



# The Acorn

## Adams County HCE Newsletter



### 2017-18 ACHCE Board

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Wasn't our annual meeting at St. Brigid's great! Thank you again to Joyce Welch and her husband Phil and the church's kitchen crew. When was the last time you had homemade noodles, rolls, mashed potatoes and gravy and hand churned ice cream in the same meal!? Thank you also to Barb Higley, Chatton Unit, for baking and decorating the birthday cakes. This dinner will be hard to beat in upcoming years. Thanks to Quincy Tumbleweeds for decorating and to the Paloma Unit for conducting our scholarship raffle. \$728 was raised for the scholarship fund. Thank you Adams County for donating the opportunity baskets. Our two IAHC Exchange speakers were impressed by our dinner. It was too bad time did not allow them to share more of their travels to the Baltic States. Our two scholarship winners Elizabeth Dietrich and Collin Tenhouse joined us with their parents and proud grandmothers. Mary Eustace, District 4 Director was again a special guest. She left behind "Priscilla the Chicken" however. Pike County had more volunteer hours than Adams County last year. Record those hours ladies! Let's send "Priscilla" back to Pike Co. next year!

Thank you to the members that agreed to serve on the board. Heather Ator will remain as President for the next two years. Judy Milfs will continue to help with special projects, such as our big 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration and compiling documentation for County of the Year application. Judy also researches and writes our monthly minor lessons. Susan Sprague will assume the role of Secretary with assistance when she is a winter snowbird. Joyce Welch will take over membership duties as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Two members will share Cultural Enrichment Director duties: Sara Husemann and Juanita Moss – we learned last week that they were high school classmates. Amy Looten will take over Public Relations duties. Charlotte Green will take on East Director duties. Linda Chezem will continue as Acorn editor at least until the end of the year. We are also still searching for a Ways and Means Director (Kiddie Bazaar and Pancake Breakfast). Mary Voorhis has completed most of the work for the coming season. A big Thank You to Mary! If you have an interest in joining the board as Newsletter Editor or Ways and Means director, contact Heather. It's a great way to meet other HCE members and make new friends. The new board members will join the current board for the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

We are planning our **Big 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party** scheduled for **October 18<sup>th</sup>** from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Farm Bureau Basement. We hope to involve all the Adams County units. You can get a head start this summer by checking your archives and putting together a scrap book or photos that showcase your unit's history. Maybe you have an example of a craft project or lesson from the past to share. Jane Chapman, Illinois HCE President plans to join us along with Mary Eustace. Get the word out to past members and invite them to drop in with you. There will be games, historic displays, prizes, and refreshments. As your birthday gift to the county, we'll be collecting non-perishable items to donate to county food pantries.

Be sure to join us also for the **May 30<sup>th</sup>** County wide Salad Luncheon. A Herald Whig editor will be our guest and she'll select and feature some of the recipes in a future Herald Whig. Bring a heritage dish and a copy of the recipe. You might find your recipe in print.

Thank you Adams County HCE members for all your contributions that make our county outstanding.

*Heather and Judy*

## Recognizing the outgoing officers:

This is the time that is bittersweet – saying goodbye to the retiring board members. We enjoyed working with them and are hoping that after a year of taking it easy that they will consider coming back on the board in a different capacity.

Co-President Judy Milfs – I'm stepping down from that job and will continue on the board as the writer of the minor lessons. I enjoyed the 2 years as co-president, but found out many times that I had too much on my plate with the jobs that I already had with many other organizations that I am involved in. So I am stepping down and wishing Heather good luck in tackling the steering of this organization by herself. I know she will do a great job.

Second Vice-President Nancy Aden filled in for one year after Sharon Beedle and Camie Hempelman stepped down. Nancy kept track of member contact information, updated the memorial list, kept track of 50 year plus recognition and sent in the required reports to the state Board.

Secretary Mary Ann Peter wrote detailed minutes of the board meetings and annual meeting and sent the minutes out via email, did the advanced planning for the annual meeting and was always willing to help on any project.

