IAHCE NEWS

CELEBRATING AROUND THE WORLD with IAHCE

Inside This Issue
Board Members 2
President’s Letter 3
1st-2nd Vice President 4-5
Secretary/Treasurer 5
Education Reports 6-8
U of I Liaison 9
District News 9-39
International-Deon Maas 40
Family of the Year 41
Wall of Honor 42-45
Conference Hi-lights 46
Thank You Notes 47
Dates to Remember 47
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Happy New Year, everyone!

“Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Let’s write a good one.” - Brad Paisley

No, I have not lost my mind but to me this is the beginning of a new year as your IAHCE President. This will be the beginning of my fifth year serving as president. Twelve months ago, I was installed as your president for my second term, so I think of this as a beginning of a new year.

The past year has gone exceptionally fast, I think. I have had the opportunity to visit many counties, travel to the NVON conference in Pewaukee, Wisconsin and the CWC conference in Davenport, Iowa. I still have about 17 counties to visit yet over the next two years to achieve a goal I set my first term to visit all the member counties in the state. I made it to 7 new ones this year! I have had return visits to many of the counties over my four-year tenure and loved every visit.

My visits this past year took me from Pulaski/Alexander in the extreme south to JoDaviess in the extreme northwest to many others in between. I was delighted to be able to attend several of the 100th anniversary celebrations that the counties put on. I truly enjoyed seeing the county board participate in skits at McLean and Livingston counties, viewing all the old pictures of past HCE, HEA, and Home Bureau events, being enriched culturally with the old pressure cooker and clothing of the early 1900’s at Adams county, listening to the great Barbershop quartet that sang in Macon County, and just enjoying all the different and unique ways that each county celebrated their 100th.

While I have been busy traveling the state all of you have been busy, too! It is awesome to see how far reaching your educational and service projects extend when I review the reports sent to me. I can tell that HCE members are making a big impact in their communities, our country, and our world. Some examples of how you impacted your communities the last year:

- Jasper County provides books to all kindergarten children in the county and one for each of the classroom teachers plus sharing time with the student by reading the book to them. They also helped 101 families and 226 children at Christmas with gifts and food!
- Franklin county raised money by having rummage sales and food sales to aid in purchasing a handicap swing for a park in their county.
- Kane County is big into recycling projects: glasses, phones, stamps, greeting cards, florist vases, etc., which were used to benefit people in the community.
- Monroe County hosts monthly birthday parties at a nursing home.
- Jackson County, with the Honoring Children Eternally which helps families that lose infants at birth or shortly after by making gowns out of old wedding dresses for the infant’s burial, making a memory box as a way for the family to keep mementoes of the infant, and providing blankets.

Other ways that have impacted your communities are amazing from monetary donations to actual food to food pantries; honoring first responders with blankets, food and drinks; treating Veterans by taking them out to lunch or sending cards or treats to Veterans homes; making Quilts of Valor and blankets for Honor Flights; helping 4-H with projects, judging or being a superintendent at show days, monetary donations, assisting at food stands. I could go on and on with examples of how HCE members impact their communities.

Many of you held special events in honor of the Bicentennial of Illinois by dedicating a bench made from plastic bottle caps, drawing contests for school children, and by including facts about Illinois in your newsletters.

You honor our country’s military by providing gifts at Christmas, neck coolers, and monetary donations to military support groups.

Internationally, the contributions you make to the Friendship Projects Fund is amazing. The Zero Hunger Challenge you stepped up and outdid yourselves with your generosity—dresses for Africa, donating to the Water for All project, and the Women Walk the World are just a few ways you impact the world.

No matter what is ask of you, you step up and do the task faithfully. Yes, you have all gone through life changes over the years but one thing stays the same and that is your need to serve and your compassion for others.

Continued on next page
President’s Report, continued from page 3

Becky Belcher of Hamilton County had this inspiring quote in her January newsletter and I thought it fitting as we begin a new year in HCE, to encourage us to grow our membership, to step outside your comfort zone by changing and accepting change not only in HCE but our lives.

