

KENTUCKY

MASTER

CLOTHING

VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM



"extending clothing
knowledge and skills"

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Newsletter

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CLOTHING and TEXTILES PROGRAM

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Bobbin' along with Marjorie

Wow, is my summer as busy as everyone else's? On top of my usual activities, county fair, youth sewing camp, state fair, and gardening; my son, Kyle had his wedding in May, my other son, Grant relocated his family to Alabama, and I am preparing to host the LABO chaperone from Japan in my home for 4 weeks! Twenty three kids are coming to Kentucky this summer from Japan. Maybe one will be staying in a home close to you.

Speaking of county fairs, I hope many of you take the opportunity to exhibit at your local fairs. Showing off your sewing at your fair is a great way to showcase what you have learned by being in the Master Volunteer in Clothing Construction Program. Encouraging your students to exhibit is also very rewarding. I've included a photo later in this newsletter taken at the Scott County fair; my daughter had me enter her wedding gown. Needless to say, I couldn't be more proud of her, she proved to be a great sewing student.

The UK College of Agricultural, Food and Environment have asked for volunteers to man their booth during "Textiles" day at the state fair. See information later in the newsletter on this opportunity to see the fair for free!

It's been a hard year for our program, since the last newsletter in April; we have lost two more dedicated volunteers. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families of Connie Coke and Connie Thacker. Look for their obituaries in the *Spotlight* section.

The *Tuck Away Tote* featured in the April newsletter has been revised to an unlined version. Please note that there was a typo on the length of the drawstring on the previous version. That has been corrected on the one at the end of this newsletter, as well.

Marjorie M. Baker

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



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SPOTLIGHT



Connie Coke
CMCV Christian County
Class of 2010

Connie Rice Coke, 70, died at 4:10 p.m. Tuesday, June 30, 2015 at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN of natural causes.

A native of Princeton, IN born February 10, 1945, she was the daughter of the late Noland Whitman "Ham" and Mildred Lois Linxwiler Rice. She had been a service representative for the Social Security Administration for more than 25 years.

A long-time volunteer for Christian Co. 4-H, she was a staunch advocate for A.S.P.C.A. and had been a member of Salem Baptist Church in Oak Grove.

Survivors include three daughters; Stephanie Coke Adams, Hopkinsville, Brittany Coke Normile (Travis), also of Hopkinsville and Courtney Coke May (Mike) of Wiesbaden, Germany, one brother, William "Bill" Rice (Joanne), Frankfort, KY, 8 grandchildren; Channing Schroeder, Seth Edwards, Michaela Edwards, Kaleb Simmons, Skylar Simmons, Mathew Normile, Kiara Normile and Addison May and 3 great-grandchildren; Chloe Schroeder, Leim Schroeder and Rayne Schroeder.

Funeral services were held July 6, 2015 at Hughart, Beard & Giles Funeral Home in Hopkinsville.

SPOTLIGHT



Connie Thacker
MCV Calloway County
Class of 2014

Connie Thacker, 58, of Murray, died Sunday, April 26, 2015 at Murray Calloway County Hospital.

Connie was born December 17, 1956 in Bedford, Indiana to Charles Clampitt and Yvonne Foster.

She worked for the Exxon Company as a store manager and was of the Baptist faith. Following her basic training in the MCV program, Connie served as a mentor for the state 4-H Fashion Leadership Board which her two granddaughters were members.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Lester Thacker and father, Charles Clampitt.

Survivors include two sons, Michael Rodman of Little Rock, Arkansas, Theodore Rodman III (June) of Kirksey, Kentucky; her mother, Yvonne Wineger Foster of Bedford, Indiana; two brothers, Charles Ramond II of Pomona, Missouri, Donald Dale Foster (Gloria) of Greenfield, Indiana; one sister, Terry Jo Jennings (Jeff) of Rockledge, Florida and two granddaughters, Autumn and Deanna Rodman.

A graveside service was held April 30, 2015 at Annie Young Cemetery in Pikeville.

Mid-Rotation Training

As mentioned in the April newsletter, the MCV steering committee is planning to have two sessions for the fall training in October. Everyone except the Class of 2014 will have their choice of attending either session. The Class of 2014 will attend the second session. Other than that, both sessions will have the same class offerings.