Pat Lawber coordinated the county-wide volunteer hours and sent the list to the State Board. By doing this, she became acquainted with other HCE members throughout the county.

Susan Sprague was in charge of the Cultural Enrichment activities in the county. One of the activities won state recognition. Susan shared her creative ideas for crafts with a workshop on making a pumpkin door wreath, a scarecrow decoration, an Easter Bunny made out of a toilet paper roll and a recipe book or greeting card workshop during her 2 years on the Board.

Ways and Means Chairman Mary Voorhis coordinated the fundraising activities involved with 2 Kiddie Bazaars and 2 Applebees Flapjack events. She helped the advertising for the events by doing interviews with the local media personalities.

Public Information Chairman Leslie Geschwandner stayed on the board an extra year when a replacement was not found for the position. She was diligent in gathering information to be put in the county scrapbook and sent news articles about Adams County to the state newsletter. She also sent news about HCE activities to the Quincy Herald-Whig and Elliott Publishing to be put in the county newspapers.

Thank you, ladies, for all your hard work while you served on the Adams County HCE Board.

## County-wide Annual Salad Luncheon with Special Guest—Deborah Husar

Come join us on Wednesday, May 30th, for a salad luncheon at 11:30 a.m. in the Farm Bureau basement. In keeping with our 100th year anniversary theme, we'd like to highlight "heritage" or "old time" salad and dessert recipes – what your mother or grandmother used to make or recipes from an old cookbook. Perhaps you have an old HCE or church cookbook you like to use. Along with your salad or dessert, please bring the written recipe.

Deborah Husar from the Quincy Herald Whig will be our guest and plans to do a cooking feature in the paper using some of the "heritage" recipes from the luncheon. If you have a favorite recipe from the past, please make it and bring a copy of the recipe and the history of it or a favorite memory to the luncheon to share with others. Make your dish unique and pretty and it just may be featured in the paper. The recipes will also be printed in a future edition of the Acorn.

Please make reservations to Susan Sprague (#656-3099) or [spraguefarms4@yahoo.com](mailto:spraguefarms4@yahoo.com) by May 25th. Guests are always welcome.



## Gem Unit HCE 1937 - 2015

The Gem Unit was organized May 20, 1937. The unit was first known as Junior Home Bureau of Adams County and was organized by the Adams County Home Advisor, Miss Mary E. Standsifer, (Mrs. Mary Ligon). Miss Standsifer felt that the office working girls should have the opportunity of being members of the Home Bureau. There were twelve ladies at the first meeting on that May 20th, the third Monday evening of the month.

At the January 1951 meeting the membership of thirty three changed the unit's name to Gem as it was felt that many members were no longer juniors. The Gem Unit was a very diverse group that worked well together on common interests and goals, while learning, helping and sharing their talents.

The Gems have always met in homes on the third Monday, although the day has not changed the meetings are now in the afternoon rather than evening. They meet every month except July and August unless something special comes up during that time. At times they had between 40 to 50 members but that has greatly decreased. There were still over twenty members in 2008. After that year age had a large impact on the unit's membership. In 2013 with only six members they contemplated disbanding the unit but with the close-knit friendships they had developed the unit is still together with one new member.

The first unit picnic was held in 1937 at the home of Martha and Mayra Alison and through the years the June picnic continues as a time of relaxation and fellowship. Food lessons were always a highlight of the year and in 1955 the unit decided to publish a cookbook which they titled "Grandma's Gems". One highlight in 1997 was hosting the Western Party for HCE Week. They had many day trips throughout the years including shopping at St. Charles, Missouri, Dierburg's Cooking School at St. Peters, Missouri, and the Christmas Lights Festival at East Peoria, Illinois.

