

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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NEWSLETTER



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WITH IAHCE

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



December 2015

The autumn leaves drift by my window as I sit writing this article for the newsletter and I would like to wish each of you a happy fall. But, it will be early December when you receive this so, "Happy Holidays!" I guess you could call that killing two birds with one paragraph!

Well, we had another great board meeting, accomplished a lot, selected candidates for the positions that are open on the board, and got to experience the Embassy Suites hotel where conference will be held in March! Let me tell you, do not miss attending this conference!

The hotel is awesome, the food is fabulous, the elevators are very fast, the view is terrific, and the conference chair persons have some super fun and exciting plans for all attendees! The workshops that you can attend have variety, intrigue, and the opportunity to learn something new! No one is too old to learn something new and if you think you know it all, I think you may be living in a box! So come out of your box and join us in March.

Weren't the District meetings exciting and rather entertaining? I thought the "Little Bits of Knowledge" was just great! Hopefully some of you are using it for a membership function, an educational skit for 4-H members, or an aid for young adults. I know from my past experience on the state board that you are always asking for ideas for lessons, membership, etc.... I think we have started with that skit. What you do with it is totally up to you and your imagination. Remember, we are a team and it takes all of us to grow and prosper, the state board cannot do it by themselves!

In July, I and several other people attended the NVON conference in West Virginia. As president of the state, I had to give a summary of the activities that were happening in Illinois over the past year. The report is printed in this newsletter for all to see. We are a busy bunch of people who do an overwhelming amount of volunteering. I was immensely proud to share all of this with the other states that were in attendance at the conference. Pat yourselves on the back for a job well done! I hope you will seriously consider attending the 2016 NVON conference as we will be the host for it. It will be held in Normal, Illinois, on July 18th – 21st. Registration will be out sometime after the first of the year on the IAHCE website as well as the NVON website.

A word about the **County of the Year form**. I am requesting that you send in only the two page completed application and not the proof requested as before. I will judge the completed forms and select the top five and contact them for any proof I deem necessary. I must have the completed two page form postmarked by January 30, 2016 to be eligible for judging. I hope to save some of you the postage that is needed to send the pages and pages of proof that have been sent in the past. The other "change" for this form that is **being** considered is to break it down by membership numbers with 100 members and below being one and 101 and above being the other. Yes, there would be two winners! This will be discussed more in the President's workshop at conference and I welcome ideas from everyone not just the county presidents! Remember, I am big on communication!!

I will sign off for this time with a thought by Brendon Burchard.

"When someone is rude to you, don't let your ego jump into the fight. You don't need to have the last word or a storybook ending. Walk away, stay centered, love yourself, and don't judge humanity by a few bad apples!"

Later,

Jane Chapman
IAHCE President



INVITATION TO:





IAHCE 92nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Embassy Suites East Peoria-Hotel & Riverfront Conference Center

March 15-17, 2016

Team IAHCE:

We are hoping you will kick up your heels as we go  Rollin' on the River  to have fun, learn and enjoy the many friends across the state.

You're invited to race to the early morning Fun Walk. Wear your Conference T-shirt and work up a sweat as we venture from the Tuesday luncheon and share shops to Awards Night.

You're invited to volley your ideas at the Wednesday business meeting, meet state board, score information at Share Shops and cheer at the Elsie Mies Banquet.

You're invited to dribble into the Thursday Share Shops and score with a tour down the river on the *Spirit of East Peoria*. Let's celebrate St. Patrick's Day!

Look for the pullout section of this newsletter to give you all the fun information.

We are looking forward to seeing you Tuesday, March 15th through Thursday, March 17th at the 92nd Annual IAHCE Conference.

Mary Eustace, Conference Chair
Janel Kassing, Conference Co-Chair



*There are big ships
and there are small ships,
but the best ships are friendships.*

EXECUTIVE BOARD



1st VICE PRESIDENT Norma Korte

After reviewing last year's newsletter, I realized we were still in the midst of harvest at this same time last year. We are thankful to have finished early this year due to dry weather during harvest.

Although we were blessed to complete harvest early, we are hoping for some rain now to help the wheat and cover crops.

After our October Board Meeting in East Peoria, my enthusiasm for the 2016 conferences increased even more! Not only were plans made for the State IAHC Conference on March 15-17, 2016, but we also discussed plans for the July NOVN Conference, hosted by Illinois in 2016. If you have a chance to attend the NOVN Conference this year – go! The conference rotates each year, and will not be held in Illinois again for several years.

This year's theme for the State IAHC Conference is, "Rollin' on the River with IAHC". Plan to bring your favorite walking shoes for the tour of countries event during the conference! Trade Show Vendors have started to sign up and Share Shop presenters have been scheduled. Be sure to read your December State Newsletter for all the details or visit the IAHC webpage (www.iahce.org) for details.

Have you started to work on the applications for the Family of Year, Education, Membership, and CVH awards? They must be postmarked on or before **January 31, 2016**. One of your share shops for Conference will provide "best practices" for successfully completing these applications.

The Education Committee continues to plan ways to improve the awards night. To accomplish this task, we need your help! If you have sent in applications, please look for the **colored, numbered cards in your registration packets** when you get to conference. You will be invited to line up by the number on your card behind the Education Director, which has a flower of the color of your numbered card. Group pictures will be taken after all awards are presented for that specific Education Area in the designated area. Grand Awards and the County of the Year will be announced near the end of the awards ceremony.

The new Linc system, which can be used to obtain your "Lessons for Living", is available in many of the

Extension Offices. I would encourage you to sign up for one of the sessions. Be sure to give the FCS Educator helpful comments so the lesson presentations might be improved.

The 1st Vice President share shop will give us a chance to share ideas and choose lessons for the 2017 year from the FCS list of options. If you have a passion for IAHC, share it! If you enjoy what you are learning and doing in IAHC, show your joy and share that with others.

I look forward to seeing you in March! Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

From the Korte Family of Southern Illinois,

Norma Korte



2nd VICE PRESIDENT Kathryn McNeely



I hope the membership in each county is staying about the same as last year or has even gone up in numbers. We were sorry to lose Peoria and Scott counties and hope those members will transfer their membership to neighboring counties. Keep trying to get new members. ASK. ASK. ASK. We appreciate the current members and those that have been members for many years.

IAHC members only pay \$5.00 of their dues to the state which is a lot lower than most organizations and then you are also a member of NVON (National Volunteer Outreach Network), CWC (Country Women's Council USA) and ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World). To be a **voting** member of ACWW one must pay an individual membership. The IAHC board tries very hard to stay within their budget for the Annual Conference, District Workshops, their office expenses, etc. They spend a lot of time in preparation and attending various meetings throughout the year.

I have appreciated receiving County Newsletters throughout the 3 years of my term as 2nd VP. I have chosen not to run for another term so my term ends at the end of the 2016 Annual Conference. I value the

Continued on next page 

EXECUTIVE BOARD

2nd Vice President, continued

friendships that I have made throughout the state. I am a 50 plus year member and will keep going as long as I can. One can always learn new things or learn how to do old ways in an updated way.

Remember to fill in the form handed out in the packet at the 2nd VP District Workshop and send it to your District Director by **January 5, 2016**.

May you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Kathryn McNeely



SECRETARY Donna Richards

It was great to see you at the District Workshops in August. Treasurer Bev Combs and I will be doing a share shop at the Annual Conference in Peoria in March 2016. Look forward to seeing you then. Conference

Chair Mary Eustace and Co-Chair Janel Kassing have a great conference planned.

Marilyn Schaefer and I will be doing Registration this year. Mail your registration early to me at 803 W. Jourdan St., Apt. B3, Newton, IL 62448. Please remember that some of the share shops are attendance limited. Assignments of limited share shops are based on registrations first received are first served.

I would like to urge you to read the "Secretary's" packet you received at the District Workshops. I believe the sheets contained in the packet will help you with many of your questions.

Any questions, please feel free to send me an email at dsrichards001@hotmail.com

Thanks,

Donna Richards



TREASURER Beverly Combs



I enjoyed traveling over the state for the August District meetings.

I like meeting new members and renewing acquaintances from past meetings. I hope you found the meeting beneficial.

With that in mind, I encourage each member to give due consideration to attending the 2016 Annual Conference in Peoria. The State Board had our October meeting at the Embassy Suites. WOW, what a great place for our Annual Conference! You will love the Convention Center where the meetings/share shops will be held as well as enjoy the guest rooms and the great food.

As the end of this year nears, here are some items especially for county treasurers:

- By now you should have the Pennies for Friendship mailed to me. If not, do so ASAP.

- Your county dues should be postmarked by January 15th, 2016. Don't forget the transmittal sheet that needs to accompany the dues check (payable to IAHCCE). I included this form in each county treasurer packet at the August District meetings. This form can also be found in the guidebook or on our website – www.iahce.org

- Keep in mind that the number of members you turn in to your District Director and the number of members you pay dues on must be the same number. The number of recorded members is of December 31st, 2015.

-Failure to have the dues paid by the deadline will make your county ineligible to count it as a credit on the County of the Year form. The same is true of Pennies for Friendship.

Wishing you a great holiday season with family and friends.

Beverly Combs

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS



CULTURAL ENRICHMENT Peggy Long

It was so nice to see so many of you at the district workshops, hope you had a good time, and learned a couple of things, and had a couple of laughs along the way.

The IAHCE team is working hard on getting the information out to the members, and we hope you are sharing the information with your members.

It is that time again for all those reports and sending in for the Cultural Arts Show. I did not change anything this year, but to let you know there will be changes next year, but we will discuss that in our workshop at Annual Conference. So hope to see you there, so if you have any questions, *you* can ask them.

Also, one of the comments from the district workshops was wish we would share more ideas in the workshops. Well if you want more sharing, do your part and bring something to share, and let the ones that do bring things know how much you appreciate it. Again, if you need me to make copies of a craft, let me know ahead of conference.

If you would still like to do a Make-it Take-it let me know and we will just put out a display at conference so everyone can see what will be taught. So to recap, you can teach a hands-on short class at Make-it Take-it, and bring something to show, with directions, to share in our share shop.

As for the forms, make sure you use the latest forms, the ones I handed out at district workshops, or print them off the website IAHCE.ORG, or let me know and I can send you one. Make sure the **Education Award Reports** are sent to me at Peggy Long 2990 Knox Hwy 3, Altona, IL 61414, and ***postmarked by January 31***, and the **Cultural Arts Show entries *Postmarked by February 16th***. Any postmarked after these dates are not even to be opened.

Remember to have the entries in the SHOW folded like you want them displayed, and have the tags attached when you bring them to me, so we don't put tape on a frame, or a pin in the quilt, and make you mad.

Any questions call me at 309-483-6594, or email me at pnjlong@otelmail.com.

Peggy Long

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ISSUES Sharon Davis



Hi Ladies,

Well we are getting ready to go into the Holidays.

This year has really gone fast. Since in Family & Community Issues we have been studying Flag Etiquette, how about decorating a Christmas tree in red, white and blue?

Your State Board is already working on the March conference that will be held in East Peoria. Mary Eustace and Janel Kassing has been working very hard getting everything you need ready for a GREAT time. The State Board met in East Peoria in October to see how everything was set up and sample the food. It was all GREAT. It's going to be a fun time.

In Family & Community Issues we are still learning flag etiquette along with some history. I hope you have been busy in your communities educating and reminding people how important our flag is. Please be ready when you come to the share shops in East Peoria to share your ideas with the other counties on programs you have done and hopefully we will learn even more things about our GREAT flag .

I want to thank the counties who have sent me their quilt block with their county names on them. In the next few weeks I will be setting the blocks together and will be having it quilted. When it is done I will put a picture of it on Facebook and let you know when the raffle tickets are ready.

Thanks ladies,
Sharon Davis



EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS



INTERNATIONAL DIRECTOR Pat Weitzmann

It's been an exciting year for members involved in International Education. There were Education Award Reports made, Mini-Stipends given, 'Fun Walk'

participation at the IAHE Annual Conference, county newsletters with Country of Study information, International Special Events throughout the year in counties, Women Walk the World events, Pennies for Friendship collected, support for IAHCE's adoption of a project in Sri Lanka, submissions for a Year 2016 donation to a non-profit organization in Illinois, host applications for the International Homemaker Exchange in March 2016.

Two counties in District 5 and one in District 1 submitted a request for a donation to an Illinois non-profit organization. In June 2016, the IAHCE International Committee will select the organization to receive a donation from the 2015 Pennies for Friendship monies retained by IAHCE. The donation request period is closed.

In the International Packet distributed at the August District Meetings, I asked County International Directors to **encourage new membership, increase participation in Women Walk the World, improve affiliate Society (ACWW, CWC, NVON) understanding among all county members.**

A Women Walk the World event gives the HCE/HEA Counties an opportunity for a fun and healthy activity, and maybe get some publicity. The July-September issue of ACWW's The CountryWoman magazine had five articles and pictures about Women Walk the World 2015 in Illinois. (Ask me for a copy of them). The official ACWW day for Women Walk the World is April 29, but a county can modify this to their needs.

The year 2016 International Country of Study is Ecuador in South America. But, there's an important carryover of our year 2015 study of the Baltic States. At the Year 2016 IAHCE Annual Conference in East Peoria **two women from Estonia will be our guests.** They are participating in the inbound portion of our International Homemaker Exchange. Rutt Tuvike (retired biology teacher, current bed & breakfast operator and head of a community focused organization) and Ene Paks (English professor at a vocational college). They are very excited for their first time visit

to Illinois and the USA. After the Conference they will travel around the IAHCE counties and districts about two weeks to speak with our members and maybe some 4-H'ers at gatherings. Thank you to the IAHCE members who volunteered to be hosts. A schedule for the Estonian visitors will be available in January.

We pledged \$3,214 by December 2015 to ACWW for Project #0981 in Sri Lanka. The project provides Cultivation Skills and Education/School Support for Children, Women and Families. \$3,300 has been sent to them so far. Any additional amounts received from counties will be sent ASAP.

It was my privilege in September to deliver the IAHCE Report at the CWC-ACWW Area Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma. IAHCE President Jane Chapman was unable to attend. (See page 47 in this newsletter about the event.)

Please contact me if you want to volunteer to represent a country in the Fun Walk route at the IAHCE Annual Conference in March.

Members, thank you so much for letting me participate in your international education journey this year.

Pat Weitzmann

PROJECT UPDATES

Sri Lanka Project #0981

The mid-project progress report for the IAHCE adopted Sri Lanka Project, Cultivation Skills and Education/School Support, shows success in every goal.

There are 84 home gardens started with 100 soon to come, 65 students with bus fares, uniforms and supplies to attend school, and 59 skill development training classes given.

Thank you, members of IAHCE, for your Pennies for Friendship to support this Project.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Mongolian Greenhouse Project #0973

Through ACWW, it is on track to meet its goals to improve the difficult farming situation for 30 families in Khovd Aimag, Mongolia by constructing two greenhouses in which crops can be grown effectively and to improve the success of the female farmers through a variety of financial and organizational training programs.



IAHCE members have already collected \$500+ in support of the project.

There is an informative slide video about Mongolian culture, traditions and the stages of the Greenhouse Project at www.cwcusa.org.



- Photos:**
- *Training Session on Greenhouses and Learning English
 - *Greenhouse
 - *Planting Process



PUBLIC RELATIONS **Pat Hildebrand**

I want to thank Clarence Middleton, our official IAHCE Photographer, for taking individual picture of the state board members for the newsletterso we are now all updated.



It's always such a delight to see you in person and be able to put a face with names in articles sent for this newsletter or read about in your county newsletters. The Annual Conference in March will give us another chance to see each other and share ideas about how each of us can promote HCE.

I hope you are keeping track of what you do in the county so you will have all the information you need handy to fill out the application for the Education Award - Public Relations. The guidelines and form are on the IAHCE website — iahce.org. Don't be afraid to toot your own horn. Applications should be sent to me and must be postmarked by January 31.

One of the goals for Public Relations is to have a list of websites, Facebook addresses and Illinois newspapers by counties. I did receive some of that information but we'll talk more about that at our share shop at Annual Conference in March. See you there!

Pat Hildebrand



CVH/SALES **Joan Stanley**



Hello to each and all!

Thanks for all the volunteering you do. You do make a positive difference in the lives of many people.

Please turn in your volunteer hours sheet as soon as possible to your county CVH Director. December is a GREAT time to do this! You may estimate the last weeks and get it in to your county director so that your county director can complete her report to the state director (me). It must be in to me by January 31. NO exceptions if your county wants to be in the County of the Year competition.

Please note on your form if the hours were for HCE, or other volunteer work. You may then wish to add the 2 columns together for a total hours submitted as HCE hours + other hours = total hours.

Newly revised forms will be available early in January 2016 for use in year 2016 reporting.