“I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing the world. You’re doing things you’ve never done before, and more importantly, you’re doing something. So, that’s my wish for you and all of us, and my wish for myself. Make new mistakes. Make glorious, amazing mistakes. Make mistakes nobody’s ever made before. Don’t freeze, don’t stop, don’t worry that it isn’t good enough, or it isn’t perfect, whatever it is: art, or love, or work or family or life. Whatever it is you’re scared of doing, do it. Make your mistakes, next year and forever.” By Neil Gaiman

So, let’s not wait until tomorrow to begin filling the blank pages of our book, write down some mistakes you want to make this coming year. Use your many abilities and talents to make many new mistakes this year and write a good book in 2019!

Thank you and Happy New Year!

I want to close with saying a big “THANK YOU” to all of you that contributed to the Zero Hunger Campaign. The success of it was overwhelming and beyond my expectations. The final tally I have is $8,664.31 with 70 of the 72 IAHCE member counties participating!

Later,

Jane

1st VICE PRESIDENT
Sharon Middleton

What a great conference we just had. We weren’t sure what country we were in until our meals, lunch and dinner, were served. From Mexico, to France, to Germany and more. The conference chairs, Marilyn Schaefer and Pat Hildebrand along with President Jane Chapman made it a wonderful experience.

There were many share shops to choose from. This brings me to the 1st Vice Presidents from each county. We met on Wednesday during the Officers share shops. Discussed were the different lessons they had brought and other items of interest. They chose the next classes to be compiled for the U of I Educators to create the 2020 lessons which will be available at the District Workshops in August. Counties not attending the conference will receive your packets from one of your members who attended or your District Director. Be sure to go over them when you receive them. If you did not receive a packet, please contact me and I will get it to you.

I mentioned District Workshops which is scheduled for August 6, in Effingham, August 7, in Springfield and August 8 in Sycamore. More information will be added to our website www.iahce.org

More new lessons will be added to the website. Be sure to check it periodically. If any county who has not given us their information to add to the website, just contact me at: tolepainter2@gmail.com

I’m looking forward to a warm (not hot) summer. If you have any questions, please write or call me. Have a great summer too!

Sharon Middleton
EXECUTIVE BOARD

2nd VICE PRESIDENT
Norma Korte

Although I am taking on the position of Second Vice President, I must admit my ‘first love’ was Family & Community Issues.

With the encouragement of many of the members and voting delegation, I thought it was the right time for me to move to this office.

Angela Hicks has been an outstanding Second Vice President. I would like to continue her enthusiasm for learning and membership. I hope to offer ideas that combine traditions from our past with new ideas for the present! Together, we can provide new information for our current members while encouraging new members to join our organization.

Most of you already know about my family, my 45 years in 4-H leadership, and 48 years as a member of HCE. My husband Steve and I have three wonderful children; Darryl (Sheila), Daniel (Tiffany), and Debra. We have four (fast-growing) grandchildren, with the oldest, Jakob, now a freshman in Rend Lake College. The next two are in high school – Austin, is a junior who is active in agriculture classes and FFA, and Logan is a sophomore who loves all things related to baseball and is investigating careers in engineering or research. Our only granddaughter, Larkin, enjoys playing volleyball and basketball; her favorite sport is softball, and she loves to play catcher! In her spare time, she enjoys doing crafts and cooking with me.

As mothers, grandmothers, and aunts, we must bond together to learn more about what issues teenagers and young adults are dealing with so we can help them through this time. This is one reason I felt the need to move into the Second Vice President office; more people need HCE to keep them informed of current issues that families face each day. Women all over the world deal with some of the same issues with family, home, gardening, and food. Together, we can help others in our community and address these challenges. To increase our membership and our reach, we must encourage younger generations of women to join HCE.

As you are preparing for the upcoming year, I encourage you to look at Angela’s handout from the conference. “Inspire and Welcome” women in your community to be involved in HCE!

Thank you again for your support!

Norma Korte

“*My biggest influences are strong creative women that chart their own path, lead their own lives & drive the course of history.*” – Rachel Ray

SECRETARY
Cathy Eathington

Hello to everyone. I am your new HCE State Secretary. I look forward to my new duties. I have been a member of HCE for 45 years.

A little about myself, I live on the family farm where I still farm with two of my four sons. The other two live off the farm and one is a lawyer and the other is over Climate Control. I have three daughters by marriage. I have three grandsons and three granddaughters with two more granddaughters by marriage.

Reminder: After your County’s Annual Meeting, please send your county officer information to me as well as your District Director.

