

KENTUCKY

MASTER

CLOTHING

VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM

CLOTHING & TEXTILES PROGRAM
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Bobbin' along with Marjorie



"extending clothing knowledge and skills"

July
2012
Newsletter

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Summer heat has arrived, county fairs are starting and summer sewing camps are underway. The state 4-H Fashion Revue went off without a hitch, other than the number of participants was the lowest it has ever been. Regardless, a brand new sewing machine was awarded to Haley Flannery, a very deserving young lady from Clark County. A big thank you goes to Susan Kipp and Loretta Haley, Bluegrass area Master Clothing Volunteers who served as the judges for the event.

I'm looking forward to seeing the applications as they come in for MCVF Class of 2012. Several of the contact agents have indicated that there is a lot of interest this year. That means you have made the program's presence known to others across the state. As you know, our program's emphasis is on teaching garment sewing. Fashion sewing is experiencing resurgence!

Registration materials for the fall training are almost complete. Check the MCV website for details and check with your area contact agent about registration forms. Let me remind everyone, who wants to continue in the program and attend the training, to report your service hours. With an added day of training, everyone will surely be able to go home with finished projects, as well as inspiration and improved skills. The training experience is twofold. Attendees will want to choose classes that challenge them by learning new techniques or improving on those they already know. Other classes are designed to take home and repeat for others. I'm pleased to have Shelby Smart and Jennifer Klee return as guest instructors. The banquet will be on Thursday evening and is sure to be fun. Northern Kentucky and Licking River Area Master Clothing Volunteers have already been busy with preparations. Be sure to wear your "thinking caps" to the banquet. We should have 20 complete their certification requirements. I look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Marjorie M. Baker

Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.
Extension Associate for Clothing and Textiles

SPOTLIGHT



Donna Logsdon

CMCV Hart County, Class of 2002

Donna's earliest sewing experiences:

When I was young, I recall my mother cutting out patterns and fabric to make suits and dresses for my sister and me. She would stay up late into the night to sew our holiday attire. Two of my favorite outfits she made me were a small black and white checked suit jacket and skirt for Easter and a square neck, long sleeved, brown, wool dress for Christmas. Just seeing how much she enjoyed sewing made me want to learn too. She taught me how to sew and eventually I made my own lined suit jackets, skirts and dresses. At age 12, I made my first dress from tan cotton fabric with small paisleys. It had set-in sleeves, a white Peter Pan collar and a zipper. I was really proud to wear that dress to the first day of school in 7th grade. Every fall I made dresses to wear the first week of school. I enjoyed looking at patterns and selecting fabric for my new creations.

Donna's experience as a Master Clothing Volunteer:

I became a Master Clothing Volunteer while I was the leader for the Thread Masters 4-H club. For more than 13

years, I enjoyed teaching students in Hart County schools how to sew their first garments. I also began the first fashion revue at the Hart County Fair. The first year we began students modeled sewn garments and clothes from their closet. This was a very rewarding experience. I was able to share my love of sewing with others. Some of our group's community service activities included turbans for cancer patients, door hangers for the residents of the Hart County Health Care facility home and bears for police officers to give children in upsetting situations.

I also enjoy teaching adults how to sew at sewing workshops in the Mammoth Cave Area. The MCV training sessions at Jabez have given me the opportunity to learn new techniques and meet people who share the love of sewing. I highly recommend the Master Clothing Volunteer program to others who show their enthusiasm for sewing.

Donna's family:

I taught my daughters to sew when they were about 4 years old. They loved to sit next to me and craft simple things, from tiny backstitched patterns for aprons, to "pockets" — two small identical pieces of fabric sewn together; these were their own inventions! In these moments, I knew they would enjoy sewing more intricate items when they got older. Meryl, my oldest daughter, developed into a talented seamstress. She attended the 4-H Senior Conference in Lexington, and was a modeling finalist in the Fashion Revue for eveningwear she had sewn herself. She was a seamstress at the "Needle's Eye" in Lexington when she attended UK in the Family and Consumer Science program. Now she alters prom dresses in Hart County.

