needle for the job. We'll talk about that another time. Until then, happy sewing!

Calendar of Events



Aug. 1 CMV and MV report forms due in state office.

Aug. 16 – 17 State Fair judging. Cutting will be done Monday after hours at the Exhibition Hall.

Aug. 30 Registration for 2004 MVP Mid-rotation and Basic Training due in the state office.

September National Home Sewing Month

Sept. 13 – 17 Letter and supply list for MVP Mid Rotation Training sent to persons registered.

Oct. 1 Postmark due date for MVP contact agents to send money and lodging list to state office.

Oct. 19 – 22 *2004 MVP Mid-rotation and Basic Training*, Kentucky Leadership Center, Jabez, Kentucky.

Oct. 21 Area planning meetings held during breakfast.

Oct. 21 MVP Agent in-service training – all contact agents need to plan on being present, following the banquet.

Oct. 30 Kentucky Make it Yourself With Wool Contest, Versailles.

November MVP Newsletter. All CMVs or MVs who enjoy writing are encouraged to submit an article. Articles and items for this issue are due Oct. 15.

Dec. 7 4-H needlework in-service training, Mulhenburg County.

Dec. 9 4-H needlework in-service training, E.S. Goodbarn, Lexington, KY