The form is in your Secretary Packet your county received at Annual Meeting. You may also submit it by e-mail to cathyeathingtonhce@gmail.com. If possible include e-mail address.

I look forward to meeting all of you at the District Meetings on August 6th, 7th and 8th.

Cathy Eathington

TREASURER
Beverly Combs

If you were not in Effingham “Celebrating Around the World with IAHCE” at Annual Conference, you missed a great time. Kudos to Co-Chairman Marilyn Schaefer and Pat Hildebrand. I hope those who attended enjoyed the various sessions and also found them very informative. And, this German gal found it hard to not get up and dance (except for my arthritis) when we were entertained by a German Band at Tuesday night’s Award Banquet.

I enjoyed seeing many of you again that I have met during the past few years as well as meeting lots of “new” people. As Co-Chair of the Silent Auction, thanks to all the counties and individuals who contributed so many great items. The total proceeds of the auction was $2411 thanks to the many generous bidders. The 50/50 winner received $459.

Here’s hoping you have a great spring and summer. I look forward to seeing many of you again at the August District Workshops.

Bev Combs

“*My biggest influences are strong creative women that chart their own path, lead their own lives & drive the course of history.*” – Rachel Ray
Hello, I'm Sonya Bishop. I am grateful to have been elected as your new Cultural Enrichment Director. I want you to know that one can be both excited and terrified at the same time! That is how I have felt in the days since the convention. That being said, I know I have a lot to learn and encourage suggestions. I know I will make many mistakes. While some are learning opportunities, others may turn out to be beautiful.

Spring is creeping in subtly with green plants emerging and warmer temperatures. These longer days give us more time to be inspired and creative.

This past convention, the Cultural Enrichment presentations had 199 entries. Each county is allowed 8 items. Let’s fill the room with more of your creations! I encourage everyone to Expand their Cultural Enrichment Horizons. Try something new, you never know until you try! Your next opportunity to share is in August during the District workshops. There is ample time to discover new designs and projects to share with your friends and districts. Reach out, explore and share your ideas with your friends. Inspirations come from everywhere.

I know I have some big shoes to fill! Bear with me, I may have to jump in with both feet. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sonya Bishop

Ladies,

It has been a pleasure working with you these last 7 years, and I will miss you. Many of you asked me what I will do with my free time now, and I have no idea.

We want to travel, but life has a way of changing our plans, so we will just take it one day at a time and do what we can, when we can. I do believe that come January and February, I, and my mail lady, will miss getting all those envelopes from all you lovely ladies. I will miss all those challenges of trying to figure out what the heck you mean in some of the entries, and reading about all the great things you have been doing in your counties this year.

You are an amazing bunch of ladies with an outstanding amount of talent, as shown every year in the amount of items entered. Just so you know I never did get anyone to not have their tickets numbers to pick up their items so I could bring the item home with me. Darn it.

I want to thank everyone of you that have helped me over the years, either by doing a Make It Take It, or a craft to share in our share shop, either at state conference, or at district workshop. I could not have done it without you. And I really want to thank all my ladies that helped in the cultural arts room every year at conference; I really couldn’t have survived that without your help. As Jane always says there is no “I” in Team, and it sure took a team to get my work done, and I thank each and every one of you. Also, thanks to all the board members that I have had the pleasure to work with, we were a good team.

Oh yes, this year we had 199 items entered from 37 counties. Last year we had 188 items from 37 counties.

Peggy Long
Your former Cultural Arts director

Family and Community Issues
Eleanor Gregory

I’m your NEW Family and Community Issues Director! I’m excited to have the honor of this IAHCE BOARD position. I met many of you at our share shop at the March 2019 Conference. (Wasn’t this conference the absolute BEST?) I loved listening to you share your projects and your accomplishments. Your enthusiasm for your programs told me I have HCE members who are dedicated and willing to continue making a difference and sharing information with your county members and your communities.

For those who did not hear me speak about myself at the conference, I will introduce myself. I live in Madison County and I am active on our County Board as the International Director. I’ve spent most of my life (45 years) in the second grade. I finally graduated in 2012 when I retired from the Staunton School District #6.