- Forms for individual and county reporting are available on iahce.org, guidebook, pages 75-76.
- Help tips available on page 75a.
- For Logo Sales Items you may wish to purchase, look on pages 67 - 68.
- ??'s call me at 217-344-3339 or e-mail joanstan1@live.com

Joan Stanley

EXTENSION REPORT



U OF I EXTENSION LIAISON Caitlin Huth

Hello IAHCE!

This bit of text comes right off the heels of meeting with your IAHCE board. (And getting to preview the

awesome location of your March conference.)

The Family and Consumer Sciences team is fortunate to have added several educators around the state. Please welcome them if they are in your counties:

- Karla Belzer, Family Life, Carroll/Lee/Whiteside Unit
- Susan Sloop, Family Life, Franklin/Jackson/Perry/Randolph/Williamson Unit
- Susan Glassman, Nutrition and Wellness, Bureau/LaSalle/Marshall/Putnam Unit

Now is the time to register for educator-taught and package lessons for the 2016 year in your local counties. Speak with your county Extension offices to learn more. To switch things up, some lessons are offered in the evenings.

Which also means it is time to start thinking of topics for 2017, which will be voted on at Annual Conference. Send program ideas in one of three categories (Consumer Economics, Family Life, and Nutrition and Wellness) to Norma Korte or your 1st Vice Presidents. At the conference, the 1st Vices and I will narrow the selection down.

Stay warm this winter and see you when the ice thaws in March.

Caitlin Huth

Nutrition & Wellness Educator



NOTE FROM MINDY

Mindy L. Peterson-Lindsey

(from the Macon County HCE HIGHLIGHTS newsletter)

Members of HCE -

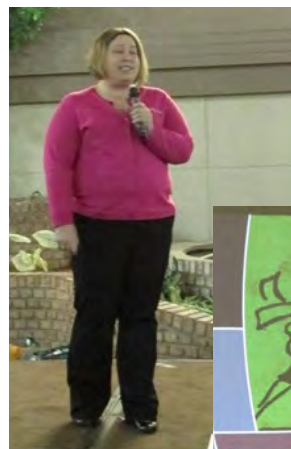
It is with much excitement and with a bit of sadness that I wanted to tell you that I have offered my resignation with University of Illinois Extension effective September 30, 2015.

While this decision has been difficult to make, I feel it is in my best interest to move forward with this new job offer and am excited about the opportunities ahead. I have accepted a position with the Hopedale Medical Complex in Hopedale, IL as their new Volunteer Coordinator. In this position, I will have the opportunity to expand their current volunteer program and create new avenues for volunteerism at their facility. This new position affords me the ability to drive only 10 miles to work each day and gives me the opportunity to see my husband, Sam, every day since we have been working different shifts.

In thinking long and hard about taking this position, my thoughts came back to you, HCE, and the wonderful works of volunteerism that you not only do for your community, but especially for University of Illinois Extension. Your tireless efforts provide a strong foundation of volunteerism that I am and will continue to be so very proud of. Because of this organization and the wonderful people that are a part of it, you have helped to mold me into the person that I am today and impacted my life in so many more ways than I have impacted yours. Thank you for your constant support during these last 8 years, and giving me the opportunity to grow into a better person. You and your organization helped to open the door for this job opportunity and I thank you each for that.

So, instead of saying good-bye, I will instead say see you later. I know that our paths will cross again. Feel free to contact me anytime and know that you have become my extended family and the main reason why this job is so hard to leave. Diane Dowd, Diana Leischner and Diana Tibbs will continue to be excellent resources of help to you in your respective counties! In the future, you can always contact me at: minpeterson@aol.com

Mindy L. Peterson-Lindsey



*IAHCE 2014
Annual Conference
Speaker*



"Been Cookin' 90 Years!"
ASSOCIATION FOR HOME & COMMUNITY EDUCATION

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The IAHCE Nominating Committee interviewed potential candidates for the IAHCE Board on October 18th. The following names will be placed on the ballot for election at the 2016 IAHCE Annual Conference Business Meeting on March 16, 2016.

2nd VICE PRESIDENT



Angela S. Hicks of Lake County has applied for 2nd Vice President. Angela has been a member of HCE for 24 years and served at the county level as President, Public Relations & Hospitality, 1st Vice President and Treasurer. At the state level she has served the last 3 years as the District 2/3 Director. Angela describes herself as organized, deadline sensitive, computer proficient, and internet savvy. She loves to learn new skills such as sewing, crocheting, and bead making. Angela has a Bachelor of Science degree in Management and Business Administration, and is a retired private school administrator. She is married to Steve, has 4 grown children, 8 grandchildren, and has volunteered many hours through school and HCE activities. She says her desire is to, “capitalize on networking to energize current HCE membership, but offer enthusiasm and solid ways to increase our membership.”

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT



Peggy Long of Knox County has applied for Cultural Enrichment Director. Peggy has been a member of HCE for 18 years and served at the county level as President and 1st Vice President. At the state level she has served as the Cultural Enrichment Director for the past 4 years. Peggy says she has a “fair knowledge of several different crafts and is a fast learner”. She owned a craft store in Rock Island County, taught classes, and completed special orders for four different craft stores. Peggy has been married 45 years, has 3 children, 7 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. She looks forward to working with HCE members to promote their many skills in Cultural Enrichment.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ISSUES



Sharon Davis of Effingham County has applied for Family & Community Issues Director. Sharon has been a member of HCE for 7 years and served at the county level as 1st Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. She has served at the state level as Family Issues Director the last 2 years and finishing up 1 year as Community Outreach Director. She says she would like to introduce issues that affect the community and family structure to the forefront. She also feels that she can work with each county and, as a team, develop creative ideas to educate the whole state and possibly spread these ideas nationwide. Sharon says she is knowledgeable about email, internet, and Facebook; she also says she has the ability to speak in public and enjoys making different crafts. She and her husband have 2 sons and 5 grandchildren. She has taught lay speaking classes for the United Methodist Church, and is also active in the church Quilt Guild and Book Club.



Marilyn DeVries of Stephenson County has applied for Family & Community Issues Director. Marilyn has been a member of HCE for 43 years and served at the county level as Secretary, Family Issues, and Dining Hall Leader. At the state level she served as District 1 Director 3 years. Marilyn feels some of her greatest strengths are the ability to organize and speak in public. She has several ideas to help encourage members and increase membership. In previous years, she has worked and organized the Silent Auction at the state level while on the state board. She said she, “likes to work with fancy work (plastic canvas) and works well with HCE members”. Marilyn lost her husband 19 years ago; she has 4 sons that work with her on the farm raising sheep, corn and soybeans.



Rita Overacker of Kankakee County has applied for Family & Community Issues Director. Rita has been a member of HCE for 28 years and served at the county level as 2nd Vice President, International, Public Relations and CVH Director. Rita enjoys sewing, crafts of all kinds, floral design, gardening, party planning and traveling. Rita and her husband have 4 boys, 14 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. She has actively helped with Cub Scouts and served as a 4-H Leader. She has also worked as a beautician and florist for several years. Rita planned and organized the 100th Anniversary for Kankakee County this past year. She has attended the IAHCE Conference and workshops for 10 years. Rita has served as a Lay Pastor, in addition to being a member of the Community Art Council, Book Club, and Historical Society.

In addition to the nominees described, nominations will also be taken from the floor for any of these positions. The person who is being nominated from the floor must submit an application to the Nominating Committee at least 24 hours before the business meeting to run for an IAHCE Board position.

Respectfully submitted,
2015-16 IAHCE Nominating Committee
Norma Korte, Chair
Angela Hicks, Pat Hildebrand, Kathleen Emery, Sharon Davis

DISTRICT NEWS



**DISTRICT 1
DIRECTOR
Cara Ausmus**

Greetings to all from District 1 and wishes for a Blessed Harvest and Holiday Season!

We recently finished our fall board meeting and I'm getting more and more EXCITED

about our Peoria conference! Planning on my district to be very well represented as it's the closest conference ever for me. As everyone receives updates from fall board and end of year from our president, let us all BE DILIGENT in reading, passing on, meeting deadlines and registering early for conference to get desired share shops. There is a ton of effort in preparing and we don't want anyone to miss out on the excitement and opportunities available in HCE.

How is *Guest Who* working for your units? My unit is on schedule with 1-2 guests each month and I hope lots of you will consider a membership for a gift this season. A mentor membership for a new bride, mom or neighbor. For those busy folks a mailbox membership hand delivered is also a diet treat as we do showcase and sample some real good food at our meetings! Ask me about Oreo brownies. And now that it's cooler - - corn chowder and all kinds of chili and soups.

See you in March!

Cara Ausmus



JO DAVIESS.....

Jo Daviess County HCE began 2015 with 4 members attending the Annual IAHCE Conference, "Come Together-Walk with IAHCE", March 17-19, 2015, in Decatur.

The 18th Annual Quad County Heritage Arts, A Make-it-Take-it Workshop was held April 11 in Dixon, hosted by Lee County. This event will be held in Jo Daviess County, April 2, 2016. The 'Four County' HCE Boards, Carroll, Jo Daviess, Lee, Stephenson, meet twice a year, to discuss how we can work together with programs, etc.

Our 80th Annual HCE Meeting was held April 23, 2015, at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Elizabeth. The

business meeting was in the morning; Salad Luncheon at Noon, followed by "Slides on Germany" by Rev. Willis Schwichtenberg, Freeport. Cara Ausmus, the new District I Director, installed our officers and brought information from the State IAHCE Board.

*Special Outing – June 17 was to Sinsinawa Mound Center, Wisconsin, for lunch and "Motivational Speaker with Humor", Robert Bell. They have a bakery, gift shop, and special gardens for their tour. Twenty five members & guests participated.

*Our 47 Homemade Book Bags with a Book, went to River Ridge (Hanover/Elizabeth) Pre-school. They use them for a promotional gift at end of school year.

*Donations to nursing homes – 89 or more Clothing Protectors, 2 Fidget Blankets, magazines, puzzles, 58 personal items, lap robes.

*ACWW-CWW Project in Common, Mongolia Green House Development Sent \$50.00. Forty-five pounds of pop-can tabs were given to Ronald McDonald Hours. Two \$250 scholarships were awarded to two High School seniors attending college 2015-2016. A \$50 scholarship was given the 4-H'er attending National 4-H Congress.

*HCE donates homemade pies to the 4-H Food Stand for their 4-H Fair and at the Elizabeth Community Fair (6 days). HCE members are Project Superintendents at the 4-H Fair. We had HCE booths at Stockton Lions Club, July 4, "Vendors at the City Park" and September 26 "Warren Pumpkin Festival."

Ten HCE members attended the August 13, 2015, District I/2/3 IAHCE Workshop in Oglesby. Some Lessons for Living we enjoyed having/giving were: "Mindfulness & Soul Care", "ABC's of CMO's", "Holiday Jars", "Landscaping", "Effects of Caffeine", "Saving Money on a Limited Budget", "Sugar Substitutes", "Holiday Foods", "How to Lock your Car and Why". Other events: River Ridge School PTO County Fair, October 10-11, 2015 – sold Italian Beef and Barbeque Sandwiches; pies & cakes by the slice (80 pies & 6 cakes) at the Food Court.

Our Annual "Friendship Day" was October 28, at Holy Cross Parish Center, Stockton. Theme was, "Jo Daviess County's Got Talent" which included the "4-H Talent Update" Cultural Enrichment items were selected for "Best of Show" for the 2016 IAHCE Annual Conference.

We are now preparing for 2016, beginning with "ROLLIN' on the RIVER" at Embassy Suites, East Peoria IAHCE Annual Conference, March 15-17, 2016.

DISTRICT NEWS

Also, hope some of us can attend the “National Volunteer Outreach Network” (NVON) Conference, July 18-21, 2016 at Marriot Hotel Conference Center, Normal, Illinois.

WE are still Together-Walking with IAHCE.

Marcella Arnold
Public Relations, Jo Daviess County

KNOX.....

We have been working on community projects this autumn. We made shower caddies to be given to the Rescue Mission and the Veteran's Center for homeless individuals. We've been working on Linus Blankets to be given to the Safe Harbor (abused women's and children's center), Red Cross and other places. This has kept our units busy lately.

In November, we make individual pies to be sold as a fundraiser for Knox County HCE. This usually goes over well for our members. We take up collections for mittens, hats, and scarves that we give to different schools that can be given to students who do not have them or lost theirs to keep them warm this winter.

Also, we take up a collection for the local food pantry for the holiday season.

We hope everyone has a safe, warm and healthy Christmas season and blessed 2016.

Sue Ryder
Public Relations, Knox County

STEPHENSON.....

On July 5, HCE members met at our dining hall and made 48 pies to sell before the fireworks display at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. You could buy pie by the slice (or even a whole pie) and ice cream too.

During the Stephenson County Fair (July 15 - 19) SCAHCE served meals, sandwiches and homemade pie at the dining hall. Unfortunately, this was the last year for this long running HCE fair tradition. On May 13, during our annual meeting, our members voted to close the dining hall after this year. The actual building was constructed in 1961. Prior to its construction, members served out of a tent. The building and all the contents are owned by our organization, so there has been much discussion and decision making taking place.



Dining hall sign at the Stephenson County Fair. This is the last year of operation.

Stephenson County HCE Board President, Becky Thomas, serves a customer in the dining hall



In August, ten members attended the District Meeting in Oglesby. Also, several HCE members met at A.J.'s Lena Maid Meats to operate the brat/lunch stand. A.J.'s offers nonprofits the opportunity to run the stand and keep the profits for their organization. We grilled pork chops, brats, steaks, hamburgers and hot dogs.

On September 25, Cultural Arts Director, Lynn Lott, set up a day trip to historic Galena, Illinois. HCE members and guests carpooled to Galena. Lynn had arranged for a narrated trolley ride through the town and a delicious lunch at the Desoto Hotel. Built in 1855, the Desoto once served as Ulysses S. Grant's Presidential Campaign Headquarters and it played host to Civil War Generals and U. S. Presidents (including Abraham Lincoln). The afternoon was free time for shopping or visiting the many homes (Grant's home is in Galena) open for tours. Galena--full of history--and their surrounding hilly countryside is beautiful!



SCAJCE day trip to Galena, IL HCE members and guests. Lynn Lott Cultural, Enrichment Director, pictured on right.

Continued on next page ➡

DISTRICT NEWS

Stephenson County, continued

On September 26 and 27, HCE was contacted once again this year to provide lunch for the judges at the Rockford-Freeport Illinois Kennel Club Dog Show at the Stephenson County Fairgrounds. Several members worked in the dining hall and provided several sandwich choices, plus a salad bar. Many different breeds were being judged in several show rings at the same time--all competing for "top dog" in their respective class.

Our International Meeting on the Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania) was held on Columbus Day, October 12, at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, Freeport, Indiana. Kristina Petty, who grew up in Lithuania, but has been a resident of the U.S. for the past fourteen years, gave a great presentation.



Kristina Petty

Following the program, everyone had the opportunity to dine on kugelis (potato casserole), piragi (sauerkraut) ausytes su grybais (little mushroom ears), paska (molded cheese dessert), sausainiai (cookie slices) and several other native dishes prepared by HCE members.

During the International Meeting, I announced that Aimee Shere, a graduate of Freeport High School, was this year's recipient of the SCAHCE \$300 Scholarship. She is pursuing a degree in Special Education and Math at Illinois State in Normal.

This fall, after a summer break, Community Outreach Director, Nancy Albrecht, again coordinated two fidget quilt work days--one each in September and October. HCE is still making the quilts for Hospice as needed, but has also given the quilts to several nursing homes in the county for their dementia patients. Nancy is looking into using them for special needs and autistic children. The feedback on the fidget quilts has been great, as they help these patients occupy their hands and minds.

Well, that about sums up what's been happening with HCE in Stephenson County! Hope you all had a great fall and enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

Janice Fryer
Public Relations, Stephenson County

WARREN.....

We have had a busy fall but that is normal for our county.

We collect clothing and sundries for the homeless veterans and the results surprised even us. Besides cash, we collected winter clothing, jackets, towels, personal hygiene items...six big loads just in October. Barbara Patterson headed up the drive and did a magnificent job!



Barbara Patterson with just part of the gather!

Nancy Housh was the chair of our annual meeting which followed the theme of "Come Walk with IAHCE". The food was delicious and with the help of Diane Carlson and Gretchen Allert, the tables were colorful and elegant.

Several units manned tables of homemade crafts and goodies to help raise money for their unit treasuries. Florals, duster mitts, quick breads, cookies, and more made for fun shopping!



Cara Ausmus, District 1 Director, conducted the initiation of new officers. .

We were glad to have a new HCE member, Dotty Ferrenburg, join us as her first event!

Thank you, Cara, for a clever installation.

