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March, 2018

Dear County President and County Board Members:

The IAHCE Board would like to thank those of you who attended the 94th IAHCE Annual Conference! Interesting facts: 353 members from 60 counties plus 2 guests attended the conference. The IAHCE Board would also like to thank those of you who volunteered and donated money for table favors! It is participation that makes the conference successful, both by the Members and by the Board! The conference will be held in Effingham next year, so encourage *all of your members* to join us!

Let's welcome the new officers and/or officers in new positions — Jane Chapman for another 3 year term as your President; Cara Ausmus, International Director; Norma Korte, Family & Community Issues Director; Becky Thomas, District 1 Director; and Debbie Segrest, District 6 Director. We would also like to thank, Pat Weitzman (International), Sharon Davis (Family & Community Issues), Cara Ausmus (District 1 Director), Marilyn Schaefer (District 6 Director), for their dedication and service to IAHCE!

Caitlin Huth, U of I Extension Liaison, reported that the 2017 Certified Volunteer Hours as reported by the counties totaled 607,517. These hours are worth \$24.14 which amounts to a total worth of \$14,665,460.38. Congratulations and keep recording/reporting your volunteer hours! The new U of I Extension Liaison is Karla Belzer, Extension Educator, Family Life from Carroll, Lee & Whiteside in IAHCE District 1.

The Support Fund Advisory Committee would like to encourage you to apply! Due by June 1.

It is so very important that each county officer/director share the informational materials given to each of you in the officer/director Share Shops. Please pass these packets to the appropriate officer/director as soon as possible, then open and read them. The packets may have time sensitive information and new information that will be helpful for your county to have a successful year!!!

Installation time is upon us— as your District Director, the IAHCE Board pays my mileage to attend one event in your county per year. Give me a call and I will do my best to attend your annual meeting to install officers as well as give a short motivational presentation. Also, please send your new officer list ASAP to not only the District Director but also the IAHCE Secretary.

Membership Challenge: In keeping with the 2018 Conference theme of "Celebration at the Crossroads" your challenge is to create an event that allows your County to shine a light on HCE in your community. Your presence will light new light in HCE! Angela Hicks, IAHCE 2nd VP, asks: "How many 'new members will it take to light up HCE' so that Illinois shines brightly?!"

It was a pleasure meeting Sara Kenney, the Australian HCE Homemaker Exchange. We hope you enjoyed meeting her at the conference and in your county! The Baltic State IAHCE Homemaker exchangees, Eleanor Gregory (Madison County) and Mary Johnson (Sangamon County) gave a very entertaining rendition of their travels to the Baltic States! You are welcome to invite them to your county to share their story.

IAHCE District Workshops

August 7, 2018 – Districts 1 and 2/3, Sycamore, IL

August 8, 2018 – Districts 4 and 5, Bloomington, IL

August 9, 2018 – Districts 6 and 7, Effingham, IL

Important Dates:

20th Annual NVON Conference, Pewaukee, WI July 16-18, 2018 CWC/ACWW Area Meeting, Dubuque, IA September 9-12, 2018 95th Annual IAHCE Conference, Effingham, IL March 12-14, 2019

One final note, encourage your members to attend the District Workshops!