SPOTLIGHT



AnneRae Mackey Wright
CMCV Nelson County, Class of 2002

AnneRae's earliest sewing experiences:

I began sewing when I was 13 years old. However, in 4-H, I showed livestock, especially cattle and was not into the home sciences. Those were just daily activities for me as part of our home life, so I did not need 4-H to guide me. My mother had sewn all our clothes until I was 12 years old which was when she had our baby brother. At that age, I also hit a growth spurt and all my clothes were too short and high-waisted! My school mates nicknamed me "Tacky Mackey" due to the clothing I wore. Learning to sew for myself then became imperative. I actually took some fabric from my mother's stash and a pattern that we had bought and went to the neighbor's home, determined to make myself a new dress! It turned out to be a success but my mother had wanted that fabric for herself! After that, I was sewing at every chance much to the chagrin of my mother! She envied my ability to ignore all the other chores and sew with abandonment.

AnneRae's experience as a Master Clothing Volunteer:

In my career as a CMV, I have lived and served in three different counties in the Lincoln Trail Area and volunteered in four others. My early 4-H experiences served me well in the various counties and across the state to know the towns and Extension

offices. During the past 2 years I have served as the 4-H sewing leader for Nelson County. One of the biggest changes in 4-H that I see since my early days is that the children have so many conflicting activities and obligations. 4-H and church were my only options other than school and hard work at home! 4-H leaders now face the challenges of members and families with busier schedules. 4-H'ers now have distractions from cell phones, texting and electronic games, plus often a multitude of behavioral issues. The role of CMV presents many more challenges than an empty bobbin or a serger that won't work. While we all want to increase and improve our sewing skills, I feel the MCV program needs additional training and support in handling issues of these types as we share our sewing skills with the next generation — our future adults.

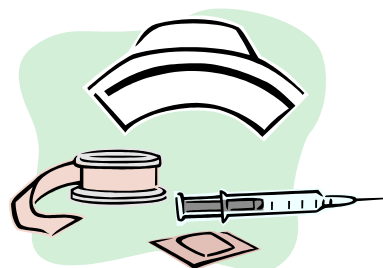
AnneRae's family:

Jack and I will celebrate 30 years of marriage this July. We share 4 children with two grandsons, ages 24 and 1 year! Austin Rae, age 1 year, loves to rattle and wad up pattern scraps and chew them.

Other comments:

I am also a Master Gardener in Nelson County when it doesn't conflict with 4-H sewing — which has happened lately! I am a registered nurse and 2012 will mark my 40th year. I am a graduate of UK, WKU, and UL. Presently I am working on my Master's degree in nursing. I will have been with Norton Healthcare for 25 years in October. I currently am a Clinical Educator for our nursing department. My role as a MCV was actually included as part of my qualifications to interview for this position!

As life goes on, I look forward to a continued involvement in 4-H and the MCV program.



2012 Fall Training October 9-13

Silent Auction and Quilt Giveaway

The silent auction is always a highlight at the fall training. It is a good opportunity to pick up some nice items for your stash, as well as unload your unwanted treasures. Mary Hixson, Jennifer Klee and Marjorie Baker combined their creative talents to make the quilt pictured below. They have generously donated the quilt to the Master Clothing Volunteer Program as a fund raiser. The quilt measures 75 inches square. Each \$5 donation will get your name in a drawing for the quilt which will be given away after the banquet on Thursday evening.



Fueling the Resurgence of Fashion Sewing

It's all about reusing, recycling and repurposing—and up-cycling is when we change something old and not being used into something we can use anew! You want your up-cycling projects to be easy, quick and unique creations. Mary Hixson, FCS Extension agent and steering committee member will be teaching two sessions at the fall training on up cycling. In this class we will change old or cast off garments into something new to wear and also learn about the new 4-H Up-cycling Sewing Project.

create a new up-to-date trendy top, bring: couple of cast off dresses or skirts (in colors you would like to wear) and raid your sewing stash to bring old trims, buttons, wide bias tape (different colors) and any other interesting trims, laces or tapes you might want to use on your new creation. This is a “Think out of your Box” Class. There will be lots of samples!!!

Up-Cycling Fashion Show

Be thinking ahead and as you create something new out of something old in your wardrobe between now and fall training—take beforehand pictures. Come prepared to be in our Up-Cycling Fashion Show on Wednesday evening. Whether you can wear it, hold it or tote with it: Show it off at the Fashion Show. Please email mhixson@uky.edu to let her know what you will be exhibiting.