ISTRIC NEWS

Gretchen Allert organized our annual Achievement Industries (AI) party. AI clients, mentally and physically challenged adults, were treated to supper and dancing led by DJ Diane “Skip” Federow. Treat bags of all kinds of goodies were handed out and they “rocked the house”.



14 HCE members prepared and served over 780 AI clients. The smiles proved the work was worth it!

An all county lesson was held this fall featuring Amy Griswold, who talked about frauds and scams and how to avoid them. What was even more impressive was the informational booklet that she handed out that told how to report fraud and to whom. We had representatives from our units attend and visitors from the community. Conversation was heated and productiveand carried out into the community by those who attended. It is really exciting to see the information ripple outward. Isn't that what we are trying to do?

Our Warren County Board members are collecting recipes and memories for our 2nd annual Christmas Cheer booklet. We enjoyed sharing so much last year that it was a requested repeat. This is an opportunity for many of our older and younger members to share some cherished holiday recipes and traditions.

We ask for prayers for our County 1st Vice, Dola Boals, as she faces chemo therapy for stomach cancer.

We stand together as we Walk With IAHCE!

Barb Pearson
Public Relations, Warren County



Sign outside a secondhand shop:
We exchange anything—bicycles, washing machines, etc. Why not bring your wife along and get a wonderful bargain?



DISTRICT 2/3 DIRECTOR Angela Hicks

Wow, what fun it was to travel all around the state to visit with the other district IAHCE members!

It is our hope that the “Little Bits of Knowledge” presentation will spark a membership idea for your county. The purpose of the presentation was to show the counties how to take your “bits of knowledge” and turn it into a membership drive—whether it is for 4H members and their moms/dads, young folks just starting out on their own, or just plain having fun learning with any age! Good luck and let us know if you used this idea and most importantly gained new members!

The IAHCE Board would like to encourage not only officers but also your unit members to attend the annual conference! There is something for everyone — Make It and Take It’s, Auction, Cultural Enrichment displays, a variety of Share Shops, tasty meals, friendships to cultivate, and recognition for a job well done! There is even an opportunity to “roll down the river” on the Spirit of Peoria!

During the August District 2/3 Workshop you elected a new District 2/3 Director, **Kathy Peterson, of Grundy County**. She will be installed at the March Conference on Wednesday night! Meet her at the District 2/3 Share Shop on Thursday morning!



Kathy Peterson, left, and Angela Hicks

District 2/3, don't forget we are putting together 2 baskets for the NVON conference which will be held in Illinois of July of next year! Be sure to bring your contribution to the District 2/3 Share Shop in March. By the way, you can attend this conference too! Meet members from other states and learn about what they do for programming and membership. Check the NVON web page www.nvon.org for more information.

See you at the IAHCE 92nd Annual Conference March 15-17, 2016 in East Peoria, Illinois!

Angela Hicks

DISTRICT NEWS

DU PAGE.....

July was DuPage County Fair time. We had a booth displaying our organizations information and lessons to be had. Members also participated in 4-H, open class judging and in other areas as needed, during the Fair Board and some Unit members attended the District 2/3 Workshop in August. They were impressed with the information presented.

Later that month, in the DuPage Fair grounds Home Economics building, we had our DuPage County HCE Potluck and Update. After enjoying a delicious Potluck, Units received their packets with the latest information from State, yearly program books and helpful Unit forms. A silent auction was also held to raise money for next years scholarship.

A display of antique children shoes and their history were enjoyed by all.

After a short business meeting, the board entertained members with a short various of "These boots were made for walking" (Cowboy boots, hats, and all.) We finished the afternoon with bingo and door prizes.

A Community Service activity was held at the Extension Office. One hundred and eighty cards for the Hines Hospital Veterans were made and sent.

During HCE Week, a display was at the local libraries. Information, pictures, and craft, Community Service projects and quilting items were shown. DuPage HCE pamphlets and newsletters were there to be had.

Our Quilting and Lunch bunch group continue to meet monthly. Others donate their time to church and community groups.



DuPage HCE member Jeane with her 4-H cupcake decorating class at the Extension Office.

Mary Lambert
President, Du Page County

KANE.....

Summer is over, leaves are starting to fall, and members of HCE are busy as usual. All the units had their usual picnics, summer auctions and pot lucks.

October was special as we celebrated HCE Week Oct.12 to 18. First and foremost, we received two proclamations citing Oct.12-18 as HCE week -- one from the city of Elgin and the other from the Kane County Governmental Council. Member Joan Ziethen attended both council meetings and accepted these honors.

We then sponsored a "Meet & Greet" social at our Extension building on Wednesday, Oct. 14th. The state theme, "Walk With IAHCE", was used throughout. Footprints encircled the floor in a path extending in front of each units display.

"Meet & Greet"



The displays promoted the activities of each of our units with samples and handouts of their handiworks. Current members were available to explain HCE along with refreshments and the performance of Thai Chi dancers. It was a new idea and one we plan to continue.

We are looking forward to our International Luncheon November 11. We have the good fortune of having catering from an authentic Lithuanian restaurant and a program presented by a native Lithuanian.

DISTRICT NEWS

We continue all our charitable causes and look forward to the busy holiday times ahead. We are doing the same as all our fellow counties - - seeking new members so as to continue this really excellent organization.

Elaine Bond
President, Kane County

KANKAKEE.....

Our ladies have been busy selling raffle tickets for the quilt they made. Tickets were sold at the Gladiolas Fest in Momence, St. Anne Pumpkin Fest in St. Anne, Two Rivers Festival in Aroma Park, St. Theresa Festival in Kankakee, and a Fall Art Show.

The ladies have been sewing weekly on clothing protectors (bibs) for the nursing homes; 30 went to Heritage as they requested; 60 cancer caps were donated to Riverside Hospital. Two autism blankets are being made for two young boys. We had a guest speaker, Judy Kilbride, University of Illinois Extension, and that will be our HCE lesson for November.

A tea and White Elephant exchange was held in October. Thirty-nine ladies were present. Ladies brought tea cup and saucers and tea pots. Refreshments were enjoyed.

We are preparing for our International Luncheon in November on the Baltic States. Our quilt raffle drawing is that day.

We have one new member to Limestone am Unit, with maybe two more at our November 4th meeting—One new and one former.



L to R: Lorraine McNulty's daughter, Lorraine McNulty, Joanne Dressler, and Theresa Johnson

Picture above is from the 100th Year Banquet, April 11. Last 3 are sisters and in our Limestone am Unit.

Linda Byrnes
Public Relations, Kankakee County

KENDALL.....

Kendall County had their 17th Annual Victorian Tea, "Victorian Ladies Secret," on Sunday, October 18. The program was given by Barbara Rimmer from Naper Settlement. Betty Williams from North Aurora, who has attended many Teas, was her model, as she "dressed" her from the "skin" up. HCE members from Grundy and LaSalle Counties attended, as they have for many years. We appreciate their support. Next year the program will be a Past and Present 4-H Style Show.



Betty Williams and Barbara Rimmer

Kendall had their International Day on Saturday, November 7, which is always popular with foods to sample from the countries made by the HCE Board.

Joan McEarchen
President, Kendall County

LAKE.....

Hello Everyone & Greetings from Lake County!

Summer has come and gone, State and County Fairs are done for another year, children are back at school, autumn is here, and the leaves are turning orange, red and yellow. Now it's time again for me to give an update of what is going on in Lake County. Starting off with Fall Advisory!

On August 20, 2015, LCAHCE held its Annual Fall Advisory Meeting at the University of Illinois Extension Office. Thirty-one members from different units were in attendance. The meeting was called to order by President Angela Hicks. To start the meeting, the Board presented a skit called "The Tator Family." Everyone enjoyed the skit.

After that Angela Hicks welcomed everyone to Fall Advisory. She introduced the Board Members and each one gave a brief presentation in each of the offices they are responsible for.

When that was finished, Angela Hicks asked: "You might be wondering why we asked you to bring your

Continued on the next page

DISTRICT NEWS

Lake County, continued

first or your favorite pair of shoes. Our state theme is “Walk with IAHCE.” Each of us has much to offer in this walk through life and we thought you might want to share your story. I will begin – this is my first pair of working shoes and my last pair of working shoes. As you can see I started out with high heeled shoes and “changed and updated” to shoes that suited the job at hand. Does anyone else have a story?”

Margaret Hilliard showed her shoes that she has worn for 22 years working at PADS. Lauri Hargrove had her gym shoes. She was a gym teacher for 35 years. Now she wears sandals.



Sandy Henke had heels from her first job after high school. She also had the blue booties from her mother that Sandy and her sister wore at their christening. They were now handed down to the 1st grandchild.

←
Sandra Henke

Angela then thanked everyone for attending the Fall Advisory Meeting. She and the Board Members hoped everyone had a most enjoyable day and will have a productive year.

LCAHCE started off the Fall Season with the first lesson being Margaret Hilliard’s famous program, “Cooking with Margaret: Main Meal Salads”, on September 8th at the University of Illinois Extension Auditorium. Forty-two ladies attended the program. Margaret along with Rose Ann Rendl, prepared many recipes that included chicken, fruit, vegetables, lettuce, salad dressings, herbs and spices. As usual the food was delicious. Everyone enjoyed it.



Menu served

The Ways & Means Committee had its Annual Butter Braid Coffee Cake Fund Raiser. They made a profit of \$1289.60. The number one salesperson was Bernie Schembari, a Mailbox member. Bernie sold 23. Great job!

Margaret Hilliard extended a big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the fundraiser in the November Close-Ups Newsletter.

Cultural Enrichment Day was held on October 15th, at the University of Illinois Extension Auditorium. This 2015 theme was:

Placemat



“The Colors of Fall”, which was incorporate into the table decorations and color art placemat coloring pages.

The luncheon provided was excellent and delicious chicken wraps, tossed salad, Jell-O salad, vegetable and creamy potato soups, and mini-cupcakes.

CONGRATULATIONS went to Angela Hicks, President for Lake County, who won “Best of Show” and to all the other members that entered and shared their handmade creations. They were FANTASTIC!!

The guest presenter was Joyce Miller Konstanowski, owner of “Bloom & Rooms” specializing in Home Accents, gifts and workshops located in McHenry, IL.



Betty Wertke and Joyce Miller Koustanowski

Betty Wertke was Joyce’s 4-H leader while she was in school. She said the floral skills she learned in 4-H were what inspired her to open her own business and the passion to teach others through her workshops. Joyce created several beautiful seasonal centerpieces with fall leaves, berries and silk flowers for door prizes.

DISTRICT NEWS

Thank you to Lauri Hargrove, Cultural Enrichment Chair and to the Cultural Enrichment Committee, Angela Hicks, Linda Heller, Karen Nuccio, Therese Fenney, Pat Weitzmann and Beverly Poczka for all the hard work they did to make this year's Cultural Enrichment Day a success!

One thing that was mentioned during Cultural Enrichment Day was the oldest member of LCAHCE and the youngest member of LCAHCE—Margaret Sneesby and Noel Henke. Both have Birthdays in late December. Margaret will be 100 years and Noel will be 33 years old. They both share an interest in needlework.



Margaret Sneesby and Noel Henke

On October 29th, a HCE Lesson was given at the U of I Extension Auditorium. Kim Isaacson, Program Coordinator, Horticulture, gave a presentation called "Holiday Plant Care." She taught how to care for certain Flowering Holiday Plants during flowering and re-blooming. Handouts were given out with different names of plants: Amaryllis, Cyclamen, Holiday Cactus, Kalanchoe, Poinsettia, and Paperwhites. Kim also taught the ladies what to look for when selecting a fresh tree. This was a very informative and good program. However, only six members were in attendance.

That's all the updates I have for now. Programs going on in November and December....November 10th, Pine Cone Creations; November 19th, International Day (The Baltic States), December 12th, Holiday Cookie Sale plus much more. I will give those updates in the next newsletter.

Now that Halloween has come and gone the Holidays are quickly approaching and the Winter Season is just around the corner. I want to wish everyone a "Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy Year!" and all the other Holidays that transpire from now until the first of the year. Stay warm and be safe!!! Bye for now!

Dianne Glozier
Public Relations, Lake County

WILL.....

The past few months have been busy ones for the Will County HCE, but also rewarding and fun for those members who remain active in our organization.

Our recent International, Cultural Enrichment and Membership Day brought our members together for a day that was not only memorable but also informative and enjoyable.

Our featured speaker, Sarah Stasukewicz, White Oak Library Specialist, gave a presentation on "Preserving Your Family's Heirlooms." She shared her expertise regarding museum preservation techniques used to preserve our treasures.



Sarah Stasukewicz (left), White Oak Library Specialist, shows Jeanette Johnson, Will County HCE Board President, some of the heirlooms she has preserved.

In addition, Nancy Kuhajda, Will County Master Gardener Coordinator, gave us a lot of useful information on "Preparing Your Garden for Winter" and "Transferring Plants Indoors."

Cultural Enrichment Exhibits were viewed and voted upon. Winning exhibits were those of Regena Harris (Mailbox Member) charcoal drawing of horses; Annette Gill (Manhattanettes Unit) cross stitched picture; Karen Murino (Manhattanettes Unit) water color; and Gail Shaw (Jo-Ho's Unit), quilted table runner.

All are welcome to attend our March lesson, "Super Foods to the Rescue" presented by Drusilla Banks, MS, Nutrition and Wellness Educator. The lesson will be held 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Will County Farm Bureau Building, 100 Manhattan Road, Joliet. Please call Mariana, Extension Secretary, at 815-723-9296 to register.

Future plans for 2016 include establishing Will County's HCE web site as well as our Face book page.

Marianne Eisenbrandt
Public Information, Will County

DISTRICT NEWS

WINNEBAGO.....

I was a guest of my friend Mary Pryor, Winnebago County HCE member, at the county's Cultural Arts Program and Luncheon in Rockford at the Wesley Willows Town on October 17. Judy Watts and Caroline Reed organized an event that was educational and fun.

The theme for the day was 'Rockford Sock Monkey'. Attendees voted for their favorite member made articles in categories like quilting, knitting, artwork, photography, nature crafts, etc. Dozens of Rockford Sock Monkeys were displayed and their owners/creators briefly talked about them. Sue Saunders from the Midway Village Museum in Rockford did a historical presentation on the knitting industry in Rockford and its most famous product the red heeled Rockford Sock.

The Nelson Knitting Company, no longer operating, developed the Rockford Sock from which crafters began making monkey dolls. Barbara Gerry, the great granddaughter of John Nelson founder of Nelson Knitting, attended the Cultural Arts Program also. Sock Monkeys are popular worldwide. This was really underscored when Ramona Cornea, chair of the Sister City Committee for the Romanian city Cluj-Napoca, spoke about the Park in Cluj-Napoca that has a life sized Rockford Sock Monkey statue. Rockford is one of the seven sister cities of Cluj-Napoca that has artwork representative of their city in the Park.

Thank you Winnebago County HCE for a great day!

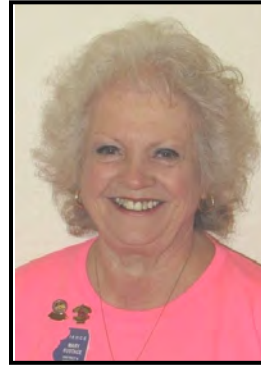
By Pat Weitzmann, Lake County HCE member

'Rockford Sock Monkey' theme →
Barbara Gerry (seated) Great-granddaughter of John Nelson founder Nelson Knitting; Sue Saunders (Right) speaker, Midway Village Museum-Rockford, L; Judy Watts (Left) WCAHCE, CE Chair.



←
'Ramona M. Cornea, PHD (Professional Geologist), from Sister City in Romania', one of two speakers at WCAHCE CE Day .

DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR Mary Eustace



Life is good! There are so many wonderful things going on in life. I feel blessed in my daily walk on this journey with wonderful family and friends.

HCE has introduced me to so many awesome people that I now call friends. Again I say, life is good!

I am encouraged by the great evaluations I received from our District Workshops held this past August. The fun and enthusiasm working together with our HCE friends is contagious.

My excitement is bubbling over with all things planned for the March 2016 IAHCE Conference. It will be held at the Embassy Suites in E. Peoria, IL. I sure hope you will take the time to attend this year. Our annual conference offers so many opportunities to see old friends and to meet new ones. We all share things we do in our own counties to promote HCE with each other. The Share Shops promote interesting and educational sessions to add spice to our life. We are never too old to learn new things. Our Awards Night is to bring recognition and show appreciation for all the hard work produced by each county.

Please bring your crafts and beautiful cultural arts projects to be admired by conference attendees as well as judged by your techniques. I am very excited to see the quilt pieces submitted for the "Patriotic Quilt" being made by Sharon Davis, Family Issues. I know each piece has the county name on it and I am looking for all of my District 4 counties to participate.

Remember, there are tall ships and there are small ships but the BEST are friendships. You could never have too many friends!

