

# KENTUCKY

MASTER

CLOTHING

VOLUNTEER

PROGRAM

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Newsletter

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CLOTHING and TEXTILES PROGRAM  
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## *Bobbin' along with Marjorie*

I don't know what happened to the months of March and April, I have been super busy this spring. I apologize for this newsletter being later than usual. I enjoyed seeing many of you at the *It's Sew Fine Sewing Expo* and KEHA in April.

At the writing of my last newsletter, I was anticipating the birth of my first grandson. Eugene Alan Baker arrived December 11, weighing in at 8 lbs. 4 oz. (exactly the same as what his father weighed). We have been down to see our son and his family in Alabama, twice since the birth. Eugene was welcomed home by his big sister who will be three in August.

I'd like to welcome three new members to the Master Clothing Volunteer Steering Committee. Angie York, Lyon County FCS Extension agent; Certified Master Clothing Volunteer, Anita Tomberline-Cummins from Christian County; and County Clothing Leader, Maryloretta Resing from Kenton County. You can read more about them in the *Spotlight* section.

The dates for this year's statewide training will be: Session I – October 17-19 and Session 2 – October 19-21. The Class of 2016 Basic training will take place October 18-21. The certification ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 19 following a luncheon where we will also celebrate our 25 + 1 year anniversary! Having the recognition during the day will enable guests, agents and administrators to more easily join us in our celebration. Online registration links will be sent out in July. Start planning now which session you want to attend. Contact your friends in other areas to see what their plans are if you want to attend together.

*Marjorie M. Baker*

Marjorie M. Baker, M.S.

Extension Associate for Clothing and Textiles



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## SPOTLIGHT



**Anita Tomberline-Cummins**  
**Christian County CMCV**  
**Class of 2008**  
**MCV Steering Committee**

Anita joined the Master Clothing volunteer steering committee this spring as one of the Certified Master Clothing Volunteer members. Shortly after her husband, Bill, of 37 years passed away, Anita applied to be a Kentucky Master Clothing Volunteer. Sewing had been a big part of her life since she was twelve years old. Like many, she started making Barbie doll clothes by hand, graduated to the sewing machine and by the time she was in high school, she was making a new outfit for herself every week. Her parents were of moderate income and sewing was a way for Anita to be creative and to have comparable clothing to her peers.

Sewing is soothing to her. Her daughter tells her that she knows when she is happy because she is sewing. The sound of Anita's sewing machine was part of the soundtrack of her daughter's life as well as her own.

Being part of the MCV program has helped Anita in several ways. It has allowed her to share her passion with others, increased the level of her own sewing skills, and introduced her to some of the best people she has ever met in her life, thus increasing her social skills. She says it truly has been and continues to be one of the best experiences of her lifetime.

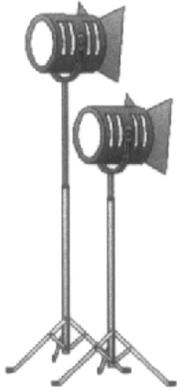
Anita believes that the MCV program is vital to her county and the Pennyriple area. Children and adults learn sewing skills and a select few even find their passion is sewing. She truly believes that there is a place for

sewing in today's world of throw away goods. We just have to stimulate the interest through creative classes that showcase ways to use our skills in nontraditional as well as traditional ways. Anita says she is "honored" to be a MCV.



**Angie York**  
**Lyon County FCS Agent**  
**MCV Steering Committee**

Angie York joined the Master Clothing volunteer steering committee this spring as the FCS agent representative. She loves cooking, spending time with family and sewing. Angie began sewing at an early age, mostly in clothing construction. Just after college she tried her hand at quilting and has been hooked ever since. Angie is the FCS agent in Lyon County in Western Kentucky and has been with UK for 3½ years. She graduated from Murray State University with a BS in Family and Consumer Sciences and completed the student teaching program where she was certified to teach 5<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grades. Currently, Angie is working on her Masters in Family and Consumer Sciences through Western Kentucky University. Angie is married to her husband Tim and has two sons, Jesse, married to Brittney, blessed her with her first granddaughter Ophelia, and Dalton, who is a freshman in high school. Angie has taught classes at the It's Sew Fine Sewing Expo for Home and Family, judged numerous fairs and sewing competitions across Western Kentucky, works to promote sewing through programming and classes in Lyon County and helped to create the DIY (Do It Yahweh) program through her home church which promotes handmade crafts and sewing in the faith based community.



