March 2011

Achievement Day
Thanks so much for everything all of you did to make our Achievement Day so nice. The tables were great and everything just seemed to flow so well. I do hope that you enjoyed the entertainment as well as the meal.

I guess I have not made it clear in the past that our Members at Large are welcome to attend our Achievement Day as well as our members that are associated with a club. Please know that everyone is invited to come and be with us.

Congratulations to our winners. I hope there were a few surprises among some of them as they were announced.

We sure did miss those that were not able to be with us due to illness and or housing issues, like heat, that truly needed to be fixed right away.

District Day
We have several signed up to go to District Day, March 8th. We will leave the office about 8:30. We have two vans going so there should be plenty of room. We also have our items for the silent auction (thanks to those that donated). Our cultural arts items will also need to be registered as soon as we get there and I am sure all of you will help with that.

Please be ready to take some notes. We will host District Day
next year on Tuesday, March 13th at the office. Ruth Clifton will be installed as the District President in New Bern and our fun will begin. We should return on March 8th around 4 pm.

**Scholarship Winners**
Unfortunately we only had two scholarship applications turned in so there was no need for a committee to be formed. The two were both in the Youth category so they have been signed by our president and sent to the Northeast District for judging.

Our two winners are: Katelyn Barbee from Jacksonville and Debra Maxwell from Hubert. Debra was also our recipient from last year. Congratulations to the two of them and good luck as they progress to the District level. They will receive $200.00 each from County Council.

**Duffle Bags**
I received a request from the Department of Social Services for more duffle bags for their foster children. If you can make some of these for them or know someone that can – please help out this program if you can. The duffle bags are used when a child or children are taken from the home and they are given the bag to put their belongings in. That way they have something to call their own and do not have to have all of their belongings in a paper bag.

**Agriculture Tourism Spring Tour**
We are now back on target with our tours. We will be touring the New Hanover area on Tuesday, May 24th. Please let me know if you are interested and I will make sure you receive a flyer when they are printed.

**Vacation**
I will be on vacation from Tuesday, February 15th through Friday, February 25th. Please call Robin or Nita if there is something you need while I am gone.
Leader Training
There is no leader training in March since April is our area meeting. I hope that all of you will be in attendance for that. Please make sure the members-at-large know they should join us.

Employment and program opportunities are offered to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating

Peggie L. Garner
County Extension Director

Happy St. Patrick’s Day

The Recipe Corner

Irish Brown Soda Bread

Prep Time: 10 Minutes
Cook Time: 45 Minutes
Ready In: 55 Minutes

Original Recipe Yield 4 - 10 ounce loaves.

Ingredients
- 4 cups whole wheat flour
- 1 cup bread flour
- 1/3 cup rolled oats
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 1/2 cups buttermilk

Directions
1. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C). Lightly grease two baking sheets.
2. In a large bowl, stir together whole wheat flour, white flour, rolled oats, baking soda and salt. Gently mix in the buttermilk until a soft dough is formed. Knead very lightly. Divide dough into 4 pieces; form into rounded flat loaves. Mark each loaf with an 'X' and place on prepared baking sheets.
3. Bake in preheated oven until golden brown, about 30 to 45 minutes.