Come "Rollin' on the River" this next March and share all the laughter & fun with your HCE friends.

Mary Eustace



DISTRICT NEWS

ADAMS.....

Hello ... after a rather quick spring/summer we are already into fall and the holidays will soon be here. Our units resumed meetings, lessons, projects, and are busy preparing for the Kiddie Bazaar in December.

Our members are being highly encouraged to track and submit their volunteer hours early broken down as HCE hours and other community hours. It is amazing how quickly those hours accumulate. I personally want to see Adams County take the prize this year.

What has our county been doing? Our staff activities started off with seven officers attending the IAHCE District 4 Workshop at the Decatur Club in Decatur, Illinois on August 12th. On August 27th, we hosted the HCE President's Dinner in the Farm Bureau Basement. During the dinner information packages were distributed and each of the board members had an opportunity to speak. The #1 comment was kudos for the August 2015 - July 2016 Program Booklet.

On August 29th our Paloma Unit hosted a bake sale during the 58th Annual Paloma Fiesta. The Fiesta was a fundraiser for the Paloma Community Club. Proceeds were designated for building and park improvements.

There were seven ladies from our GEM Unit that gathered for a tour of the Lincoln-era Log Cabin Village on Quinsippi Island in Quincy, Illinois. John Gebhardt, Friends of the Log Cabins President, gave a tour of the cabins. The ladies heard about the history of the cabins and how they are being restored.



GEM Unit members in front of the 1835's D. D. Hull Cabin., (13 children were raised in that cabin).

October 12th started off HCE Week in Quincy, Illinois. It was marked by a proclamation presentation given by Mayor Kyle Moore during the weekly City Council Meeting conducted on 13 October due to the Columbus Day holiday.

**Linda Lavery, ACHCE
2nd Vice President and
Quincy Mayor Kyle Moore**



On October 15th, a Lesson for Living – Historic Quincy Churches took place in the Farm Bureau Basement. Attendees heard presentations on three of Quincy's historical churches: **St Boniface**, Quincy's first Catholic Church, by Father Roy Bauer; **First Union Congregational Church**, Quincy's first church, by Pastor Chuck Hetzler and Assistant Pastor Bruce Rice; and **Salem Evangelical United Church**, founded in 1848, by Annette Newquist and Robert Bedell. There were handouts available for HCE members to take back and share with their respective units during November meetings.

The Fowler Development Association invited all area residents to attend a free educational performance of the "Unsinkable Molly Brown presented by Barbara Kay of Glen Carbon on October 19th at the St. Paul



United Church of Christ in Fowler, Illinois. There was a nice crowd on hand. The living history portrayal of Brown was indeed very educational. Light refreshments were provided afterward.

Barbara Kay presented living history of Margret "Molly" Brown

October 20th, we celebrated our great organization (October HCE Month) with a county-wide Wine and Cheese Tasting Party at the Western Catholic Union (WCU) Hall in Quincy, Illinois hosted by the Quinsippi Unit. Hy-Vee Wine and Spirits provided experts who discussed the pairing of cheese and other foods with different types of wine. There was take away paperwork that explained the wines sampled as follows: La Marca® Prosecco, Apothic® 2014 Dark, Dark Horse™ 2014 Sauvignon Blanc, and Mia Dolcea™ 2014 Moscato d'Asti.



Hy-Vee Wine and Spirits

DISTRICT NEWS

Adams County, continued

Special Interest Groups

HCE Book Club

On September 16th the members met at Daylight Donuts in Quincy, IL to discuss the book "My Antonia" by Willa Cather.

October 1st, ten members of the club attended the Abraham Lincoln, the Constitution and Civil War traveling exhibit held at John Wood Community College's Heath Gallery in Quincy, Illinois.



HCE Book Club Members (units represented Beverly, Quincy Tumbleweeds, and Quinsippi)

On October 21st, the members met at Daylight Donuts in Quincy, IL to discuss the book, The Girls of Atomic City by Denise Kierman.

The HCE Book Clubs next meeting will be November 18 at Daylight Donut to discuss James Patterson's book, 2nd Chance.

HCE Quilt League

The Quilt League is compiling blocks for a Quilt of Valor. After the blocks are quilted, they will decide who should receive the quilt and when to present it.

Upcoming events for November and December...

November 4th, we are looking forward to our Cultural Arts Lesson on silk scarves at 1:30 p.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement, a perfect gift for Christmas; December 5th will be the Kiddie Bazaar to be conducted from 8:30–11:30 a.m. at three different locations in Adams County - Salem Evangelical United Church of Christ Hall, Payson Seymour Elementary School, and the Camp Point United Methodist Church.

Wishing all readers a safe and blessed holiday season!

Leslie Geschwandner
Public Relations Director, Adams County

HANCOCK.....

Our Hancock County Home and Community Education Association has been having an exciting year this year. We have had some very good lessons.

Our Family Issues Director, Carolyn Rosenboom, did a booth at the Family Fair in February. Ellie Tubbs and Sharon Nuebel helped her.

Our Culture Enrichment and Community Outreach Director, Julie Stevens, did a craft project with each Unit in March.

We had our annual meeting in April. Our State District #4 Director, Mary Eustace, attended. We honored Julie Stevens as our Volunteer of the Year. She is still doing so much for us, and she is active in her community and church. President Sharon Nubel made the presentation.



President Sharon Nubel and Julie Stevens



Guest speaker, Joyce Buckert, gave a presentation on the Orphan Train.

New members are welcome to join the regular units that meet in the Dallas City and Bowen areas, the reading unit that meets in Hamilton or to become mailbox members. Please contact Sharon Nuebel 217-453-2133 for further information.

We also help with the 4-H Fair in Hancock County every year.

We are doing the country of Ireland this year for International night. We have a couple who have been there twice.

DISTRICT NEWS



We did a Day trip to the Tulip Festival in May. Those who attended were: Linda Webb, Joy Swearingen, Sharon Nuebel, Sheila Jarboe, Susan Ruble, Barbie Ramsey, JoAnn Webster, Carol Laffey, Carol Jacobs, Ruth Harrison, Margie Anderson, Carolyn Rosenboom, Ellie Tubbs Edie Filz, Linda Cook, Judy Reuschel, and Stacey Sparrow.

We had a great time and the weather cooperated.

Sharon Nuebel
President, Hancock County

SANGAMON.....

Hope all Counties are enjoying a beautiful fall like we are here in Sangamon County. By the time everyone has received their State newsletter, we will be busy preparing for Christmas and cold weather. Sangamon County HCE members have been busy working on projects, meetings and enjoying our outings.

An indoor picnic was held on July 17 with cool air and no bugs, the outside temperature was close to 100!! Had a great turnout of members who all brought delicious dishes to share. We do have some great cooks in our County. Played bingo and some won more than one prize. It really was a good time.

The District 4 meeting on August 12th in Decatur was informative and fun. We sold tickets there for our Amish quilt raffle, to be held in September. Thanks to everyone who bought a ticket. The meeting was entertaining and our District Director and State Board shared some good information. After the District meeting, we held our Officers Appreciation & Training on August 26. We shared what we learned at the District meeting and discussed ways to grow our membership.

The Fall Festival was September 26 and our members had been working for weeks selling quilt tickets, making craft holiday items, gathering odds and ends, and many worked in the lunch room, preparing goods for the bake sale, acting as cashiers, greeting guests, the list goes on. It was very successful as this is a major money maker for our club. Anything left over was donated to various charities.

Debbie Richards, International Director, had a excellent International Day with two speakers on the Baltic States, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. There were maps, flags, and one of the speakers had written a book on a Century of Lithuanians in Springfield, IL. On International Day, we celebrated HCE week with members donating a can of food and writing the names down of their favorite charity. The names were placed in a basket to be drawn at the end of the meeting and the Inter-City Mission of Springfield was the winner.

Our next event is the Cultural Enrichment Day in November; then in December our annual Christmas party where we collect hats, scarves and mittens for elementary children and everyone brings non-perishable food items for a food pantry. But, our members work tirelessly all year on many projects to benefit others and volunteer their time to different organizations. Very proud to mention that there has been many lap blankets,

PIKE.....



Ona Day Johnston, Rebecca DeLong and Linda Patton, members of the Pike County HCE were at Pike Express on the Square in Pittsfield, Illinois decorating the window for Home and Community Education Week. Pike County HCE offers groups in Barry, Detroit, Fairmount, Griggsville, Milton/Pearl and Pittsfield. Specialty groups formed currently include day crochet, HCE day quilters, Heritage Skills, Nite Quilters & Gardening.

Mary Eustace
President, Pike County

Continued on next page

DISTRICT NEWS

Sangamon County, continued

children's blankets, individual blankets for nursing home residents, cancer caps, scarves, hats, clothing donation to a veterans home, hand-crafted greeting cards, weighted blankets for autistic children, baby clothes and blankets, food items and money given with love and generosity to numerous charities, schools and organizations to help so many in need.

One of our Units, the Capitol Unit, has gained eight new members. Everyone is trying hard to gain new members and for all to become more active in all of the wonderful programs, Lessons for Living and meetings we have.

Life's burdens are lighter when I laugh at myself.
- Jonathan Lockwood Huie

Jody Harden
SCAHCE 2nd-Vice President

In celebration of HCE month, we were quite busy in October. Our cultural enrichment chairperson, Kate Schmitgall, planned a great craft evening, Make-It-Take It. A variety of crafts were available for attendees to make and take home.



**Tazewell
Craft Photo Gallery**

TAZEWELL.....

Greetings from Tazewell County-

We began August by spending many hours operating the food concession at the county 4-H show. We are pleased that we can provide this service for our youth and their families.



Seven members attended the district meeting in Decatur.

The presentation of "Simple Bits of Knowledge" by the state officers was very entertaining. Reviewing our responsibilities as officers and listening to Mary Eustace relay her excitement for the annual conference made the day very rewarding.

We regret the disbanding of the HCE in Peoria County. But, we are pleased to receive an entire unit from Dunlap and several individuals from Peoria County as transfers to the Tazewell County organization. Welcome!!

Vice president, Vivian Gerrietts, organized the annual International Day. Since the Illinois "country of study" was the Baltic States, that was our theme for the day. An area resident, Marcia Meeker, had been on a cruise that had stopped in Estonia. She showed photographs from the visit there and it was interesting to hear her speak about the people and their way of life. We also viewed a list of ten interesting facts about Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Using the recipe booklet provided by Patricia Weitzmann, (IAHCE International Director) officers and other members prepared and brought food from the Baltic States for tasting. It was a very enjoyable day with around forty people attending.

We look forward to the annual meeting of IAHCE to be held in East Peoria (Tazewell County) March 15-17, 2016. Mary Eustace, District 4 Director, has been working extremely hard for the conference to provide a lot of fun and be a great learning experience for all!

See you.....Rollin' on the River!

Darlene Curry
Public Relations, Tazewell County

DISTRICT NEWS

WOODFORD.....

The year is moving along swiftly. By the time you read this newsletter, Fall will be behind us and Winter will probably be upon us. It's easy to get caught up in the activities and demands of everyday living but we all need to make every effort to enjoy each day God has given us and to make good use of every opportunity.

The 4-H Fair Food Stand and the County Ice Cream Social are behind us and both were very successful and fruitful.

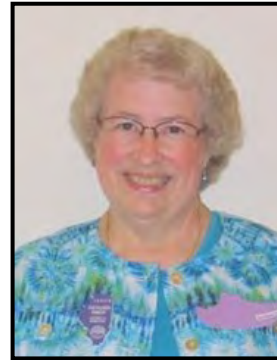
One of our County Board members, **Nancy Aldridge**, taught a recent lesson on Edible Flowers. She did a fine job. She is pictured as she was teaching. (See photo at right.)



Woodford County is responsible for the table decorations at the upcoming annual conference in East Peoria – a community very close to us. Creative juices have been running and an idea for the centerpieces has emerged. We're also brainstorming ideas for the 300-350 items to stuff in "Welcome Bags" to be given out to the attendees.

Our county, like many counties, is struggling with losses in membership. We are attracting a few new members but age, health issues, death, etc. depletes our totals. Those of us who have been in HCE for a lot of years have many fond memories, have learned a lot, and established wonderful relationships with friends...HCE is an important part of our lives.

Betty Bekermeier
Public Information, Woodford County



DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR Kathleen Emery

Hello District 5 Members:

The District 4/5 meeting was wonderful and it was nice to see many first time members. The District Directors enjoyed planning the program for you and hopefully you will be able to use it in your planning to gain younger members to our wonderful organization.

I have enjoyed attending many of your annual meetings and special events. I also learn something new from you and from your great newsletters.

Included in this newsletter is the pull-out information on our 92nd Annual Conference in East Peoria on March 15 -17, 2016. "Rollin on the River with IAHCCE" will be an exciting conference. The hotel is beautiful, the food is wonderful, and Angela has planned great share shops for you. Please share this information with your members and **non-members** that might want to come.

Our conference is a wonderful time to see what our organization is all about. It is a great over-view of who we are and what we do. Don't wait too long to register so you will be able to get the share shops you want to attend.

Also, please plan on joining your board to truly *Rollin' on the River* on Thursday afternoon aboard the Spirit of Peoria Paddlewheel Boat.

I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

Kathleen Emery



DISTRICT NEWS

CHAMPAIGN.....

Champaign County HCE has had a busy three months. We had our 4th Annual Garage Sale on Saturday, August 22 at the Farm Bureau Auditorium. We had a huge variety of items for sale which include a boutique for jewelry and better clothing and collectables. It was well attended and our most successful sale. It was a lot of work but also fun working together.

With the success and hard work on the garage sale, on September 13th, we had an Ice Cream Social to celebrate the success and fun of the garage sale. All members were invited to have banana splits, sundaes, shakes or root beer floats—of course, enjoyed by all.

On October 19th, we had our Membership/Craft Event “Walk with HCE--Visit the HCE Pumpkin Patch”--members were asked to bring guests. Members and guests had 5 fun pumpkin theme crafts to make—Pumpkin made of canning jar ring, fall wreath, ribbon pumpkin, witches head and a stencil pumpkin—enjoyed by all and most of those attending were able to “Make It and Take It” all the crafts offered that day. Lunch was a delicious sub sandwich, chips, fruit and a drink. The guest speaker was Mac Condill owner of The Great Pumpkin Patch in Arthur. His talk was on squash & pumpkin prep. Both can be cooked in many ways and anything you can do with a potato, you can do with squash or pumpkin, including baking or microwaving.



Mary Lou Younger—many crafts made at Membership/ Craft Event

Door prizes were given out and the day was wrapped up with an invitation to the guests to join HCE.

The new members joining on this day, their name was put into a drawing for 1 year HCE membership. Also announced was the Unit contest winner for having the most new members join their unit in 2015 was the Savoy Unit.

October 23rd was our Cultural Arts Show at the New Horizon Methodist Church in Champaign.

Several projects were entered and judged by three independent judges selecting the items to go to State and selected the best of show which was Becky Marshall - Savoy unit - 3 pc. jewelry set.

We had three enjoyable speakers: Regina Haasis, Assistant Attorney General “Scams and Identity Theft”; Jim Moxley, Principal Fisher Grade School “Bullying”; and Stan Seevers “Stan’s “What Is It – Can You Guess?”. We had a potluck luncheon with many delicious dishes.



Best of Show at Cultural Art Show, Becky Marshall, Savoy Unit, and Joan Stanley.

Our next event is Champaign County HCE is sponsoring *Holiday Trees and Craft Sale* on November 7th at the Farm Bureau Auditorium from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There will be several beautiful decorated trees by our members and Units all with a special theme. The trees will be sold by silent auction, to be picked up at the end of the day or later by arrangement. There will be several vendors with handcrafted items for sale. Holiday baked goods will be on sale, also. The public is invited to enjoy a festive event.

November 16th is our International Luncheon, “Walking all over the Baltic States” at 11:00 a.m. at the Farm Bureau Auditorium. It will be a potluck. More to look forward to.

We are still working on Linus Blankets and Weighted Blankets for Autistic Children in Champaign County. We have completed 61 weighted blankets so far this year. For 2016, we are planning a monthly Craft Club that will be scheduled after our Extension Educator lessons that are given at the Farm Bureau Auditorium.

Check out our website:

<https://champaigncountyhce.wordpress.com>

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Carol Froeschl,
Public Relations Chairman, Champaign County

**2016 NVON
CONFERENCE WILL BE HOSTED BY
ILLINOIS HOME AND COMMUNITY
EDUCATION—July 18-21, 2016**

DISTRICT NEWS

CHRISTIAN.....

Hope your world is full of pumpkins, fall color, wiener roast and hay rides right now.

Christian County has been rowing our boat like crazy these past few months.

Six of our board members were on the boat for the District 4 &5 workshop in Decatur. What a great job our IHCEA officers did. Especially the effort they made to greet each and everyone of us. They made it a special day for sure.