**Maryloretta Resing**  
**Kenton County MCV**  
**Class of 2014**  
**MCV Steering Committee**

Maryloretta joined the Master Clothing volunteer steering committee this spring in the County Clothing Leader position. As a member of the class of 2014, she will earn her certification in the fall. Her biggest challenge in her quest for certification was learning to thread and use a serger. As a retired teacher, Maryloretta has sewn for many years while setting up her home and raising her children. Over the years she taught herself how to sew. With the MCV program she came to realize how much she still had to learn. She believes the MCV program increases individual sewing skills by showing and teaching others how to sew. She views this as a tremendous responsibility. She learned that there are specific guidelines for creating clothes and other items. Assessing her students on the standards or guidelines, has reinforced her own skills. She appreciates the opportunity to teach sewing in her community that builds self confidence in individuals. Maryloretta lives in Independence.

Maryloretta shared this poem:

Today I Chose To Learn

I have class today  
I'm beginning

With Sewing Lessons  
I am learning

To read and listen  
To the guidance given

With cloth I choose  
Whether cotton, polyester or satin

I follow the pattern  
Reading and positioning

Paper pieces on cloth  
With just the right spacing

Whether on a fold  
A grain or double

With scissors we shape  
Without much trouble

Step by step  
With needle and thread

Piece joined to piece  
Just as the pattern read

Checked and rechecked  
Until satisfied

The garment made  
Brings smiles and pride

✓ DOROTHY DO RIGHT ✓

## *The Not So Simple Things!*

**Submitted by Wanda Teegarden, CMCV and Steering Committee member**

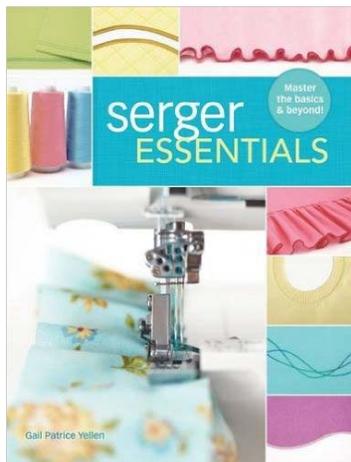
Sometimes we take the simplest things for granted. We may tell a new student to “pin your pattern to your fabric, following the pattern guide sheet to position the pieces.” That seems simple enough. After all, we have probably done it a thousand times. What we fail to realize is that the new student has not done it very many times at all. Therefore, the simplest of things to us, may not be so simple. I recently helped a friend with a 4-H group where I observed this very situation. One student was pinning her pattern to the fabric by lifting the fabric from the cutting surface. Another student was cutting out her pattern, again by lifting the fabric from the cutting surface. In both cases, the students failed to understand the importance of accuracy when pinning and cutting. To ensure that the fabric is cut exactly according to the pattern, the fabric must lie flat on the cutting surface when pinning and when cutting. Raising the pattern to pin may cause the fabric to shift or cause wrinkles on the underside that will not be seen until the cutting is finished. Raising the fabric to cut will not allow you to cut exactly along the cutting line. Most likely, you will cut the pattern too small or too large. Granted, getting that pin into the fabric and up and out while leaving the fabric flat on the table might take a little practice, but it can be done by using one hand to hold the fabric and pattern flat while using the other hand to manipulate the pin. Have you noticed that new sewers have a tendency to cut with short, uncertain choppy cuts? Perhaps the weight of the shears is

awkward for young hands? But, I have also seen adults do the same thing which makes me think this is an action of uncertainty rather than poor balance with the shears. The best method for cutting out a pattern is to use the longest, straightest cuts possible with the fabric flat on the table. Again this takes practice, but ensures the most accurate cutting. I have learned as a teacher to take very few things for granted. I often tell my students that I assume they know nothing and that is the way I approach my teaching. For some, it may be too simple, but for most, it is the right approach. I highly recommend demonstrating each step of a procedure if at all possible. So instead of telling students to pin and cut, why not demonstrate both procedures on what else??? A sample, of course!!! By using a demonstration, you can emphasize the importance of accuracy with cutting and pinning, thereby getting off on the right foot to a fabulous project. Hopefully, the message of accuracy and attention to detail will carry over to sewing a straight seam, inserting a zipper, placing buttonholes, and all the other steps of putting together a sewing project. When accuracy is emphasized from the start, the student is more likely to end up with a project that is well constructed and pleasing to the eye. Keep emphasizing those little things that we may take for granted. For some, they are not so simple and when added together, they really make a big difference in producing a quality product.

## **BOOK REVIEW**

If you have ever taken a class from Gail Patrice Yellen, then you know she loves the serger. She has taken all her tips from her hands on classes and put them into a new book called ***Serger Essentials, Master the Basics and Beyond***. I especially liked that

this book included a section on the cover stitch function that is found on some of the higher end sergers or as a stand-alone machine. Although focusing mostly on technique, the book also includes five projects to show off your new found knowledge. The serger isn't just for finishing edges. This book will help you unleash your creativity.