Session I: October 12-14

Session II: October 14-16

Class Choices:

Sweater UpCycling

Junior 4-H Sewing Projects

Heirloom Sewing Basics

Pants Fitting

Couture Details

Class descriptions will be included with your registration survey. Everyone that submitted their annual report to their area contact agent is eligible to attend the training. There are no minimum numbers of volunteer hours required to attend the mid-rotation training, only that an annual report be submitted on time. **Look for an email coming soon to register online.**

✓ **DOROTHY DO RIGHT** ✓

Something Old and Something New

This is the story of how my daughter, Erin came to design and make her wedding gown. Erin grew up learning to sew at a very young age. She tells people that her first project was a stuffed bear that was hand sewn when she was 4 years old. Her first clothing item was a denim skort that she made and wore in first grade. She entered her first Make it With Wool contest when she was eleven and represented Kentucky at the national finals 5 times. In 4-H, Erin won the 2004 state Fashion Revue as a 15 year old and was state fair grand champion 3 times and reserve grand champion 1 time for 4-H sewing. Erin continued to sew in college, as she had

won a sewing machine by virtue of winning the State 4-H Fashion Revue. She graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.S. in mechanical engineering and a master's in business administration. Towards the end of college, she began dating Robbie Holton. It wasn't long before they knew they wanted to spend the rest of their lives together. Erin's only request when they got engaged was that she have enough time to make her dress. He gave her 9 months.

To start with, Erin removed all of the Venetian lace from my dress which I made in 1978. I had sewn all my lace on by hand which made it easy to remove and it was in great shape for being stored in my cedar chest for over 35 years. The hardest part was finding more lace and fabric that matched the candlelight color. The difficulty was partly because the fabric stores aren't really ready for wedding sewing in the dead of the winter. Alma's Variety in Lexington was where the majority of her fabric was found. She chose silk dupioni for the base layer and soft netting for the overlay. Alma had several 1-yard pieces of Alencon lace that matched fairly well. Once the major fabric pieces had been acquired, the designing began. Erin had tried gowns on at a bridal store to get an idea of what looked good on her and found a style she wanted to copy.

The pattern for the bodice of her gown was created using pattern drafting software. Heavy weight muslin was used to create a test garment for the top. In fitting the neckline, the original V-neck became more of a princess neckline as did the back neckline. Using the test garment as her pattern, Erin cut the bodice of her gown out and sewed it up for the real fitting. She played with different arrangements for the lace and finally decided on an asymmetric design that angled down across the top. It looked nothing like my original dress. The pattern for the skirt was made using a commercial pattern and adjusting it to fit the asymmetric waist to hip seam line. If you have ever worked with a design like,

this, you know that the left and right sides require different pattern pieces. That meant that each pattern piece had two different cutting lines. That only became a problem when cutting out the lining. One miss-cut had to be covered with a patch of fabric that I embroidered her wedding date on, so it looked like it had been planned! The other obstacle she encountered in making the skirt was that she ran out of the silk dupioni. She was short about 1¼ yards, enough for the center front panel. Off to Alma's to buy more – 4 months later. Fortunately, the cold winter kept others away from the shop and she was able to find the same bolt that the first piece was cut from. Had the bodice and skirt been cut out at the same time, I think she would have had enough, but we didn't know until it was too late. Moral to the story, always buy extra fabric!

Adding the lace to the skirt was the next challenge. Erin used every bit of the lace, plus a dear friend had brought her back 3 meters of handmade lace from Italy that she wanted to add somewhere on the skirt. Two pieces of the Alençon lace were angled on the front and back to cover the seam and the remaining pieces were cut into pieces and laid out to cover the back train as the Venetian lace from my dress was not quick enough to go all the way around. She added the Italian lace down the front to accent the princess seam lines. A crinoline was added to create fullness in the skirt. This was done piece-meal with what netting we had on hand at my house. At this point she was just ready to get it done and not have to worry about it anymore. However, I insisted that she add Hong Kong seam finishes to the silk dupioni skirt, otherwise the crinoline netting would destroy it, rubbing in-between it and the lining. Finding satin covered buttons that were already covered was a blessing even though it took going to 3 different Joann's to get the quantity she needed. By the end of July the dress was complete. Robbie was feeling a little neglected, knowing that Erin had made her 5

bridesmaid's dresses and her own gown. Maybe she would have time to make him a vest to wear on their grand day. And so she did; after going "shopping" in my fabric closet for a piece of tan wool. All in all, Erin's wedding and wedding gown were beautiful.



And from the next photo, you can see that the county fair judges selected it as the best of show for wearing apparel. My compliments to the Scott County Master Clothing Volunteers who took personal pride in keeping it from getting dirty during judging and displaying. Carol Dziubakowski, CMCV and Scott County Extension Homemaker President, is pictured with me at the fair exhibit. Photo credit goes to Connie Minch, Scott County Extension FCS agent.