Our local Christian County Fair Board really gets behind the kids and 4-H programs, so there is a boat load of kids activity's during fair week.

Lisa Peterson (Nutrition/Wellness Educator) took over the galley with the lesson on Freezer Meals, which I'm sure will come in handy during the upcoming holidays.

A BIG THANK YOU goes out to Terri Miller (Publicity and Promotions Specialist) for helping us setting up our Face Book page and to understand how to stay safe with social media.

Ann Bandy, International Director ,Christian County, did a super job with the Baltic States. The focus was on Christmas food and customs. The tables were decorated with Ann's personal Santa collection. Everyone was asked to bring a Christmas item for a silent auction with the proceeds going to the local food pantry.



Julie Pearson, President, and Ann Bandy, International Director

The silent auction held that day raised \$150.00 for the local food pantry.

Some happy elves gathered to work on Operation Santa. Under the guidance of our Culture Enrichment and Community Outreach Director (Janet Stender), fabric was flying and sewing machines were humming as Santa Socks were put together for our deployed troops.

For HCEA week the Taylorville Library's display case was filled with little boats Rollin on the River, all the way from Alton to Peoria, filled with aluminum tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, pennies for Pennies for Friendship, 4-H sail boats and Santa socks.

Come November, our Paddle Wheeler will be filled with members for Christian County's membership meeting. The scuttle has it that some special commander will be joining us. We will have welcome flags flying. Some of our units have done a great job of signing on new crew members this year. Of course, to the board members who are stepping down, job well done. To the new board members coming on board, we are eager to hear your ideas.

Christian County would like to wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and the Happiest of New Year.

Looking forward to seeing you all “Rollin’ on the River” headed to East Peoria in the spring.

Sharon Turner
Public Information Director, Christian County

DE WITT.....

DEWITT COUNTY HCE has been busy. We hosted our tri-county officers board in October and provided lunch for them. Too many cooks?



In center is Linda Riva, to the right is Lu Crawford and Delores Niederer. The girls on the left are Betty Clark, Shirley Krall, and Jean Wagner.

We collected and donated money to the Christian Church in Clinton, IL food pantry and to Human Resource Center after they were overwhelmed when a fire at a local residential hotel put 21 people out of a place to live.

We also have had one workday to make bags for walkers and a larger bag with a zipper that ties onto the

Continued on next page

DISTRICT NEWS

DeWitt County, continued

back of wheelchairs for nursing home patients to use when going to doctors appointments and such. We have one more workday planned to accomplish our goals for our local nursing home.



Shirley Krall with walker bags.

We are making “scrubbies” for NVON. We plan to make 200 of them.

Alice Grooms made our counties red, white, and blue quilt block.



Good Job and Thanks Alice.

Our fundraiser this year is in conjunction with Macon and Piatt counties. We have scheduled the “Bread Monk” to be in Clinton on April 16, 2016 at the Copper & Brass Room at 1300 S. Madison Street. Tickets will go on sale December 1, 2015 and are \$15.00. The University of Illinois Extension Office in Clinton is handling the sales for paid tickets only and may be reached by calling 217-935-5764 on Dec. 1st and after.

Rosalie Summers
Public Relations, DeWitt County

learned some new recipes for wonderful, refreshing summer drinks. We really appreciate the handouts that are given to us with recipes!

We were fortunate to have fairly decent weather for the Farm Progress Show in September. Our Macon County HCE volunteers put in 198 hours and raised enough money to support our Scholarship Fund. We are so proud of our volunteers!

We were saddened to lose our wonderful Extension Program Coordinator, Mindy Peterson-Lindsey, to another position that will allow her to be much closer to her home. We are pleased, though, that Karyn Traum, the Horticultural Program Coordinator for Macon, Piatt, and DeWitt has accepted the responsibility of working with HCE in these three counties. We are looking forward to working with Karyn as we continue to grow in membership.

Our International Day was a very enlightening experience as we prepared and sampled unusual food from the Baltic States. We had very informative presentations from our members, Margaret Leonard from Macon County and Rita Marley of Piatt County. International Day is just one event in the year that our members enjoy time after time!

Of course, our HCE Week that we just completed is another favorite time for our membership. We learned new ways to wrap presents that didn’t include a bag! Our presenters and HCE members, Sandy Severe and Gini Smith, used plastic tablecloths, dishtowels, toilet tube rolls for gift certificates or money, a purse that you no longer have a need for, road maps, and many, many other ideas.



Sandy Severs and Geni Smith

MACON.....

We have been busy, as usual, during the summer and fall months! Our most capable and interesting U of I advisors taught us about flowers that not only make a statement in your garden, but they are edible! We also

We learned how to turn Mason jars, pickle jars, olive jars, mayonnaise jars, and about any other jar you can think of, into luminaries, table decorations, or gifts for friends.



Mason Jar Snowman

DISTRICT NEWS

Sharon Middleton, a most creative member of our MCHCE, demonstrated how to produce these masterpieces. We were then able to try to make two luminaries on our own.

Our intriguing Extension staff members, Karyn Traum and Jennifer Nelson, presented a delicious and informative lesson for HCE Week about squash. They opened our eyes to the many different varieties of squash that are pretty to decorate with and then, you can eat them. They prepared several recipes with the different varieties of squash, but our overall favorite was the stuffed squash bread!

We learned about ideas to make your own bucket list, and why it is important to do this. Carol Ropp, our Macon County Co-president, gave some ideas and then we all contributed to the discussion. We made our own bucket lists, too.

Our last program for HCE Week was a lesson about Pinterest. Sharon Middleton, our craft guru, showed us how to make our own boards from the Pinterest website. We left feeling a little more educated about this new way to create gifts, and other interesting information.

In late October, Macon County members wore their walking Shoes to the Fall Meeting, where we were pleased to welcome State IAHCE President, Jane Chapman, who installed our new officers.



Items for the Cultural Enrichment display at the State Conference were chosen and local teacher, Brandy Brown, gave a wonderful, informative presentation about the history of quilts. It was topped off by our delicious salad luncheon provided by the County Board members. It was really a great day!

We are looking forward to our next few months of programs. Our November program, "Who Doesn't Love Dip?" will be presented by several of our members. In December, our county unit will be going to the Next of Kiln in Mt. Zion to use our creative genes to produce our masterpieces of art! We encourage our membership to always bring friends or relatives to our programs to see how fulfilling membership is in our MCHCE!

Till next time---

Ann Adkesson and Linda Austin
Co-Public Relation, Macon County

MC LEAN.....

The 2015-16 HCE year is off to a great start! McLean HCE sponsored Young at Heart Day at the McLean County fair with entertainment, refreshments, door prizes and senior vendors booths. Approximately 350 attended this event. Our HCE booth showcased Fine Arts Projects and membership information along with greeting cards for soldiers signed by booth visitors. We finished August with a potluck officer orientation training session.

Carlye Hardman and Lura Parrent are each recipients of a \$500 scholarship awarded by the McLean County HCE. Scholarships were considered for McLean County 4-H member applications who had taken projects in the Home & Family and/or Food, Nutrition & Health areas to the 2014 McLean County Fair and four other McLean County fairs during their 4-H career. Both recipients are college students and were honored at our July 7 annual meeting.

The six Downs Farmers Market bake sales came to a successful end in September. Money raised helps to fund the McLean County HCE special projects such as HCE Scholarships for 4-H and Soldier Projects.



Downs Farmers Market Bake Sale

HCE fall programs included: "Essential Oils"; "ABC's of GMO's"; and "Making your Dollars Stretch". The monthly fact finds are all about gardening and plants, written by Helen Leake, a HCE member and master gardener. We learned about garden winding down, putting your garden to bed and house plants.

October was HCE Month in McLean County. There were many activities and programs to keep our membership busy, and guests were welcomed to become involved and learn lots of new things this year. The Downs HCE Unit donated water and bags of snacks for the farmers at area grain elevators. Other units did similar projects and displays in their local areas to recognize and highlight HCE. We had International Night with a study of Lithuania, Latvia

Continued on next page 

DISTRICT NEWS

McLean County, continued

and Estonia. We tasted and learned about the culture, foods and countries at this informative program. To finish the month, a fall trip on October 24th took 40 members and guests to Covington, IN for dinner and a play at the Beef House Dinner Theater to see "Steel Magnolias". A great time for all!

The Cultural Enrichment committee presented many interesting programs. The Read and Share group reviewed the books, *I am Malala – The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb, and *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom. Homemade cookies & candy exchange, Santa Towel, and Fleece Shrug were workshops offered. Cultural Enrichment activities also contributed to community service with a new program called Community Service Day. Once a month members can try their hand at the many different creative possibilities. We made Christmas stockings for Operation Santa and seat belt covers for cancer patients. Members enjoy the fun and aspect of these wonderful events!

In November we held our 3rd "Attic Treasures and Bake Sale" Members were able to support HCE and helped clean out their nooks and crannies, too. Proceeds are to benefit the McLean County 4-H program.

Some events to look forward to include the **Dec 5 holiday party** that features brunch, entertainment and make it/take it workshops. The **Membership/Friendship Tea** will be on Sat Feb 20, 2016 with a special program by the Tea Ladies of Bloomington, titled *Treasure Thy Friend*. Members are encouraged to invite guests who will have free admission. **Super Saturday** will be held Saturday, March 12, 2016, from 9am- noon and held for 3 county units: Woodford, Livingston, and McLean. Lessons to be given to local leaders include: "From Barley to Wheat – Local Grain is Neat"; "Food for Thought"; and "Save \$\$ - Recycle, Re-purpose Your Garden".

Check out McLean County HCE by viewing our website at www.mcleanhce.org and like and view our Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/McLean-County-Association-for-Home-and-Community-Education>.

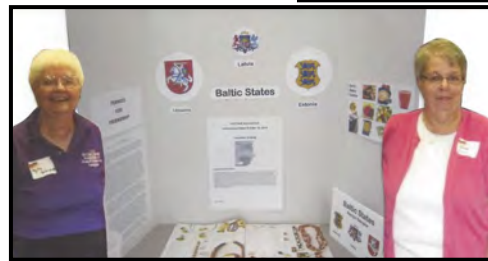
We look forward to seeing YOU in McLean County.

Ruth Hood
McLean County HCE Public Relations Team

McLean County Candy/cookie exchange



97th Annual Meeting



McLean County International Night Phyllis Wallace and Karen Crull, presenters

PIATT.....

Piatt County HCE has been busy...with lessons on squash, vehicle care, handheld pies, with craft days making cloth wallets for NVON, with working at food tent at the Farm Progress Show in Decatur on Sept 1-3, 2015, and with our International Day on Sept 17, 2015.



Pictured above are our International Day Speakers – **Rita Marley and Margaret Leonard**. They talked on the countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

Recipes from the countries were enjoyed in a potluck dinner for all attending. Units made displays of different aspects of the countries to share with all in attendance.

Piatt County partners with Macon and DeWitt to offer Make, Share, Explore Days to share old-time crafts with today's people. Many young people have enjoyed learning about hooking, pie crust making, quilting, as well as many more. Pictured on the next page are Piatt County quilters – **Janet Crandall and Jo Bauer** showing

DISTRICT NEWS

how to quilt at the “Make, Share, Explore Days” in Decatur. People love to try their hands at doing the activities offered. What a great way to Share!



Janet Crandall and Jo Bauer

Carol Drayton
Public Relations, Piatt County

are sold for hundreds of dollars.) She is available for workshops. Pat Milchuck 217-3799-4145.

Shirley Edwards
Public Relations, Prairie Association

VERMILION.....

Hello to all IAHCE members!

It is that time of year that many love. The trees are clanging colors, the crispness in the air, pumpkin festivals, and picnics in the park!

Speaking of Picnics, Vermilion County Home and Community Education hosted our annual HOB0 Picnic, September 24, 2015 at Kickapoo State Park in Danville, Illinois. Carol Davis, membership chairman planned the picnic event to perfection by asking everyone to dress like a HOB0 and be ready to tell a story about HOB0 life. Carol also prepped the soup mixture that turned into a delicious soup after each member donated 2 cans of vegetables. One can went into the soup and one can was donated to the Crossroads Christian Church Food Pantry. The soup was the Best, and all of the covered dishes and desserts that members prepared were awesome! There were a total of 41 in attendance.

PRAIRIE.....

The Annual Co-County meeting was held on October 22nd at the Mennonite Church in Arthur, IL. There were forty ladies from surrounding towns in attendance. The morning speaker, Carol Mitchell, gave a lesson on the Baltic States and shared her family heritage as well s numerous interesting facts about the Baltic states. A delicious luncheon was enjoyed by all.

Ann Adkesson, a retired Librarian, was the afternoon speaker and the topic was “How to Preserve Old Photographs”. Preparing the photo as well as framing was very informative. Her last comment was “NEVER USE GLUE OR PASTE.”

The Bourbon Unit traveled to Paxton, IL for their annual Mystery Trip where they were scheduled for a fun afternoon at Pat’s Hat’s trying on hats of many colors and sizes.



The owner, Pat Milchuck, has been making and designing hats for over forty years—many of which are sold to ladies going to the Kentucky Derby. (Those



**Memorabilia
the Family has
of Ike McNeely.**

Pat Bailey, program chairman, presented “The McNeely Family” from Hoopston, Illinois, to tell the life story of their father, Ike McNeely. Ike, who just had the want to ride the rails and to become a traveler, did so at the age of 12. The life as told by Ike’s children was a fascinating history lesson on the life of a HOB0. At such a young age Ike missed his family and traveled back to his home town, but never let them know he was in the barn rafters and after seeing his father left again for a few years. Sorry to say I can’t remember the complete story, but after being a HOB0 for at least 6 years Ike found the love of his life, returned home, raised over 10 children

Continued on next page

DISTRICT NEWS

Vermilion County, continued

and took care of his parents until their death. Really a marvelous story told by his family at our HOBO PICNIC!

Vermilion County HCE International Luncheon took place October 6, 2015 at the Bismarck United Methodist Church in Bismarck, Illinois. International Luncheon was hosted by Sandy Wilson, Bismarck International Chairman and the Bismarck HCE members.



Father Flattery

Mary Stampini decorated the room with beautiful fall colored mums, gourds, and flags of the Baltic States. A potluck carry-in dinner consisted of many ethnic of the Baltic States and lots of other delicious food!

Mary Stampini, Vermilion County International Chairman, presented the guest speaker, Father John Flattery. He told about the history of the Baltic States and the countries around

the Baltic States. He has traveled the world for many years and knows his history. He shared a lot of interesting information.

Another wonderful event is being planned by Carol Davis and the Vermilion County HCE Board members. It is "The Fall Holiday Tea." set for November 10, 2015, at the U of I Extension Office in Danville. A representative from The Women's Care Clinic of Danville will present information of the many programs they offer to Promote Life Saving Options.

TIP: National Do Not Call Registry.

Stop telemarketing calls coming to your Cell Phone by calling and following the instructions.
Call: 888-382-1222

J. Diane Reddy
Public Relations, Vermilion County

A man is arrested for stealing a can of peaches. He stands before the judge with his faithful wife next to him. The judge asked how many peaches were in the can. The man replied 6 and the judge sentenced him to 6 months in prison. The wife then raised her hand and said to the judge, he stole a can of peas, too.



DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR Marilyn Schaefer

I want everyone to take the time to enjoy this beautiful fall we are having. The leaves have been so lovely, soon winter will be here. We have so much to be thankful for. The holidays are coming sooner than I would like but I hope we will all have a nice Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We just returned from IAHCE Conference in East Peoria. Get ready, ladies, it is a lovely place, fast elevator and Mary Eustace and Janel Kassing have a great conference coming up March 15 thru 17. Great workshops, having a Tuesday walk planned, shirts are great with a tote bag and pin. So we want everyone to attend the 92nd Annual Conference "Rollin on the River with IAHCE" and also on Thursday we will be taking a ride on the River Boat for \$15.00 per person. Where could you go and have such a great week as is planned for us. I am looking forward to seeing all of you. Don't forget the gift for the County in District 6 with the most members.

I am finishing my last installation for 2015 this coming Thursday. If I have not attended one of your units, I would love to make it in 2016.

You will be receiving your District Workshop letter by email or in the mail. Please check all the dates and things coming up share with your county.

We would like for everyone to get new members. We hope 2016 will be a great year.

Marilyn Schaefer



BOND.....

Picnic for the summertime! In July one of our units found themselves at the Fire Department's new picnic shelter area for a morning brunch and history of the shelter. Carly Sutton, granddaughter of board chair, Pat Sutton, was instrumental in planning, designing and helping to construct the picnic area as one of her Girl Scouting projects.