## Make It with Wool



Congratulations to Marion Mulligan, for placing fourth in the national Make it With Wool completion, Adult Division. Marion added triangle shaped buttonholes to her jacket that added an

innovative touch. She has a tip for creating beautifully smooth sleeve caps – start with using silk thread and hand sew two rows of alternating running stitches in the seam allowance of the sleeve cap. This creates an evenly eased cap, with no puckers.

It is time to think about sewing to enter 2016 Kentucky competition which will be October 8, 2016 in Burlington. Entries are due September 1, 2016. The categories are Preteens (12 and under) Juniors (13 to 16), Seniors (17 to 24), Adults (25 and older). The Made for Others (any age) can be any wool garment and will be modeled by the person the garment is made for. All garments are required to be made from wool. All fabric and yarn needs to be tested to assure that it is at least 60% wool or specialty wool fiber including mohair, cashmere, alpaca, camel, llama and vicuna. **Please send the MIWW state director a 5x5 piece of wool to be tested before construction.** The top 4-H wool garment at the 2016 Kentucky State Fair will receive 2½ yards of Pendleton Wool. The winner of the Junior and Senior divisions will represent Kentucky in the 2017 National Competition held in Denver, Colorado. Entry forms will be available by contacting Dorothy Vale, State Director; 142 Carolyn Lane, Nicholasville, KY 40356, cell 859-420-3217, e-mail [kymiww@aol.com](mailto:kymiww@aol.com). Entry forms will also be on [kysheepandgoat.org](http://kysheepandgoat.org) web site later in the spring.





## Sewing Corner

(This section will be used to share items of interest to 4-H Sewing Leaders)

### **New Curricula being adopted:**

I am excited to share that two new curricula are being adopted for use in Kentucky. The first one is the result of a collaboration between Cornell University and the University of Minnesota called **Style Engineers**.

Originally aimed at middle school aged girls, it exposes youth to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math by way of their interest fashion. A select number of counties across Kentucky will be using activities from this curriculum during summer camp. Check out the modules at [www.styleengineers.org](http://www.styleengineers.org)

The other curriculum is called **STEAM Clothing**, from the University of Nebraska. This curriculum is available through the 4-H Mall website. STEAM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. There are three volumes that are divided into these five area of emphasis. There are hands on activities that illustrate and reinforce learning about sewing, design, textile materials, and equipment. I see it as a great resource for those of you that work with sewing skill-a-thon teams. The books focus on building a portfolio of samples. Also included in the curriculum is a book that covers all sorts of fabric manipulation and another book called the **Makers Guide** that has small sewing projects that can be completed in a short amount of time. For the time being, it will be used as a reference for transitioning and updating the current sewing curriculum being used in Kentucky.

More information on these two curricula will be shared at the fall training.

### **Sewing Skill-a-thon**

Last fall several MCVs prepared sets of sewing technique samples for county Skill-a-thon boxes. I hope to see some new participation at the state event during the State Fair on August 27. Junior age 4-Her's compete as a team of 2 or 3 people while Senior age 4-Hers complete individually. Please have your teams and individuals register through their county 4-H agent.

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## Calendar of Events



**May 20 – 22** 2016 Kentucky Sheep and Fiber Festival, Masterson Station Park, Lexington

**June 11 – 13** *Original Creative Festival*, Quilt-Sew-Fiber Art Expo, Sharonville Convention Center, Cincinnati

**Aug 18- 28** 2016 Kentucky State Fair

**October 8** *Kentucky Make it With Wool* competition, Burlington

**October 17 – 19** Session I *MCV Statewide Training*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center

**October 18 – 21** *Basic Training for the Class of 2016*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center

**October 19** *MCV Recognition Luncheon*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center

**October 19 – 21** Session II *MCV Statewide Training*, Lake Cumberland 4-H Educational Center

## Zippered PET Screen Bag

PET screen is a vinyl coated polyester mesh that was developed as a heavy duty pet resistant and insect screening, but is also used by crafters and sewers in making purses, bags, totes and accessories. It is soft, pliable, easy to sew, and comes in a variety of bright colors as well as black and white. Use it to make this versatile bag to hold, cosmetics, sewing supplies, or anything you want to keep from getting lost. Or take it at the beach to collect sea shells, the sand will filter through the mesh before you get back to the car!