Something old, the original dress from 1978

INTERFACING

4-H Tea Time



The Ascension 4-H Sewing Stars Club in Jefferson County held a formal tea party on June 7, 2015 to conclude their sewing lessons. The tables were set with placemats, napkins and tea cozies made by the 4-Hers. Tea was provided by the RC Bigelow Co. in Jeffersontown. Harpist,

Teaching Opportunities

It's Sew Fine for Home and Family Sewing Expo is held annually at General Butler State Resort Park. Class submission forms will be available through the Owen County Extension FCS website as well as our MCV website. They are due September 1 to Mandy Davis in the Owen County office. Due to health issues, Nancy Zieman is not coming to the Sewing Expo in April, 2016. Kaye England is now slated to be the keynote speaker.

Callie Freeman, a former Ascension 4-H Sewing Star, played modern, pop and classical music. In attendance were parents, aunts and grandmothers of the 4-H Stars, and volunteer instructors including CMCVs Pat Mader and Allysan Comstock. Photo and story submitted by Allysan Comstock. Allysan also sent a video; the girls and especially the harpist music were beautiful.



Textile Day at the State Fair

Tuesday, August 25th has been designated Textile Day at the Kentucky State Fair. As such, the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment is asking Master Clothing Volunteers to help man their booth on that day. Their booth is housed just inside the main doors of the West Wing, close to Cloverville. The exhibit will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. You will be provided admission tickets prior to the day. I would like at least 2 volunteers per time slot; you may volunteer for more than one slot, though. The booth will have a tall table with tall chairs, electricity is available and a lower table and chairs can also be arranged. Demonstration of hand sewing skills would be appropriate, i.e. how to sew on a button or other simple clothing maintenance techniques. **If you are able to volunteer for a two-hour shift, please let Marjorie know by August 1.**

Calendar of Events



August 15 Deadline for registering for Mid-Rotation Training

Aug 20- 30 2015 Kentucky State Fair – August 25th is Textiles Day for the CAFE Exhibit in the West Wing.

September 1 Deadline for teacher/class submissions for *It's Sew Fine for Home and Family Sewing Expo*

October 1 Deadline for entering *Kentucky Make it With Wool* competition

October 12 – 14 Session I *MCV Mid-rotation Training*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center

October 14 – 16 Session II *MCV Mid-rotation Training*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center

October 17 *Kentucky Make it With Wool* competition, Frankfort

January 19 – 23, 2016 *Jabez Quilt Seminar*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center



Tuck-Away-Tote

This full sized tote bag tucks away into a corner pouch and looks like a strawberry when not in use. These make super gifts for young and old. Use your imagination and change the fabric colors to create other fruits or vegetables and make your next trip to the market more fun.

Materials needed for 14 x 16 inch tote bag:

- ½ yard for tote bag
- ¼ yard for corner pouch
- 28 inches of drawstring cording
- One cord stopper

All fabrics should be light weight but durable. The example was made with woven cotton for the outer corner fabric and Rip Stop nylon for the tote bag, handles and casing.

From the tote bag fabric cut:

- Bag – Two 15 by 18-inch pieces
- Bag handles – Two 18 x 3½-inch pieces
- Casing (strawberry top) – Two 11 by 3-inch pieces

From the corner pouch (strawberry) fabric cut:

- One 9-inch square of red fabric



Instructions:

1. Cut the 9-inch piece of red fabric in half on the diagonal to create two triangles.
2. Fold both short ends of casing rectangles to make a ¼-inch double turned hem and stitch.

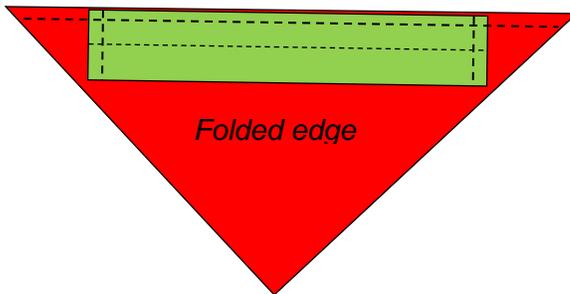


3. Fold casing rectangles in half wrong sides together, matching raw edges. Stitch $\frac{3}{4}$ inch away from the folded edge for the length of each rectangle.



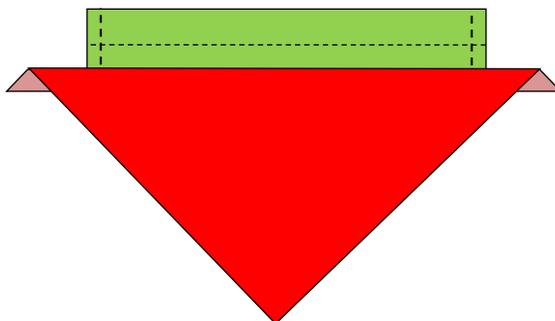
Folded edge

4. Center each casing, right sides together along the long edge of each triangle. Sew casing to triangle with $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam.