Longer drives prohibit the unit from out of town trips but they tour places of interest in our community. They also eat at a favorite restaurant at least twice a year. They have many special projects. At Christmas they donate a variety of gifts to a needy child. They participate in the Kiddie Bazaar, Dress an Angel, send cards to veterans, and provide a trophy for a 4H project.

Now in 2018 we are still happy to be Gem members, sharing our interests, while still learning new things and helping others in our community.

Current members are: Charlotte Berman, Jo Boone, Martha Cline, Mary Eling, Betty Gebhardt, Darlene Kerber, and Alice Rakers.



*Left: Christmas at Betty Gebhardt's Home. Alice Rakers, Jo Boone, Betty Gebhardt, Darlene Kerber, Mary Eling, and Martha Cline*



*Above: Wrapping gifts for our child chosen for this Christmas. Jo Boone, Darlene Kerber, Alice Rakers, Mary Eling and Martha Cline*



*Making flower pot snowmen for Kiddie Bazaar*



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## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Schedule

A big "Thank You!" to the units, who have already submitted their units' histories for the Acorn. It's fun to read about Extension representatives traveling by train from Quincy to Beverly and then spending the night before returning to Quincy. Or the 60's and 70's when the members would set the dessert tables in their homes with fancy tablecloths and those glass snack plates with matching punch cups. Remember those!! Here's a reminder of the schedule for the remainder of the year:

	Unit	Founding Year
June	Chatton	1947
July	No newsletter	
August	Unity Nite	1959
September	Quinsippi	1960
October	Quincy Tumbleweeds	1997
November	HCE Book Club	2006 &
	HCE Quilt Club	2007
December	Sunshine Girls	2008 &
	Card & Game Club	2016

Please research your records and minutes and submit a brief history on the founding of your unit and any unique activities to the newsletter editor by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to your scheduled publication. If you have photos, both recent and historical to share, they will be easier to include in the newsletter if they can be scanned from the original. You can leave you photos at the Extension office to be scanned and returned to you at a later date. Be sure to identify the year and the members present in your photo. Recent photos can be shared by email. Let's continue the fun!

# Things to Do..... Places to Go!

### HCE Book Club

The May book for discussion is JAYBER CROW by Wendell Berry. Ginny Miller will be the discussion leader.

The Book Club meets at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 18 at Cheryl Loatsch Studio-Sunshine Bakery and Café (334 South 48th Street).



**Description:** Jayber Crow, born in Goforth, Kentucky, orphaned at age 10, began his search for life's meaning as a "pre-ministerial student" at Pigeonville College. There, freedom met with new burdens, and a young man needed more than a mirror to find himself. His first step---his conversation with "Old Grit," his profound professor of New Testament Greek, "Old Grit" let him know his questions would take time to learn answers. He would have to live them out. Eventually, Jawber becomes a barber. In living his life as a barber, he learns much behind the barber chair. This is his story.

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 Anyone who loves to read is welcome at the book club. For information, contact: Mary Voorhis 217-224-0084.

### No May Meeting HCE Card & Game Club!



There will not be an HCE Card & Game Club meeting in May.

Enjoy your summer and come join the fun in September when we resume our meetings.

Thank you,  
 Camie Hempelman and  
 Sharon Beedle

## Dates to Remember

<u>May</u>			
8	Board Meeting	9:30 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
9	Quilt League	9:00 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
16	Book Club	11:00 AM	Cheryl Loatsch Studio (334 S 48th)
30	County-wide Annual Salad Luncheon	11:30 AM	Farm Bureau Basement

# ACHCE 55th Annual Dinner

Tuesday, April 24, 2018; St. Brigid's Church Hall,  
Liberty, IL

The theme was "Celebration at the Crossroads"

During the annual dinner we celebrated 100 years of HCE and shared a good meal with homemade ice cream and cake for desert. We spent the evening celebrating members, presenting awards, recognizing the scholarship winners, outgoing officers and new officers. A memorial service was given for those members that passed this year. We also had fun learning about the culture of the Baltic States (Estonia) and the basket raffle to fund the scholarship program.



