

INTERDISCIPLINARY EXTENSION PROGRAM
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*"extending clothing
knowledge and skills"*

KENTUCKY
MASTER
VOLUNTEER
IN
CLOTHING
CONSTRUCTION
PROGRAM
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Linda's Lines

My how the time since our training has flown by! It has been a very busy fall, and I am just beginning to be able to turn my thoughts back to Master Clothing Volunteer.

A piece of my time this fall has been representing the University, specifically the Family & Consumer Sciences Unit, at three (Northern Kentucky, Green River, Purchase) Area Homemakers annual meetings.

It was wonderful to see the Purchase Area volunteers with a special room and exhibit of items they had made. The ladies were also advertising and taking reservations for upcoming workshops. Manning the area was **Mary Jean Grief**, CMV, **Jo Ann Ellegood**, CMV, **Sue Orłowski**, CMV, **Jo Farley**, CMV, and **Sara Counts**, CMV. **Connie Talent**, CMV was not there, but had some lovely items in the exhibit and in the Cultural Arts display. Carol Vinyard recognized all of the Certified Volunteers from Purchase during the business meeting.

The Northern Kentucky Master Clothing Volunteers were also recognized during their Area Homemakers meeting. **Patsy F. Kinman**, CMV, was also at the head table, and I visited with **Nita Benson**, CMV; **Karen Mikel**, CMV, and several of the ladies from the Class of 2002—sorry I do not remember your names; please forgive me! **Brenda Pinkston**, CMV, is serving as one of the Green River area officers. She made an announcement at their meeting about upcoming workshops she, **Sara Scott**, CMV, and **Nell Jordon**, CMV, would be teaching. I also know that **Nancy H. Pratt**, CMV, and **Devonna Hisel**, CMV, had active roles in their respective area meetings this fall. Many others of you have been involved in all sorts of activities. Please send me an email or notice of what you are doing so that I can share it in upcoming newsletters!

Marilu Stevens, CMV Caldwell County (Class of 1992) and a member of the MVP Steering Committee, is recovering from hip surgery. I know she would appreciate your thoughts, prayers, and well wishes! A round of applause to **Sandy Palmer**, CMV Jefferson County, who serves as the editor of *Derby City Loose Threads* newsletter, Louisville Area Chapter of the American Sewing Guild.

Congratulations once again to all of you who received certification and re-certification at the September training. And, welcome new volunteers in the Class of 2002! We have lots of things to share in this newsletter, *sew read on!* Until January I remain as always,

P.S. *Some of you have not signed and sent us a Commitment Form. I must get these by December or you will not receive a newsletter in January.*



Spotlight

Jo Ann Ellegood lives in Carlisle County in far Western Kentucky.



In fact the Western banks of Carlisle County serve as the boundary for the “mighty Mississippi River.” Jo Ann, her husband, Jim, and their three children moved from Louisville in 1973 to her husband’s family farm so they could raise their children. Jo Ann went back to school and became a hairdresser. With a business at home, three boys, farming, raising a big garden, yard work and a house to run, Jo Ann didn’t have time to sew. She was too busy! As the children grew older and became independent, she had a little more time to try sewing. She liked nice things and found an ultra suede jacket in a magazine that was just her color, “Mauve.” Now she would learn to sew. She was 50. It was now or never.

She asked her Family & Consumer Sciences Agent to sign her up for a beginning sewing class. Jo Ann took that beginning sewing class and told her FCS agent she was ready to make that ultra suede jacket. Her agent’s mouth flew open and she said, “I think you need a little more training before tackling that project.” “Why don’t you select a pattern and fabric and make a dress.”

Off Jo Ann went to get those supplies and headed back for approval after she had purchased the pattern and fabric. Her agent had a *pained* look as she showed her the fabric and pattern and said, “Well, the red fabric is a little heavy for the dress pattern (shirtwaist style) you have chosen, but it might be pretty put together with white.”