### Materials needed:

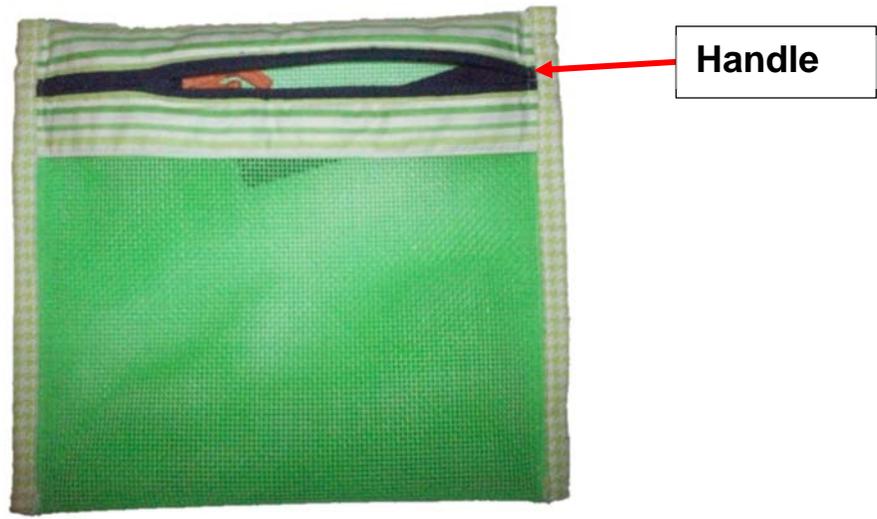
PET screen – one 10 ½” by 18” piece  
Zipper – 12”  
Fabric binding – (6) 10 ½” x 2 ½” strips  
Belt webbing – ½ yard, 1” wide  
Decorative zipper pull - optional  
Thread  
Size 16 Jeans needle  
Small screw driver and/or pliers



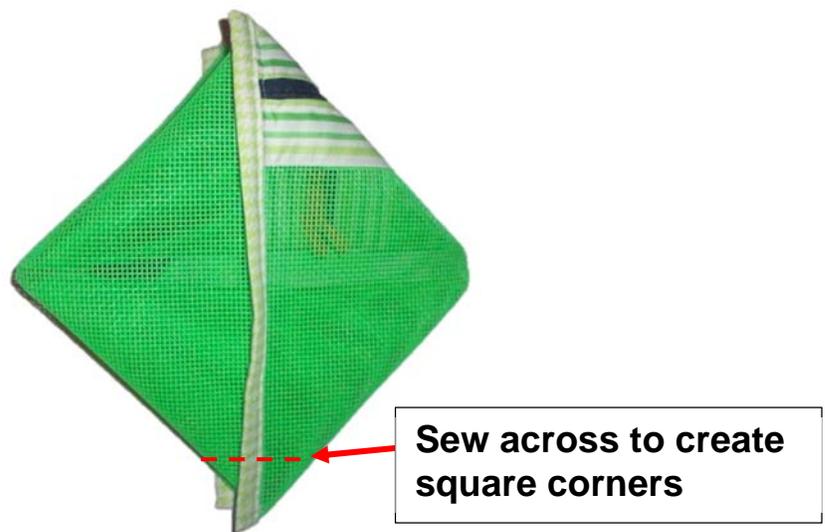
### Instructions:

1. Sandwich the short edges of the PET screen between two of the 10 ½” fabric strips, sew 1 inch from the raw edge. Finger press fabric away from the screen – fabric should extend ½” beyond the PET screen.
2. Use a small screw driver and pliers to pry and remove the bottom stopper from the zipper.
3. Center and sew zipper with the wrong side of the zipper to the right side of one layer of the fabric that extends beyond the PET screen. Press fabric away from the zipper.
4. With zipper facing up, turn ¼” under along edge of the upper fabric strip. Pin to zipper tape covering the previously sewn seam. Top stitch close to folded edge.
5. Bring other end of PET screen up and sew the unsewn edge of the zipper tape same as in step 3, making sure to keep side edges of the PET screen even.
6. Unzip zipper and remove zipper pull from zipper. This will allow easy access to topstitch the remaining upper fabric along the zipper coil. Repeat Step 4.
7. Replace zipper pull by sliding it on from the bottom of the zipper tape, position zipper pull in the middle of the bag.
8. Cut 3” off the end of the belt webbing. Fold in half and cover the bottom on the zipper. Sew ¼” from raw edge.
9. Fold remaining belt webbing in half and sew it over the open end of zipper. This will be the bag handle.
10. Trim zipper ends even with PET screen sides.
11. Turn wrong side out and position the top fold along the edge of the zipper binding, having the handle end towards the right as you look at the back side of the zipper.
12. Sew side seams, ¼” from raw edges.

13. Fold remaining fabric strips in half lengthwise and bind the side edges, folding ends over and trimming as needed.



14. Square off corners if desired by folding corners to form triangles and sewing seam 1½" from the point of the corner.



15. Turn right side out, add zipper pull if desired.

Marjorie M. Baker  
April 2016



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

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