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August is vacation month for many, although in Bond County that is Fair Time. HCE has their own building where we serve noontime and evening meals to the fair goers...Fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, etc. and homemade pies-cherry, gooseberry, rhubarb, apple and more - your choice. This is our big fund raiser for the year, besides all volunteer hours count.

Several Bond County members attended the Southern Illinois District IAHCE Fall Workshop meeting in Effingham on August 11. They brought back some good information to share.

In September all units began the new lessons for 2015/2016, "Make a Meaningful Nursing Home Visit." Be happy, have a smile on your face. Perhaps take them something-flowers from their or your garden, homemade cookies. Give a hug, rub their back, arm or hand or maybe just sit and talk quietly.

October found us in Ecuador, our International country, savoring some recipes shared at our potluck. Carly Sutton, one of our scholarship winners, shared her experiences of Ecuador with her church youth mission group. She said it was so much different than here - made all of them appreciate home.

Shirley Volentine
Public Relations, Bond County

CLAY.....

Greetings from Clay County.

My name is Beth Fancher and I am the new Public Relations board member for Clay County. Members have been involved in several activities over the last few months. Here are a few of the things we have been doing.

HCE members brought cookies for the April community Blood Drive and board members assisted at the drive. Several county members participated in Women Walk the World 2015. The cost to register were pennies for Pennies for Friendship. Effingham County HCE members joined the local walkers.

Board members Margie Dettmer and Joann Stanford attended the 2015 IAHCE Annual Conference in Decatur. Board members also had a great time at the August 11 District Meeting in Effingham. We all found the conference very informative.

Several HCE members attended a program on bullying, which was held at the Flora Depot. HCE members

provided pies for the 22nd Annual Clay County 4-H BBQ and took cookies to the 4-H Horse camp.

The Farmerettes are involved in many community services including contributing to the Guadalupe Project, which provides assistance to young families from pregnancy to the child's first birthday. They took a field trip to Cisne where they learned great ideas for landscaping. On November 9, the Farmerettes held a pumpkin pie party. Unit members baked pumpkin pies and served them to residents of a local nursing home.

The HCE International program was held November 5 at the Historical Flora Depot. Board member Cheryl McCarty did a great job organizing the event. The annual meeting was held before the International program. Brenda Ruckman recently designed a beautiful quilt block for the State quilt.

All three of the units, The Second Wednesday, Travelers and Farmerette Units are involved in helping local programs including Food Pantry, Golden Nutrition, and Meals on Wheels.

Beth Fancher
Public Relations, Clay County

CLINTON.....


Greetings from Clinton County:

Donations will be presented to 4 local food pantries and Chakota Therapeutic Riding Center, which is a non-profit horse riding center for persons with disabilities. These donations were possible because of the "Christmas in October" event.

In January, "Chair Yoga" was presented by a local instructor, Lindsey Koch, as a Major Lesson. She shared many wonderful stretches and facts about oxygen and movements for people of all ages; and how our body will thank us for stretching and breathing oxygen into our cells. This will keep us flexible, limber and less prone to injuries.

A demonstration of "Homemade Holiday Candies" was presented in November; along with "Quick and Easy Recipes with Refrigerated Breads and Rolls" in March. All Major Lessons are open to the public.

Our Annual Meeting in April was an enjoyable evening with the theme of "Pies". A beautiful layout of many homemade delicious pies was served along with a

Continued on next page 

DISTRICT NEWS

Clinton County, continued

scrumptious dinner. Bingo was enjoyed by all using pie and kitchen terms. Also, a list of "Pie Trivia" was given to the guests to see how well we know our pie language and facts.

Wishing you all Prosperity and Success,

Cindy Niemeyer
Public Relations

CRAWFORD.....

Marilyn Schaefer installed the new 2016 HCE officers at the Annual Banquet/Meeting in October.



Pictured: Helen Brackett, Karen Waggoner, Susan Allison, Bonnie Finn, Jeannie Adams, Sandy Bryans, Phyllis Adams, Hope Dennis, Barb Miller, & LaDonna Harris.

Crawford County HCE ladies enjoyed a beautiful day in Effingham, touring Frye Pottery, The Cross, Hodgson Mill store, Tuscan Hills Winery and lunched at Niemergs.



Palestine ladies in the S.E. LaMotte Unit visited a Indiana home which has 5,000 bird houses. They enjoyed a delicious lunch at a restaurant Overlooking Bogg's Lake.



The Morning Glories Unit served 87 dinners during Oblong's Metal Meet festivities as a fund-raiser. Money raised will be used for donations to various organizations in Crawford County.



Pictured serving: Bonnie Finn, Shirley Woodruff, and Beulah Inboden.

Hope Dennis
Public Relations, Crawford County

EFFINGHAM.....

It's the end of October, weather is getting cooler, days are getting shorter, but Effingham County HCE members are still busy with various programs and events.

July 7 was another HCE Sewing Day. There were 11 ladies attending the session at the Effingham Extension Center. Ladies were made healthcare items that included 25 clothing protectors and 44 wheelchair "Sewing With Senior" class. The group make quilted machine pads on which they can set their sewing Machines. There are several different size pockets in front in which to put sewing notions and supplies.

HCE members volunteered to work at the Effingham County Fair selling Culver's ice cream. This is our main fund raiser for the year. We did very good this year. Thanks Ladies!

August 11 was our district meeting held at St. John's Lutheran Church here in Effingham. Board members kept busy before the meeting serving coffee, juice and doughnuts. It was a very enjoyable meeting.

"Making Yeast Breads" was the local leader training class held in August. Marilyn Schaefer and Bev Elving were in

DISTRICT NEWS

charge of this lesson. Everyone attending was able to “get their hands dirty” by working and kneading bread dough. Attendees commented it was a very good lesson. A local newspaper came and did a news article on the event. August 24 was “Sewing With Seniors” class again at the Senior Center. This month’s project was a notion’s travel case.

The last HCE Sewing Day for the year was held on September 1 at the Extension Center. Sixteen ladies attended and made 33 clothing protectors and 20 walker caddies for area healthcare facilities.

Effingham County HCE, in conjunction with the Extension Center, held a “Sew Simple” class for area youths. Participants make two pillowcases—one for themselves and one for ConKerr which is an organization that works with children with cancer.

On September 28, we were back to the Senior Center for “Sewing With Seniors”. Marilyn was in charge of this month’s project which was a fabric potholder.

Board member, Ann Musser, planned a barn star tour to Princeton, Indiana, on October 13. There were 46 HCE members and guests making the trip. They visited the Azalea Path with a box lunch under the veranda. Then on to the Toyota Plant where everyone got a tram tour. Next, was brief shopping and then to the Log Inn for dinner before starting home.

Our annual meeting was held on Thursday, October 16, at the Extension Center. A noon lunch of soup, sandwiches, vegetables, and cake was enjoyed by the 50 ladies attending. Kurt Davis, a police officer, was the guest speaker. He informed the ladies of different ways they can keep themselves safe at home and in public. A variety of shoes had been decorated by each of the units for table decorations and given away as door prizes. Members were recognized for their volunteer hours. Pat Hildebrand, state board member, installed the 2016 officers.

The last “Sewing With Seniors” class was held on Monday, October 26 at the Senior Center. The ladies attending made credit card holders.

On Wednesday, October 28, board members delivered bookmarks and healthcare items. They visited area schools and public libraries and delivered 2,594 bookmarks. These bookmarks were made by HCE members from greeting cards. Items were also delivered to area healthcare facilities. This included 42 walker caddies, 71 wheelchair caddies, 210 clothing protectors, and 80 catheter bag covers. Items were also donated to the veterans in nursing homes which included

225 Christmas stockings, 300 Christmas card fronts, 67 greeting cards, and 50 wheelchair caddies.

Upcoming events include: International lesson being planned for November 12th by Bev Elving; school supplies delivery, which is our family issues project with Ruth Abell in charge.

Have a safe holiday season!

Mary Beth Hoene
Acting Public Relations Director, Effingham County

FAYETTE.....

The last three months have been busy ones for Fayette County Home and Community Education as our projects and collections for worthy causes have continued, as well as our special events, such as our International Potluck.

We held a fund-raiser raffle with a little different Prize - a gift certificate for a professional cleaning service.

Our International Dinner was focused on Italy this year and the speaker was a young man who recently visited Italy. He gave a very interesting program on the country.

The most memorable, touching, and educational event however, was the presentation on Human Trafficking, with a survivor who escaped the terrible practice, Patricia McKnight.

Having heard of a home located in Bond County, called Eden’s Glory, which was set up for survivors of Human Trafficking, the Fayette County HCE hosted a Human Trafficking Awareness Program for the public and invited McKnight to speak. The home can house four survivors and she is one of the four residing there.

*The former director of the local S.A.F.E. Program, Mrs.Carolynn Daniels, spoke briefly about the need to be aware of human trafficking which can be happening right in your county and neighborhood. She then introduced the guest speakers. McKnight spoke sincerely and courageously, telling of the nightmarish life which began when she was five years old and continued for over thirty years, destroying her childhood and shattered her life.

*Also Annie Schomaker, program director of the Eden’s Glory in Bond County spoke about their

Continued on next page 

DISTRICT NEWS

Fayette County, continued

program to help survivors who have escaped the nightmares of Human Trafficking.

The program was well-attended by the public and the goal was reached-to make us all more aware of the terrible practice of forcing innocent children both girls and boys, into human trafficking, which can be happening in your own county neighborhood, more often than not by relatives of the victim rather than our most common fear — strangers.

Comments by the audience was favorable towards the program and some shared with McKnight that they too had suffered abuse and thanked her for sharing with them and for the encouragement she gave them.

Fayette County HCE helping Eden’s Glory

To help support Eden’s Glory, the residents are making pretty necklaces, bracelets, scarves, rugs, head bands and colorful tote bags etc., from colorful or white, used t-shirts. The shirts can even be stained or torn, as they are cut into strips to make the items. We have collected many shirts for them and we are now going to go farther by making the tote bags for them. We are also collecting Prairie Farm Cap Codes for them as they are worth 5 cents each. Cupcakes and cookies were served after the program and each person received a Human Trafficking Awareness ribbon.

Patricia A. McKnight has written a book telling of the nightmare, torturous, existence of her childhood from the age of five, of her fight for survival, and the evil that has shaped her life even into freedom and adulthood. The title is My Justice by Patricia A. McKnight and is available on Amazon.

*Fayette County HCE Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/FayetteCountyIllinoisHCE>

Panzi Blackwell,
Public Relations, Fayette County
HCE

**Human Traffick Awareness program
speaker, Patricia McKnight**

**Book:
My Justice
by Patricia
McKnight**



JASPER.....

Through a grant from the Illinois 4-H Foundation the Clay/Effingham/Fayette/Jasper Extension Unit has 10 sewing machines available.



Last month volunteers taught 12 youth basic sewing skills and provided an opportunity for the members to make a pillow case for them selves and donate one to ConKerr Cancer for kids with life threatening illnesses.



It was a great opportunity, and throughout the course of the workshop there was discussion of opening up other sewing opportunities for youth and adult.

Sue Sparks
Public Relations, Jasper County

JERSEY.....

After a busy time helping at the Exhibition Building at the Fair, we had a very successful Bed Turning event in July with 48 in attendance and 36 quilts exhibited. We were fortunate in that several of the ladies who had

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exhibited at our local Jersey County Fair honored us with their award winning quilts and we also had a very special quilt exhibited from the Civil War era!

August was Vacation Month, so we had a package lesson "Someday is Today, Live Your Bucket List". Most of our Units did not have meetings this month, but resumed our schedule in September including Craft Club and our Once-A-Month Quilting Club. Also in September we toured the Jersey County Historical Society where we learned about "Historic Jerseyville" and how the town was established by people who had come to this area from the State of New Jersey, thus our name!

We planned our program for the 2016 year at which time we rescheduled the program "Maximizing Your Slow Cooker" to be given by Lisa Peterson, Unit 18 Foods & Nutrition Educator for January 21, 2016. We had to cancel this lesson earlier due to a scheduling conflict.

We celebrated HCE Week, October 12-17 by having a display at the Jerseyville Public Library featuring pictures of our different events and provided handouts of all of our lessons, which generated a lot of interest. We also displayed our new banner which had been made for us by our Cultural Enrichment Director, Joann Kuebrich.

During HCE Week we held our annual International Country of Study program which featured the Baltic States this year. We were fortunate to have local speakers for this program. Charles and Nancy Hamilton, retired teachers from our Unit 100 School District, graciously shared their experiences of their recent trip to the Baltic States with us showing pictures and memorabilia they had purchased, as well as a very interesting history and geography lesson. Afterward we all enjoyed authentic Lithuanian, Latvian, and Estonian desserts made by the board members.

There is much interest in our Facebook page (Jersey County Association for Home and Community Education) which now has over 113 members, most of whom are not members of our local HCE group – almost everyday there is someone else asking to join our group. There is always a following of at least 30 people a day, with positive comments, sharing posts, etc. It has proved to be a great way to stay connected!

Elizabeth A. Schwab
Publicity Director, Jersey County

MADISON.....

It is hard to believe we are fast approaching the end of the year holidays. Life is busy! Madison county has been busy with Summer Cool Down on August 1. We had approximately 60 in attendance and some great craft and heritage skill classes. Our Winter Warm Up will be on February 6th. If anyone is interested for a flyer to register for classes contact Claudia at 618-433-1907.

We had our officer's training luncheon on August 25th with lunch furnished by the board. Barb Kay, an area story teller, did Amelia Earhart for entertainment. We always get some great historical information when we have her. On September 26th, we had a Fashion Show with clothes and accessories from Christopher Banks. The Board furnished refreshments for this event and we had 48 attend.

On October 2, the Rox-Ann Unit held a quarter auction for "Hope for Heroes". They made over \$2,700 to donate to the organization. What a great job that unit did and gave back to our soldiers, veterans and their families. They are to be commended for their hard work.

On October 12, Eleanor Gregory and her International Directors presented "International Night on the Baltic States". There were over 125 in attendance for a lovely night of entertainment of dances, videos on Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, wonderful tasting food representative of those states (including beet soup to cracker pudding), and more. We had Grant Prairie 4-H club help serve desserts and drinks which was so helpful in getting everyone served.



**Great Prairie
4-H Club**

**Dancers at
"International
Night on the
Baltic States"**



DISTRICT NEWS

Madison County, continued

Our last event for 2015 is Christmas in November— "Walking in the Winter Wonderland" which is held on November 5th. This is our big fundraiser for the year. Then I believe the board as well as the membership are ready for a breather before we start 2016!

So, with all of that said and done, Madison County wishes each of you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

We look forward to seeing you in East Peoria in March.

Gloria Hartmann
Public Relations, Madison County

MARION.....

Marion County HCE members staffed a booth at the 75th Annual Marion County Fair in August. HCE membership information and a handout of Major Lessons for the 2015/2016 year were available. We also kicked off the Major Lessons for the year in August with Sharon Sullens presenting our International Lesson on Ireland. She is a retired teacher who was determined to save from the beginning of her career to travel upon when she retires, Sharon has now enjoyed many trips including this one taken with Salem Travel. She provided a very informative program complete with pictures of various locations throughout Ireland and many interesting stories to bring the people and places to life. Items she purchased in Ireland were also on display and historic information about Ireland was provided. Thank you, Sharon!

Rain cut short the 3rd Annual Kid's Fun day, but proceeds still topped \$186 which was donated to Steve Smith of Salem who prepares boxes to be shipped to those serving in the military overseas. Also in September, Ella York, Community Outreach Liaison from the Assistant Attorney General's Office located in Carbondale, Illinois, presented a lesson on "How to Prevent Identity Theft." Her informative presentation included a handout with contacts for a variety of personal and business reporting needs. Members shared personal stories regarding not only identity theft but other "scams" individuals had tried to perpetrate on them. Ella added information regarding avoiding the latest scams that have been occurring in our area. Did you know that there is now a cell phone app that allows those perpetrating the scam to make their phone number

appear as the organization they state they are representing?

Registered Nurse, Mary Williams from the Marion County Health Department, presented the October lesson on the Marion County Health Department Services and Vaccines Offered. All ages and stages can benefit from that information as they provide services beginning at birth and include everyone through the elderly. We also celebrated the addition of new members at a Membership Social in October.

A drawing was held for a Family Night Basket that Units provided a variety of items for. The annual Quilt Raffle drawing was also held. Town and Country, the newest Unit in Marion County organized in 2013,



embroidered the blocks in 2014 that were used for the quilt planned for 2015. It was set together with beautiful yellow and lavender colors that compliment the blocks. Proceeds from these raffles pay for state and district meeting trips as well as other Marion County HCE expenses.

Connie Williams
Public Relations, Marion County

MONROE.....

In late July, Monroe County HCE once again held its success beverage and baked goodies stand during the Monroe County Fair.



HCE members (from left) Carol Postlewait, Marilynn Schaefer and Carol Bay sell beverages and baked goodies at the HCE Fair Stand at the Monroe County Fair.