Some days later, Jo Ann returned with a finished dress for her agent to see. Jo Ann just couldn’t wait for her agent to tell her what a great job she had done. Her agent looked it over and asked, “Why did you sew the seams with white thread?” Jo Ann replied, “Well, you said it would be pretty put together with white.” So much for communication! The agent could visualize the dress with white topstitching, but with Jo Ann being a new sewer, she did not have any idea what the agent was trying to say. This is just one of the mistakes Jo Ann and her agent can laugh about.

After a few years and learning to sew, Jo Ann’s health required her to retire from the beauty shop. Jo Ann says she was sick, mean, and hard to live with, or for anyone to be around. Her agent asked her if she would be interested in getting some advanced training in sewing. Jo Ann decided to apply and was accepted in the Master Clothing Program in 1996. Little did she realize what a learning experience she would encounter! She says the program is wonderful and has been very beneficial to her. She has found she loves to teach and that has given her a new lease on life. Her creative ideas are beginning to show up again only in a different area.

For health reasons she spends each winter in Arizona. The past year she taught beginning sewing to Mexican ladies (Jo Ann did have a translator!). Jo Ann’s desire is to learn Spanish so she can teach sewing to the Spanish speaking ladies without having to have a translator.

Oh yes! The mauve ultra suede is still in the closet.

[Jo Ann, just hang on! We’ll be having an ultra suede class again real soon.]

*Jo Ann Ellegood, CMV
Class of 1996*

2003 KEHA Annual Meeting Requests Your Participation

A message was sent to all Area MVP Contact Agent sin October concerning an opportunity for each area to showcase their Master Clothing volunteer efforts/activities at the 2003 KEHA annual meeting in Owensboro. KEHA 1st Vice President, Linda Kaletch, is familiar with the Purchase Area activities as well as the overwhelming reception Green River/Pennyrile and Purchase had to programs they presented at KEHA in past years. Linda is planning to showcase Master Clothing Volunteers and the program. Each area that is willing to participate will have a designated section of the room (or set of tables) to display items they have made at the various MVP workshops/demonstrate a sewing skill/show-off items they have made or taught, etc. KEHA attendees will circulate around the room and visit each group. Linda says it is alright for you to sell items (the books you have put together, etc.) if the proceeds are to support the Master Clothing Volunteer efforts in your area.

Every CMV or MV from the area does not have to attend. However, I do need to know: 1) *if your area would like to participate*, 2) *who* (names of all individuals) *will be there with the exhibit*, and 3) *a contact person—can be agent of volunteer*. Deadline for this information is January 3.

By March 1, Linda Heaton needs a title and brief description of what your area will be doing. When that information is received a form will be sent to the contact person for your area to complete.

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the program and your area! It is also a wonderful time to recruit individuals for the Class of 2004! That sounds like a long time away, but it will be here before we know it. Let's have a great show for this event!



Have you tried working with decorative embroidery stitches and you can't get the first design even? Have you been sewing on lightweight fabric and when starting to stitch the seam the fabric is pushed down in the needle hole? Have you started a seam on a bulky piece of fabric and the pressure foot will not move?

One way to help ease these dilemmas is to use a "starter" fabric—a scrape piece of fabric. Double the "starter" (fabric) and butt it up to the seam you are going to sew. Start sewing on the starter. Once you begin to sew the regular seam, back stitch to secure stitches and cut off the starter.

On denim and very heavy fabric, start sewing 1/2-inch from the beginning of the seam and sew to the opposite end. Turn the garment around and sew the end of the seam that was not stitched. Be sure to secure your line of stitches at beginning and end.

Contributed by **Jo Ann Ellegood**, CMV **Carlisle County** and member of the MVP Steering Committee.

American Cancer Society Project

It was a great pleasure to have Charlotte Brewer from the American Cancer Society, Manchester, to talk with us about possible community projects and activities. Probably most of us have been touched in

some way by cancer. Some of you are cancer survivors; others have relatives or friends who fit this situation.

Charlotte has sent instructions for a turban and throat covers that has been sent to each MVP Area Contact Agent. You can request instruction/patterns from Linda Heaton or your Area MVP Contact Agent.