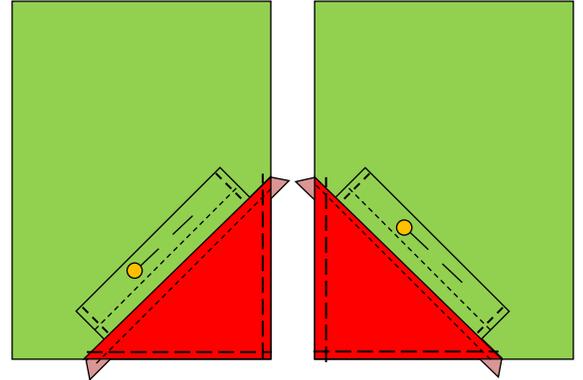


Folded edge

5. Finger press seam toward the triangle along stitching line.



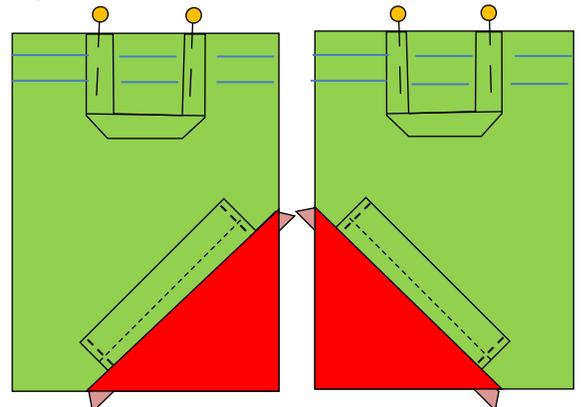
6. Place the triangles on the bottom corners of the front and back bag pieces. Pin the casings to the bag fabric. Baste corners $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edges. Topstitch the diagonal folded edge of each triangle to the bag fabrics.



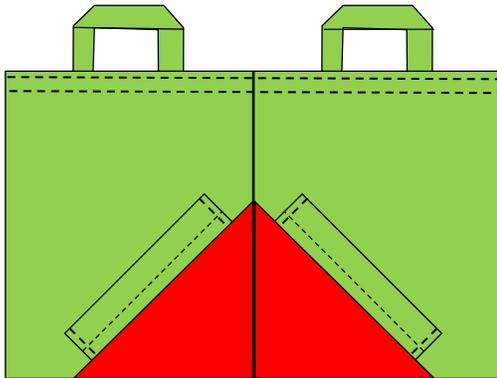
7. Make the straps by folding them RST so long edges are even and stitch with a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam, leaving ends open for turning. Turn strap right side out and press.

8. Turn top edge of front and back pieces to the wrong side $\frac{3}{4}$ " and press the fold. Fold under a second time, $\frac{3}{4}$ " and press. Unfold pressed lines.

9. Center the straps along the upper edge of the bag pieces with edges of the straps $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the bag sides. Pin and baste in place. Refold along the pressed creases to form the top hem. With handles folded towards the bag top, topstitch close to top edge and lower fold of each hem.



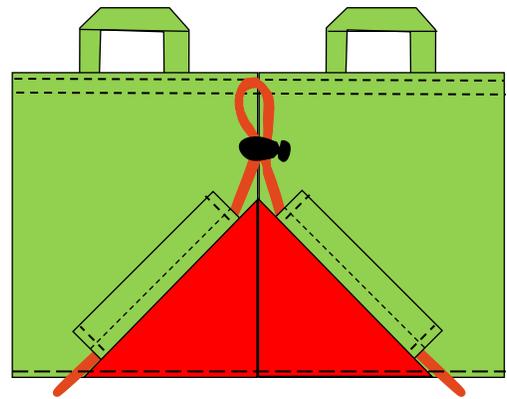
10. Trim the edges of the corner pouch even with the bag edges. Sew bag together with a French seam along the side with the triangles. (A French seam is sewn by sewing the wrong sides together $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edge; trim seam allowance to $\frac{1}{8}$ "; fold along the seam with right sides together; stitch again $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the folded seam edge.)



11. Insert drawstring cord in the cord stop. Move the cord stop to the middle of the drawstring.



12. Using a safety pin, if needed, feed each end of the drawstring through the casing formed by the topstitching on each of the green rectangles and the seam lines. Allow about 1 inch of the drawstring to extend beyond the bottom of the bag. Pin the cord at lower edge and secure by stitching $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the fabric edges



13. Complete bag by sewing the remaining sides together with a French seam.



14. Tuck bag into corner and pull drawstring to secure when not in use as a tote bag.

Loretta Haley, CMCV

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Agriculture and Natural Resources • Family and Consumer Sciences • 4-H Youth Development • Community and Leadership Development

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