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Almost every member worked, baked and/or made monetary donations to the stand, helping us raise the bulk of our operating funds for the year.

HCE members have joined with the Columbia, IL Chamber of Commerce to help in their bi-monthly blood drives. HCE discovered that most Chamber members work during the day and are unable to volunteer at these when many HCE members are available. In exchange, members of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce worked some of the late night hours of our Fair Stand. A great cooperative venture!



Monroe county HCE Members Louetta Wilson (right) and Martha Holsum (left) teams up with Columbia, IL Chamber Blood Drive Coordinator Jan Crawford.

Our International Chairman, Marge Francois, once again coordinated a very interesting “International Night.” Professor Daniel L. Schlafly, Director, Russian and East European Studies, St. Louis University, gave a fascinating talk on these Baltic States. Some of our guests included people who emigrated from these regions and added some interesting facts.



Monroe County HCE President, Gracia Schlafly and Dr. Daniel L. Schlafly.

A sad note: Two days before this event, Chairman Marge’s mother passed, but because of Marge’s superb planning, Kim Strellis ably took over, and the evening went on.

Every year our Cultural Enrichment Chairman, Sharon Scherer, plans our Cultural Arts Contest at a different venue, with a different presentation during judging. This year the event was held at the Columbia Public Library and Head Librarian Britta Krabill gave a “Book Talk,” introducing members to new releases and answering questions about what the library has to offer.

Columbia, IL Head librarian Britta Krahill and HCE County Cultural Enrichment Chair, Sharon Scherer.



Thanks to all of our wonderful members and friends of HCE, 69 Linus Blankets and about a half-dozen handmade items for the local nursing home were made and donated during this past year. During Community Outreach Chairman Carol Hoffmann’s three-year term, over 195 blankets were donated to the Linus projects.

Gracia Schlafly
President/Public Relations Monroe County

RICHLAND.....

Richland County would like to invite you to our Cultural Arts Show which will be held Saturday, January 30th 2016 from 10am to 2pm. It will be held at the Richland County Extension office 306 S Fair in Olney. Access to the meeting room is at the East end of the building off of Chestnut Street.

We also would love to have you attend our Craft Workshops the second Tuesday of each month. We just reinstated this activity this year and so far we have done Washer Necklaces, "Mercury Glass" Pumpkins and No Sew folded Star ornaments.

We also got our Facebook Page going so hopefully you can see some of our projects on there. Richland County Homemakers Education Association.

Our Holiday Bazaar was held on November 7th. We had Cinnamon rolls, Loaded Baked Potatoes, Theme Basket Raffle, Make It and Take It projects, Booths for each of our Units with everything from Bratzels to Hand Crafts. We also raffled a lovely Hand Quilted Quilt and many other items.

Lisa Weiler
Public Relations, Richland County

DISTRICT NEWS



DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR Janel Kassing

Mary Eustace, District 5 Director, and I have been working to put together an invigorating, interesting, and fun conference for you from March 15-17, 2016 at the Embassy

Suites in East Peoria. Angela Hicks, District 2/3 Director, has built a tremendous slate of share shop presenters. Please check out all of the information in this booklet about the conference. Can't wait to have officers and other HCE members "Rolling on the River" with us in March. We have in a special order for a sunny day for our paddlewheel excursion down the Illinois River. See you there. Bring your banner, Silent Auction, and Cultural Enrichment items and your energy to enjoy these fun filled days.

We will be planning an event to welcome our two Estonian visitors, Rutt and Ene to Southern Illinois. We will contact you with ideas and don't hesitate to let me know what your county would like to do to roll out the red carpet for our International guests.

Be sure to contact me with dates for your Annual Meetings or other events. The best part of this position is visiting your county events. I have an installation planned to match our theme.

God's blessings to you all during this Christmas season.

Merry Christmas and Happy 2016,

Janel Kassing



FRANKLIN.....

God's paintbrush has really been busy here in Southern IL changing the color of the leaves. My favorite time of the year, even tho those same leaves will be gone before long. We've stayed busy this year in our county, seems like time passes so quick from event to the next.

We returned from conference and immediately got busy on our annual Home, Garden, and Craft Show. We had a little later date this year due to a conflict, but

people were still looking for new ideas. The next month was our annual meeting and we were proud to have our District Director Janel Kassing there to install officers. President Jane Chapman was there to talk about what she'd like to see accomplished in the next year. We got to meet our new District 25 Director, Lynn.

We have had good attendance at our Lessons for Living which were quite different this year. We learned what Hospice can do for you, the importance of Bees, Food Substitutions, Herbs, Getting rid of sour Pickles, and others. In November, a State Police Officer will teach a class about Bullying. One really enjoyable lesson was about Charley Birger, a famous "gangster" in Southern IL. Bob Rea gave an excellent portrayal of Charlie, right down to his apparel.

We had our International Lesson in September. We've had some craft lessons this year—learning how to make ruffled wreaths, making a necklace from a necktie and making those big pretty bows.

Due to bad weather in February, we held our Membership Luncheon in June. It was well attended. We received 4 new members. HCE Board Members and Unit members took part in two style shows at the Peebles Store in Mt. Vernon. They also sent models to our HCE sponsored style show as did Cato's.

We have so many volunteers in our organization and the extra work they do is fantastic. The ladies meet every week to make neck coolers for the military. A couple of our ladies have been busy crocheting caps for cancer patients.

We will be making and stuffing Christmas Stockings for our Franklin County Veterans in nursing homes. At the time of this writing, we are getting ready for the Annual Christmas Ideas Day and Craft Fair. We think it is number 40 - at least.

The week after that is Family Issues Update which we shared with Williamson County and invited other counties for several years. This year Perry County offered to host in conjunction with their Christmas Event and the other 4 counties in the group will be assisting. Oh, and can't forget to mention that we collect recycle items for the classrooms to use—and also that we sold Butter Braids again this year.

We don't really have anything planned for December, but who knows? We always have something going on.

Barbara Spencer
Public Relations, Franklin County

DISTRICT NEWS

HAMILTON.....

Summer has come and gone and we are enjoying a beautiful fall in Hamilton County. We are now making plans for fall and winter activities.

On August 18th we had a great lesson on “Quilt, Quilts, and Quilting.” Penni Smith from Calico Country shared several quilts and other sewing items with those attending and told about different sewing machines that are available.



Quilts and Quilts



Sue Kinder, our cultural arts director, is making plans to sew pillow case dresses for children in Africa.

Our Community outreach person, Karol Brown, delivered 280 items to the veterans at Marion. We are still collecting soda tabs, box tops for education, hard plastic items, and stamps.

We have purchased books for our local library from Memorial Fund donations in memory of deceased HEA members from the past year.

In September, our lesson was on activities that parents, grandparents and caregivers can do with children. Several members attended the Homemakers Fall Fest in Harrisburg on September 24th. It was very enjoyable as usual. Some of our members helped on the planning committee.

Four board members from our county attended the District Conference held in Effingham on August 11th. Plans are being made for a Holiday Bazaar, Bake Sale and Lunch on November 21st. We will be raffling off a beautiful quilt which we have been selling chances on during the summer.

We are sponsoring a bus trip to Patti’s for lunch in Grand Rivers, KY and a Down Home Country

Christmas show at the Badgett Theatre on November 13th. As usual, the trip is sold out.

Our October lesson was “Move It and Lose It” given by Becky Brock, owner of “Inspirations” a ladies fitness center here in McLeansboro.

Our International Night was held on October 13th, with several 4-H clubs displaying items and food samples from various countries. Seventy were present for the program about Lithuania.

Hope everyone has a great winter and a Blessed and Happy Holiday Season.

Bernadine Drone
Public Relations, Hamilton County

JACKSON.....

The ladies of Jackson County have been very busy over the summer with our HCE Lessons. We have had wonderful Programs on “Apples Old and New”. We took a brief vacation in August and had a pick up lesson for “Live Your Bucket List”.

In September we worked very hard on a Fall Fundraiser will selling Local Mums provided to us by an Amish Farmer. We had a wonderful fundraiser, and made Jackson County very beautiful in the process with beautiful Flowers.

Pictured at right: HCE Board members Jane McLaughlin, Lyn Pierson, Jean Conrod, Francie Lindeman, Lyn Christy, Becky McIntosh and Evelyn Legendre attended the District meeting in Effingham. A wonderful time was had by everyone in attendance.



The International Lesson on the Baltic States will be presented by Chair Person Evelyn Legendre in October. She has a wonderful program prepared with a speaker and great food.

In November, we will be attending a program on Local Buying and how our local crops are changing to meet changing demands in our area. Nathan Johanning Local Farms Educator will be our presenter on this topic.

DISTRICT NEWS

Jackson County, continued

Then in December, we settle down and celebrate the Holidays. Then in January, we are back at our usual hectic pace. Verelle Leaton, 1st Vice President has a whole new line up of programs in 2016. She has worked very hard getting information on Nutritional Cooking, Soap Making, Diabetes Information, and beneficial exercise to keep us happy and healthy.

Enjoy your Fall and Christmas Holidays. We hope to see all of you at the Annual IACHE Meeting in East Peoria next year.

Jean Conrod
Newsletter Editor, Jackson County

September, we attempted to have a fund raising Yard Sale, but Mother Nature did not want to cooperate; we packed up early and will try again another day. Our September lesson focused on exploring the options and tools necessary for health insurance decisions. This can be an overwhelming experience, the more you know and understand the easier it is to make decisions.

October is HCE week for Jefferson County, our theme was Make it your AIM to walk with JCHCE during HCE Week, and we used the AIM for women as our guide for the week. Sunday October 18, 2015, - Spiritually Inspiring - Our members were asked to take pictures in front of their churches and will share church bulletins with other members.

...Monday October 19, 2015 - **Recruit a new member.**

...Tuesday October 20, 2015 - **Socially Responsible.** We collected donations for our food pantries and gloves and mittens for our local schools during our International Night, "Take a Virtual Walk Through Australia."

...Wednesday October 21, 2015 - **Physically Healthful.** Dehydration is a common ailment among many people so all the unit were asked to share some water with a friend or co-worked and encourages them to add more water to their daily routine.

...Thursday October 22, 2015 - **Mentally stimulating.** One way to stay mentally sharp is doing things that make you think, members are encouraged to work a type of game that encourages you to think, a small brain game was included in the HCE week booklet.

...Friday October 23, 2015 - **Economically Sound.** Scams are plentiful, and costly to some, a publication on frauds was included in the HCE week booklet, everyday there is a new swindle going around, members were encouraged to beware of the frauds going on in the area, and share that information with others.

...Saturday October 24, 2015 - **Artistically satisfying.** JCHCE held a project day and demonstrated how to make dining scarves and child size coverings, the finished projects were donated to local places that would use these handmade items.

Our International Night country of study was Australia. We had several authentic dishes made by HCE members. A guest speaker who visited Australia shared her experience and pictures with us. Our local newspaper lifestyle editor, David Belcher, from the Sentinel gave us a wonderful write up in the newspaper along with some of the recipes members used.

Our program books for 2016 are in the making.

JEFFERSON.....

Here in Jefferson County we have enjoyed a beautiful fall, even more reason to get out, walk, and enjoy nature's beauty, before it gets too cold. I enjoy this quote by – Doug Larson, "autumn is a season followed immediately by looking forward to spring". It speaks volumes of truth.

July is a busy month for the 4-H Youth with their project shows and 4-H fair. JCHCE supports the 4-H by volunteering to judge the project shows and work out at the fair helping wherever they can. The quality of work that shows in the projects and the amount of time and skill shown in the livestock of these youth are impressive to say the least. JCHCE is proud and honored to support this talented group. Our July lesson was on "Mindfulness and Soul Care", it made most of us aware of how we should be maintaining a better awareness of our thoughts, feelings, and the surrounding environment.

JCHCE kept busy in August by helping our 4-H Youth with their annual BBQ. Members donated pies and cakes for dessert, and helped with the service line. It is a good opportunity for JCHCE to be exposed to the public by having a chance to sell our quilt tickets and offer information about our organization.

In August, the JCHCE was invited by the Waltonville Historical Society for a presentation on dowsing. Shirley Payne held a demonstration at Knob Prairie Cemetery. She demonstrated how to find unmarked graves and explained how she can tell the gender of the person buried there. It was fascinating and very informative.

Our board members attended the IAHCE fall workshop and came home inspired with new projects. It is always nice to get together with other HCE groups and hear about what their groups are doing and has been successful.

DISTRICT NEWS

Members will be making plans for “Rollin’ down the River” with JCHCE in 2016.

JCHCE wishes everyone the best for the rest of autumn, and a holiday season filled with love, laughter, and joy.

Silvana Morss
Public Relations, JCHCE

PERRY.....

Perry County HCE took July to rest and renew and jumped back in with all hands on deck in August. We had an extremely successful Quilt Show and Bed Turning at our local assisted living facility. The program during the event was “Underground Railroad Quilts”. There were 123 quilts/wall hanging displayed and 105 people attended the event. Prizes were given out in several different categories for those displaying quilts.

All of our Units began collecting money that will be donated to the Perry County 4-H Federation to purchase Christmas presents for 5-Star Industries which provides residential service for children and adults with developmental disabilities including respite and family support as well as day programs for adults with disabilities including group activity programs, vocational training, sheltered employment, and community placement as well as assistance obtaining employment in the community.

October was busy for our members. We had a combined unit meeting with the lesson being “Build a Better Memory”. Members also spent time that day constructing craft kits for their next program, which was the annual Craft Day.



Craft Day members learning to weave small bread baskets.

Our Craft Day was the second annual, and another huge success! Over 50 participants had the option of joining in 6 different craft workshops and there were 4 different take home kits available also.



Craft Day participants learning how to finger knit and arm knitting .

County President, Jane Chapman visited each unit at their September meeting and gave a lesson titled “Living Your Bucket List”.

Sara Tanner
Public Relations, Perry County

SALINE.....

A busy summer didn't slow down the Saline County Homemakers. We still continue to collect soda tabs for St Jude's and COKE point for the Harrisburg Westside School. Our Fall Community Outreach project for the V.A. was a collection of sweatshirts, sweat pants, and diabetic socks. These were delivered in time for Veterans Day.

Units hosted 4-H clubs at their August meetings. 4-Hers showed off their projects and ribbons to the ladies. Our ladies love seeing all the different projects and learning about them from the 4-H members.

Our President, Jody Moore, presented two \$25 check at the 4-H Achievement Night in October to the "Best First Time Food Demonstrator" and "Top Food Demonstrator".

Saline County helped host the Multi-County Fall Fest "Country Hoedown" meeting in September. It was a great day spent with fellow IAHCE ladies enjoying food, speakers and entertainment. Thanks to all the ladies on the planning committee. Your time and hard work to plan a wonderful day was appreciated and I'm sure all who attended this year will want to come back in 2016.

Country Friends unit hosted the August lesson at the Saline Creek Pioneer Village. Georgia Murphy lead the tour around the museum grounds and buildings. She told about the history of the grounds and the buildings that

DISTRICT NEWS

Saline County, continued

have been moved and reassembled on the grounds. Better Homes unit hosted the October lesson on Holiday Gifts from the Kitchen. We learned how to make simple delicious treats in the microwave for all our Holiday Parties.

In October, we held the International Night meeting and potluck. Our ladies did a great job of decorating tables with information on the countries. Colleen Alvey gave a talk about the customs of the countries and the articles and artifacts that decorated the County Friends table.

The Chicken and Dumpling Dinner held in October was a huge success. Colleen Alvey and her "family" of helpers and Georgia Murphy cooked many batches of dumplings, green beans, slaw and dinner rolls. Our ladies and 4-H members Devine, Zane, and Emma Carlile served and cleared tables.



Pictured at right:
Kay Long,
1st Vice
and
Saline County
4-H member
Zane Carlile
serving a plate of
Chicken and
Dumplings at the
October Dinner.

Barbara Lambert
 Public Relations, Saline County

JUST BURNED
2,000 CALORIES!
THAT'S THE LAST TIME
I LEAVE BROWNIES
IN THE OVEN
WHILE I NAP

WHITE.....

Greetings from White County, we started September off with a very full and busy month of activities. We started off with a board meeting on September 14th. We voted to start saving used medicine bottles, the Presbyterian Church will pick them up and send them to Africa to be used for their medical needs.

September the 24th was the five county Fall Festival, it was a fun filled day for all.

September the 27th-October 3rd is HCE Week filled with many community projects. We collected food items for the White County Food Bank and Children's Craft Fair at the Fairgrounds. Also we took homemade cookies to the White County Nursing Home for the caregivers and HCE International Day. I can't say enough about what an Educational, Inspiring, Heartfelt, Information Day it was for all.