Book Review:

Hankie Couture by Marsha Greenberg
2011, Running Press, 184 pages



When you look good, you feel good. That's the philosophy of author and fashion

designer, Marsha Greenburg. Hankie Couture is a pictorial showcase of the author's doll-sized fashions she meticulously crafted from vintage handkerchiefs. One hundred twenty five unique fashions are featured in the book, plenty to inspire one looking to do something special with Grandmothers' handkerchiefs. The book includes full size patterns and directions to get you started. Her creations are amazing. Visit Marsha on the web at www.hankiecouture.com.

✓ **DOROTHY DO RIGHT** ✓

Patterns Beware!

Submitted by Mary Averbek, 4-H Extension Agent and member of the MCV Steering Committee

A major pattern company has come out with a "Learn to Sew" line of patterns. Beware that some of the techniques in the pattern guide are considered bad habits, if not totally incorrect, by experienced sewers. The first problem is the guide directs sewers to cut notches into the fabric. This is very dangerous, especially for youth, as it leaves very little room for error in sewing the seam. Also, this greatly weakens the fabric making it prone to raveling. It is also difficult to finish the seam with the notches cut into the fabric. Another poor habit for youth to develop is to pin fabric with the pins parallel to the fabric edges when cutting out the pattern. This actually distorts the fabric and may affect size. It is better to place pins perpendicular to the fabric edges for cutting and sewing. As always, sewers should not sew over pins. Sewing over pins can cause serious damage to the sewing machine, not to mention the risk of a broken needle flying up in the face of the unsuspecting sewer. When teaching, remember to teach best practices as supported by the Master Clothing Volunteer program.

Editor's note: Make it a habit to read through the guide sheet prior to even laying the pattern on the fabric. Make notes on the guide sheet where more explanation or corrections are needed. Go over the guide sheet with your students. They can get an idea of the entire process that they are about to embark on.

2012 State 4-H Fashion Revue

Whitney Crume (right) 2011 State Fashion Revue winner, presents Haley Flannery, Clark County with a new sewing machine as winner of the State 4-H Fashion Revue. Haley made and modeled a beautiful purple evening gown. The State Fashion Revue is held in conjunction with 4-H Teen Conference, on the campus of the University of Kentucky each June. Congratulations to Julie Ullery and Susan Koenig, Clark County Master Clothing Volunteers for nurturing Haley as she acquired her sewing skills.



Photo by Matt Barton, UK Agriculture Communications Services.

Emeritus Volunteer Continues to Serve

Sandy Davis, Louisville Area Master Clothing Volunteer Emeritus has not slowed down, even though she was inducted into the Emeritus class in 2010. Sandy will be teaching two classes at the fall training. One session is on beginner heirloom sewing and the other will be a

beautiful heirloom pillow using advanced serger and cover stitching.

Each month Sandy holds a sewing class at her local library. Sandy reports that her students have been very productive this spring.

Since learning to make shoulder bags at the Louisville Area work day in January 2012, Sandy designated this as her 2012 community service project for her Sew What Community Sewing class. They have made over 150 bags! One hundred forty five bags were donated to two eastern Kentucky mission trips, through two different churches in the Louisville area.



A sampling of 132 shoulder bags made by Paty & Bonnie of Sew What! Class. 110 bags have been sent on two Appalachian mission trips.

The Sew What! class has also been busy making Comfort Caps for Baptist Hospital East Cancer Treatment Center and Norton Suburban Hospital cancer treatment center. Pictured is part of a batch of 104 caps distributed to the centers. Most of these caps and the shoulder bags were made by two of the students. They said they were "sewed out!"



Just a Sampling of the 103 Comfort Caps made by Bonnie of Sew What!

REGISTRATION OPEN NOW FOR SEPTEMBER EDUCATION EVENT!

Friday, September 14, 6:30-8:30 at Wingate Hotel, Louisville

Guest speaker is Gail Yellen of Gail Patrice Designs.

"I KNOW HOW TO DO IT, BUT WHERE DO I PUT IT?"