IDEA: Let's make this a statewide service project for the *Master Volunteer in Clothing Program*. Beginning October 2002, keep count of the items you make, or items you supervise others making (turbans and/or throat covers) that are donated to the American Cancer Society. Log this on your report forms:

CMVs -- use the ***Certified Master Volunteer Master Credit Units Report Form, page 3.***

Community Service Activities-- under Repairs or Simple Construction column. In the space at the end of that block, write ***MVP Cancer Project***. List the number of items made/donated in column 2, Number of Items.

MVs -- use the ***Master Volunteer Report Form***. Under the Topics/Activities, list ***MVP Cancer Project***-- _____ (list number of items made). Log in the date in the next column. After you have had your teaching tools checked, you can also count the time spent making or supervising the making of these items in the Community Service column.

The total number will be communicated to Charlotte Brewer and Jennifer Begley as well as shared with everyone at the 2004 MVP Banquet and Certification.

Heads up CMVs

Here is a break down of hours you earned for attending the ***2002 Master Volunteer in Clothing Training***:

<i>Creating Fashionable Luggage</i>	8 hrs
<i>Working with Napped Fabrics</i>	8 hrs
<i>Ribbon Flower Embellishment</i>	8 hrs
<i>Reporting Session</i>	2 hrs
<i>Working with Microfiber Fabrics</i>	9 hrs
<i>Clothing for Special Needs</i>	9 hrs
<i>Creating a Chenille Vest</i>	9 hrs

P. S. My holiday gift to the Class of 2000, you can count these hours even though you were not yet certified! LMH

Working with Velvet

Holiday dressing means lots of different things to different people. However, velvet is *special* and says luxury whenever you wear it.

This holiday season will feature a wide variety of velvets and velvet-like fabrics. Here are some pointers to consider when you sew with velvet:

Cotton velvets are extremely versatile. Their rich colors, resilient pile, and machine washability make them ideal for daytime sportswear as well as luxurious holiday classics. Choose cotton velvet for everything from crafts to dresses, jackets to children's party clothes.

For dramatic evening wear, there is rayon, rayon and acetate, and silk velvet. The deep pile and lustrous colors make bridal and formal wear command attention.

Choose styles with simple, classic lines. Velvet looks its richest in patterns with a minimum of darts, seams, buttonholes, and topstitching. Patterns with stitched tucks or pressed pleats are not recommended.

Carefully check the amount of fabric needed by looking at the pattern envelope. For velvet you need to follow the "with nap" pattern lay out. This layout requires more fabric, but velvet "extras" can be used in all sorts of small projects like a matching drawstring bag.

Find the direction of the velvet pile by making the "Stroke Test" or the "Mirror Test."

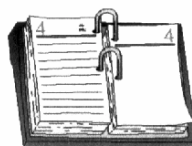
The Stroke Test -- Stroke your hand lightly over the surface of the velvet following the selvage (lengthwise of the fabric). If the pile feels "smooth" you are brushing *with the pile*; if it feels "rough" you are brushing *against the pile*.

The Mirror Test -- Since the pile is so luxurious, you may not be able to feel a "rough" direction. To find the nap direction, drape the fabric around your shoulders and look in a mirror. The velvet will fall with the nap going up on one side, and down on the

other. A slight color difference will show the direction of the pile.

- Once the direction has been identified, mark the fabric at one end with a large safety pin as a reminder when you lay out the pattern.
- All pattern pieces should be placed in the same direction. For velvet, when possible, cut out your pattern and sew your seams in the direction of the pile—*with the nap*.
- It's best to cut one layer of velvet at a time to avoid fabric slippage.
- Use a roller or walking presser foot or velvet V-foot when stitching on the machine.
- Place straight pins *in* the seam allowances or *on* the seam allowance line to prevent marking the fabric.

Permission granted by *The Home Sewing Association*. For additional information, refer to *Velvet Guidelines*.



Calendar

December 10, 2002 -- MVP Steering Committee
Leitchfield, KY

January 9-11, 2003 -- "Martha's Sewing Market"
Sew with Martha Pullen, Orlando, FL

March 2003 -- MVP Steering Committee

April 29, 2003 -- MVP session at annual KEHA
meeting, Owensboro, KY

July 2003 -- MVP Newsletter and training sign-up
form

October 15-17, 2003 -- MVP Training, KY
Leadership Center, Jabez