White County HCE International Day

Our guest speaker was **Rema Denn**, native of Lithuania and a friend of our Chairman, Ruth Norris. Lithuania is one of the Baltic States we are studying this year. Rema has been in the United States for about 20 years. She became a US Citizen 10 years ago. She came to Chicago and met a man from Southern Illinois whom she later married. They now live in Dale, Illinois. She raised a son and daughter and they are now grown and on their own. Rema never knew her parents; she was raised in an orphanage in her country.



Rema Denn

We hope to hear a lot more from her in the future and maybe we will get her to join as a member of HCE. We had a wonderful lunch, making 18 Lithuanian foods from her country.

A special THANKS goes to Beverly Wynn, our International Chair, for providing us with a variety of recipes from Lithuania. Kugelis (Potato Casserole) is the most common Lithuanian-American recipe. Su is a traditional Christmas dish made with neck bones, caraway seeds and sauerkraut and served with rye bread. We had about 18 dishes made that day by HCE members.

DISTRICT NEWS

The Board members want to take this time to say THANKS one and all for making White County HCE a working team of members who participate and communicate to our community what a great organization HCE really is. This year, we need to keep working to communicate with compassion, care, and service to our White County communities.

White County HCE 75th Anniversary

October 20th, we had another special day for White County HCE. We were honored with eight 50-Year Members with us that day. We had a great lunch and a special 75th Anniversary cake for dessert. There were lots of historical items on display from HCE members from the last 75 years. Cookbooks and pictures for all to enjoy and see what we looked like back then. We had two ladies who have been an member of HCE for 54 years and six ladies with 50-year memberships.



50 year members:
Mary Winter, Virginia Austen,
Linda Johnson, Vera Blackford
and Sue McCarthy

These ladies are a great inspiration to all HCE members. We all have the opportunities and try to encourage someone to become a member this year. A special thanks to Ludene Taylor, HCE Week chairman, for all the wonderful table decorations. Thanks

Ruth Sell 85 (left)
years old/54 year
HCE member

Helen Sailer (right)
92 years old/54 year
HCE member



HCE Chairman
Ruth Norris
Doris Stinson, 1st
Vice chairman

*A Friend is someone who reaches for your hand,
but touches your Heart.*

Frances Matheny
Public Relations, White County

WILLIAMSON.....



Shown above at the mini-district meeting in Benton Oct. 27 with Janel Kassing are 7 of the 8 HCE of Williamson County attendees on the second row facing Janel and in the front row left.

Our county has many fall events with the Bazaar Nov. 7 in Marion featuring food, baked goods, and crafts as well as raffle themed gift baskets. Oct. 31 the HCE board prepares lunch at the Lighthouse Homeless Shelter in Marion for the fifth Sat. We are not planning county events for December-February due to weather issues, but unit members will plan their own holiday events and exchange of gifts, etc. The Care & Share Unit voted to donate money to worthy community causes rather than exchange gifts. Our International Event had to be cancelled due to health problems.

Marie Samuel
Public Relations, Williamson County

LA SALLE.....

Fall is upon us in all it's beautiful colors. The clocks have all been set back---dark too early now!

We survived a WET 4-H Fair in July. It rained ever day. Tractors were kept busy pulling everyone out of the mud. Lots of slippin' & slidin' going on! The HCE

Continued on next page

DISTRICT NEWS

LaSalle County, continued

and 4-H members that worked at the food stand managed to keep bright cheery smiles on & had fun. It is such a great experience working with the 4-H youth! Our homemade pies were a success & enjoyed by all.

September was spent planning our new program booklets put together for the year, lessons all put together for the new year & board members looking forward to "Rollin' On The River With IAHC".

Lessons for 2015 - 2016 are: September is "Bullying". October is "Health Insurance for Those 65 years Plus". November is "Eating Well as You Age". December is "The Baltic States: Lithuania, Latvia & Estonia". January is "Becoming An Informed Citizen". February is "Make Your Heart Feel Like Dancing With Fruits & Vegetables". March is "See The Future!". April is "Aging Gracefully".

Our Cultural Enrichment Director, Sandy Martin, is asking each unit to set up a reading project. Volunteer at schools to have students read to you or you read to them. Read to someone in the hospital or nursing home, or to a shut in. It can be the newspaper, a book, a poem or anything that may be of interest.

The other project for the year is the ouch-pouch which is an underarm hanging pillow intended to add comfort to women's lives during breast cancer treatment. It hangs from the shoulder, fitting snugly under the arm to cushion the underarm & breast area after surgery or during radiation.

Each unit has been given their schedule for the nursing home "Bingo Party". The residents really look forward to our visits & treats.



At District Meeting: Board members: Becky Kendall, Sandy Martin, Bernice Dunn & Sarah Smith

One of our main objectives for the year is to draw interest in our organization & bring new members into our units. We must be creative & open minded to recruit younger members. You do not need to be a senior to belong to HCE. I have heard it said "I am not old enough to belong to HCE". We need to change our image! In closing, I wish everyone a "Merry Christmas". Enjoy family time together. Till next year-----

Penny Carter

Public Relations, LaSalle County/District 2/3



KAY MAYBERRY

Kay Mayberry, former IAHC Liaison has passed.

She served as University of Illinois Extension Advisor and Extension Educator Family Life.

After retirement she became very involved with the family, husband Gerald, sons Troy and Todd and daughter Tanya.

She enjoyed following her five granddaughters and 1 grandson in their various sports. She helped to form a church youth group and worked with Vacation Bible School. She cheered on the "CUBS" baseball team. Kay's family and friendships were very important to her.

She worked very hard in her home county Hamilton with their Home Community Education group. She tirelessly worked on programs and helped to increase their membership.

In 2014 Kay was honored with 4-H Hall of Fame Award. She had a long history with 4-H and youth. She was active in Jo Daviess, Hamilton, White and Gallatin Counties. No matter what her title, she supported 4-H and Extension in every way she could. She always gave her best.

Condolences may be mailed to the family:

Gerald Mayberry
R. R. # 1 Box 193
Broughton, IL 62817-9608.

CWC/ACWW REPORT

75th Anniversary in USA Draws International Visitors

Tulsa, Oklahoma was the site September 18 through 21 of the 75th Meeting of the Country Women's Council, USA. It was combined, as usual, with the USA Area Meeting of the Associated Countrywomen of the World. But, one unusual part was celebrating the 75th CWC Anniversary with a Punch Bowl reception complete with a large ice sculpture. More than that there were five ACWW guests from outside the USA including ACWW World President Ruth Shanks from Australia. CWC Officers including Chairman Javonna Earsom, ACWW USA Area President Bev Earnhart and the women of The Oklahoma Home and Community Education organization were gracious participants and hosts.

All 26 member societies of CWC were given the opportunity to present a 2 minute verbal report. In the unavoidable absence of IAHCE President Jane Chapman, I spoke for IAHCE. These particular words from Jane are very meaningful "In 2014, TEAM IAHCE provided over \$7,000 in college scholarships, \$3,500 to the American Cancer Society, constructed mats for the homeless, made caps for cancer victims, fidget blankets for dementia patients, provided weighted blankets for children with autism, and the list goes on and on. In 2014, TEAM IAHCE turned in 563,284 volunteer hours!"

Some of the interesting activities and projects I heard other CWC member societies share were: Arkansas' Talent Show at their annual conference and their January 'virtual' on-line meeting with county presidents; Indiana's organ donation program; Kentucky's initiation of a junior homemakers club; South Carolina's money raised for a horticulture scholarship, Wisconsin's members reading to 3 & 4 year olds through their Wisconsin Bookworms partnership with UW – Extension Family Living Programs and Head Start; Alabama's T-Shirts for Veterans in homes; Maryland publishing monthly current affairs in their communities; New Hampshire's Book/CD program for children of women in prison so "Mom can be heard reading them a story"; Oklahoma Farm Bureau Women's Committee sponsored Ag in the Classroom and gave a \$1,500 nursing school scholarship; Washington State had a "Tea" to raise money for the Mongolian Project; Oklahoma HCE celebrated 80 years and gave \$85,000 in scholarships statewide. NVON successfully sent Point One water filters to the disaster area in Nepal.

The pre-meeting tour was fantastic: The Nellie Johnstone #1 Oil Rig with oil gusher demonstration using water, Price Tower designed by the famous architect Frank Lloyd Wright, Will Rogers Memorial Museum and 3,700 acre Woolaroc Museum and Wildlife Preserve.

Because of the affiliation of our state organization AHCE, all members of LCAHCE can participate in the activities

Conference in August of 2016. If you are an individual member of ACWW then you get the ACWW Magazine.

If you do have a subscription, see CWC's Winter NewsSheet at www.cwcusa.org for more information and pictures.

Pat Weitzmann
IAHCE International Director



John Weitzmann, Pat Weitzman, Joan McEachern and Marilyn Daughhetee represented Illinois. In Tulsa, OK. They are seated in front of the 75th Anniversary ice Sculpture.

NVON

2016 NVON CONFERENCE HOSTED BY IAHCE

Sharon Middleton was the chairman of conference. As you know, she has a 2 year old grandson that had a liver transplant in 2014. He is doing great now. But also in December, 2014, his mother had twin boys. Remember Sharon was babysitting for Crosby since his birth and now has the twin boys. She is now watching all 3 boys!

She felt she needed to step down as chairman and asked me to help her out. I contacted the president of NVON, Lylene Scholz, for her approval and received that. I will now be the chairman of the NVON 2016 Conference.

I know that you all will help IAHCE to provide an interesting, educational and fun conference in 2016 at the Normal, IL Marriott Hotel. Please call me if you want to be a part of hosting this conference. My contact number is 217-251-4903.

Thanks so much.

Marilyn Daughhetee

2015 NVON CONFERENCE - PRESIDENT REPORT



“We can and we will through team work continue to prosper and grow.” These are the words being spread throughout the Illinois HCE membership. Using Joel Osteen's newest book, “You Can and You Will” as a model, we are encouraging all our “team members” to focus on the eight principles that Mr. Osteen writes about in his book:

1. Keep your vision in front of you – dream big,
2. Run your race – focus on your goal,
3. Expect good things – anticipate great opportunities,
4. Have a positive mindset – take control of your thoughts and attitudes,
5. Commit to excellence – do your best and maintain high standards,
6. Keep growing – be proactive, be intentional, build on your gifts, and continually improve,
7. Serve others – invest yourself in others,
8. Stay passionate – light the fire within and approach life with enthusiasm.

If the IAHCE board and the Illinois membership work together as a team and follow these 8 principles we can and we will grow and prosper.

TEAM IAHCE is 7,000 plus strong and are found from one end of the state to the other, located in 76 different counties, from all walks of life, all ages, gender, and nationality. The team members are constantly giving of their selves to help and educate others. The mission of the IAHCE is to enhance the lives of individuals and families through quality educational programs and experiences encouraging responsible leadership and service to the community

In 2014, TEAM IAHCE demonstrated our mission through:

- providing over \$7,000 in college scholarships,
- \$3,500 to the American Cancer Society (from one county!);
- constructing mats for the homeless,
- caps for cancer victims,
- fidget blankets for dementia patients,
- weighted blankets for children with autism,
- quilts for nursing home residents,
- bibs for a handicap school;
- collected items for food pantries pregnancy centers, tornado victims, Veterans;
- aiding 4-H financially;
- serving as show day judges;

- doing workshops for bib making for autism children, to pie making to a Zucchini Squash!;
- helping the environment through collecting bottle caps to make benches and tables, pill bottles to be used in Veterinarian clinics; and
- “dumpster diving” to retrieve Prairie Farm milk jug caps for a project to help a home for victim of human trafficking and then to recycle.

TEAM IAHCE turned in 563,284 volunteer hours in 2014 each worth \$24.08/hour which equates out to \$13,563,902.00!

TEAM IAHCE demonstrates and lives their mission!

TEAM IAHCE does not stop with the giving within our state boundaries; the generosity extends to other parts of the world.

Numerous caps were made and sent to Africa, as were many pillowcase dresses constructed and sent to Haiti. \$14,421.44 was collected in 2014 for ACWW Pennies for Friendship projects, \$413.02 raised for Women Walk the World, donations were also made for the Wells for All project and Save a Sight. The best has been saved for last and what I personally feel is the greatest tribute to TEAM IAHCE that I could make.

The last two years TEAM IAHCE has collected for the NVON water filter project and I am very proud to have presented a check for \$4,214.34 which brings the balance donated to this project to \$11,093.52

In conclusion, TEAM IAHCE would like to extend a hearty invitation to the IAHCE 2016 Annual Conference to be held in Peoria, Illinois on March 15th through 21st.

We are also honored to be hosing the NVON 2016 Annual Conference on July 18th through the 21st in Normal, Illinois.

As one of the last great Roman emperors stated,

“When you arise in the morning, think of what a precious privilege it is to be alive – to think, to enjoy, to love”.

On behalf of TEAM IAHCE, thank you!

Jane Chapman
IAHCE President

NEWS AND NOTES

2016 NVON COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Conference Chair
 Marilyn Daughhete, marilyn5162@att.net, 217-251-4903

Committee Chairs

Registration
 Sharon Middleton, itole2@sbcglobal.net, 217-877-7229

Speakers
 Marilyn Daughhete, marilyn5162@att.net, 217-251-4903

Workshops and Seminars
 Sharon Middleton, itole2@sbcglobal.net, 217-877-7229

Gifts for Presenters
 Marilyn Schaefer, marilyn67@frontiernet.net,
 217-821-0508

Hostesses and Facilitators
 Mildred Lamprecht, mmlamprecht@hotmail.com,
 309-686-0048

ACWW Silent Auction
 Angela Hicks, angelashicks@yahoo.com, 847-516-1529

Tours Mary Eustace, maryliz246@aol.com, 217-829-4016

Spouse/Friends Tours
 Mary Eustace, maryliz246@aol.com, 217-829-4016

Trade Show
 Kathryn McNeely, kamcneely@frontier.com 309-473-2283
 Kathleen Emery, ksemery@frontiernet.net, 309-728-2784

State Displays: Macon County

Table Decorations:
 Marilyn DeVries, marilyndevries4838@yahoo.com
 815-238-5680

Favors: Edgar County, Piatt County, Stephenson County

Door Prizes
 Kathryn McNeely, kamcneely@frontier.com, 309-473-2283
 Kathleen Emery, ksemery@frontiernet.net, 309-728-2784

Host State Sales Table
 Joan Stanley, ejoanstan1@live.com, 217-344-3339

Publicity
 Sharon Middleton, itole2@sbcglobal.net, 217-877-7229

Pages Alice Grooms, 217-853-1804

Illinois Night:
 Karen Halicki, halicki3@prairieinet.net, 217-855-1703

IT'S SOCIAL MEDIA TIME

*Sharon Middleton maintains the IAHCE website:

www.iahce.org

*Sharon Davis has begun a Facebook page:

[State Iahce](#)

Please feel free to post any pictures or events concerning HCE that you have done on the **Facebook** page. What a great way of promoting HCE and getting new ideas. Many counties have started their own county Facebook pages be sure to check those out also.
 —Sharon Davis

CALENDAR

January 31, 2016

Deadline for submitting Reports/Education Awards materials, Mini-Stipend — send to Appropriate Education Committee chair

March 15 - 17, 2016

IAHCE Annual Conference, Embassy Suites, East Peoria, Illinois
 March 15. Second Annual Fun Walk (first day of annual conference)

March 17 - 31, 2016

International Exchangees from Estonia stay in Host homes of HCE members and visit Districts

April 29, 2016

Official ACWW day for Women Walk the World

July 18 - 21, 2016

NVON Illinois hosting Marriot Hotel, Normal, IL

August 17 - 23, 2016

ACWW Triennial Conference University of Warwick, Coventry, England



Hi Facebook Fans,

Our State IAHCE is now on Facebook. Please look under State IAHCE and end a friend request. Some of you have already become friends and I hope you are enjoying the Facebook pages.

This year our State President Jane Chapman is promoting membership. What a great resource to get your name out there and hopefully get new members.

This year at conference I will be putting together a PowerPoint slide show to run when we are together at our lunches and dinners. These will include pictures with captions to describe the pictures.

Please send me pictures of what your county has done by email and tell what they are so I can include them in the PowerPoint.

Thank you for your help

Sharon Davis
 Family & Community Issues

SIMPLE BITS OF KNOWLEDGE



“Simple bits of knowledge” and “how-to-do’s” were written and presented by IAHC District Directors and board members. Are there times when you may wish you had learned the basics for some things but didn’t...or your may have learned at one time but forgotten? The presenters say it’s not too late! They showed how to thread a needle, sew on a button, hem a hem, sew a simple item, how to use basic kitchen gadgets, cook a simple meal and ... just the basics!

DISTRICT MEETING — DISTRICTS 6 and 7



DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT 4 and 5



DISTRICT 1 and 2/3



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