Meet and Great/Trunk Show and Lecture FREE to ASG members, \$5 for non-members

For registration go to:

http://www.asglouisville.org/uploads/Gail_Yellen_Flyer.pdf



Calendar of Events

July 23 MCV Steering Committee meeting, Hardin County Extension Office, Elizabethtown

August 13 – 14 Kentucky State Fair Judging, Cloverville, Louisville

August 25 State 4-H Sewing Skill-a-thon and FCS Day, Cloverville, Kentucky State Fair, Louisville

September 14 Gail Yellen, ASG Trunk Show and Workshop, Windgate Hotel, Louisville

September 20 – 22 Bluegrass/Lake Cumberland Area Heritage Skills Retreat, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center, Jabez

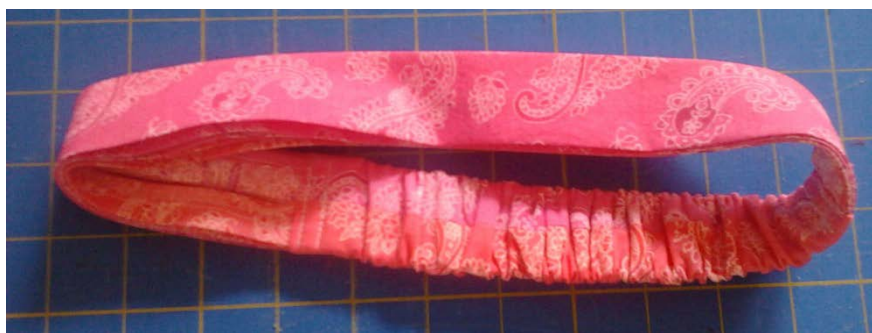
October 9 – 13 2012 Statewide Training, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center, Jabez

Pleated Headband

Remember wearing a bandana on a hot summer day to keep your hair out of your face? Here's a fun alternative that you can sew and make to match your favorite outfits. The pleated headband can be worn as a skinny headband or pulled apart to cover the top of your head. (Figure 8)

Materials needed:

- Fat quarter OR 3/8 yard of lightweight woven cotton fabric
- 8-inch piece of 1¼" wide elastic
- Thread to match
- Iron and ironing surface
- Sewing machine



Cut the following: (1) 12½ inch x 15½ inch and (1) 3½ inch x 14½ inch from the cotton fabric.

Prepare the elastic casing: Fold the 3 ½" x 14 ½" piece of fabric in half right sides together, with long edges aligned. Sew the long edges together using a ¼-inch seam. Press seam open and turn the tube right side out. Center the seam line and press flat. Insert the elastic through the tube, scrunching the fabric up in the center of the elastic (Figure 1). Trim elastic to 7 inches. Pin through the fabric and elastic to hold elastic in place at each end. Carefully turn under the edges of the fabric, to cover the ends of the elastic, and pin (Figure 2). Set aside.



Figure 1



Figure 2

Prepare the pleated band: Narrow hem both 15½ inch sides of the 12½ x 15½ inch piece of cotton fabric. Measure up 1 ¼ inches from one hemmed edge, fold other edge down, wrong sides together, to this measurement, press a crease (Figure 3). Fan fold four, 5/8-inch pleats (Figure 4), pressing the crease as you fold. Repeat for other hemmed edge (Figure 5).



Figure 3

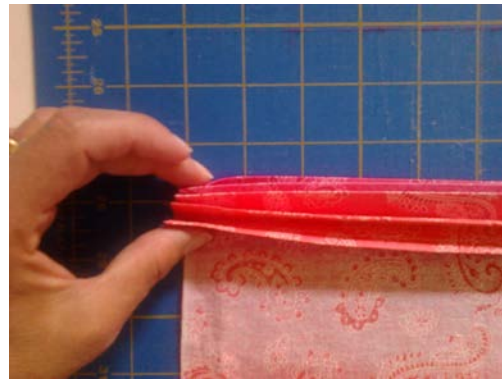


Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

Assemble headband: Insert pleated section into the casing, being careful to keep elastic in place at the end of the casing (Figure 6). Double stitch the end of casing to secure elastic and pleated sections together (Figure 7). Pin remaining ends together. Try on head and adjust to fit. Double stitch remaining ends in place.



Figure 7



Figure 8

Photos: Marjorie M. Baker

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