Busy describes me. My husband and I raised our 6 children and we hosted approximately 20 exchange students. The 4-H Program gave my children opportunities to “learn by doing.” I led the Stauntoners 4-H Club for 10 years and I am honored to be in the 4-H Hall of Fame. Now I belong to the “Grandma Hall of Fame” as I have 12 grandchildren ages 1 and up with the oldest being an Airforce cadet. In 2017 I was honored to represent IAHCE as a delegate to the Baltic countries: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. I learned about their family and community projects.

I’m looking forward to the District meetings in August. If you have new ideas you would like to share with me, feel free to send me an email at elegreg@hotmail.com. Or snail mail works too! My address is PO 185, Alhambra, Illinois 62001. (However, April 1-April 20 I will be out of the country. I’m traveling to Dubai, South Africa,
Botswana, and Zimbabwe.) My plan is to present to you some new ideas for ways to serve our families and our communities as well as cheer you on for the work and involvement you are presently doing. Hopefully, we will attract others to show them “HCE IS THE PLACE TO BE!!!”

*Eleanor Gregory*

**CVH/SALES**
Ashley Davis

Hello Everyone,

**Wow!** The 95th IAHCE Annual Conference “Celebrating Around the World” is in the history books. Wasn’t it amazing how we all got to travel together? We got to go to Germany, Mexico, Italy, France and Hawaii in just a few days. Now we can all go and talk about our travels together as HCE members. It was rewarding to see all your smiles, positivity and good attitudes. Always remember as HCE members others read us by our actions. So, keep those smiles, and positive attitudes and others will want to know what HCE is about.

Thank you to everyone that helped make my second year on the IAHCE State Board a rewarding year. I am blessed to have an awesome team and HCE members to help me through. As I was receiving each county volunteer hours, I was in “aww” over the amount of time, heart, love and dedication each member has. It warms my heart to know that each and everyone of you are touching the lives of someone else.

I personally want to congratulate everyone on the awards you received. I also want to thank each and everyone for all the hard work and dedication to HCE and volunteering. I am excited and amazed at the final total of volunteer hours for the whole state. I am happy to announce that in 2018 we had 1 county that turned in CVH hours for the very 1st time, which was Christian County and this year we had 2 new counties turn in CVH hours, which is Jasper County and Richland County. Congratulations to those counties.

I want to share the **FINAL** numbers for 2018 with you and please be sure to share with your county:

- 90 members turned in 1,000 or more hours
- 2184 members turned in hours for the whole State of Illinois
- 63 out of 72 Counties turned in hours
- 300 Certificates and 780 Gold Seals handed out

Each Volunteer Hour is worth $24.69 per hour

\[ 601,531 \times 24.69 = 14,851,800.39 \]

As your IAHCE CVH Director, I am proud of every one of you.

This year we had several counties that had changes in the positions at the county level, please have the new CVH officer on your county board contact me. I will do my best to go over the CVH program with the new officer and encourage the county CVH officer to attend the District Workshop. I noticed that we have some confusion as to how I calculate who receives the certificates and gold seals, I want to be sure and address that at our District Workshops in August. I plan to take all the questions I received from members to our June Board meeting. Some of the questions need to be brought before the board. I hope by August I will have all your questions answered. I want you all to know that if you have any questions or if you feel I made a mistake on anything please feel free to contact me. I want to make sure we are all work together as a TEAM.

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I will be taking orders until **May 31, 2019**. Please contact me via phone, email or text. I can’t guarantee how many extra I will have. This is a one-time offer on the ornaments.

If you placed an order for the IAHCE Christmas ornament at the 2019 IAHCE Annual Conference or plan to place an order, I will have those orders ready at the 2019 District Workshops in August. I will be collecting payment for the orders at that time also.

Many **THANKS** for Fantastic job you do. Please know that each member is an Essential piece to HCE. Hope to see everyone at the 2019 District Workshops in August. I am looking forward to being the Co-Chair for the IAHCE 96th Annual Conference and seeing what 2019-2020 holds for us Volunteers!

May God Bless you all,

*Ashley Davis*
INTERNATIONAL
Cara Ausmus

G'Day Mates!

So glad to have seen and visited with so many of our members at conference. Hope some of the ladies in my recipe class have had a chance to try at least 1 or 2 by now. My laptop took an unauthorized vacation so they got true old fashioned handwritten recipes.

CONGRATULATIONS to all those who received awards in all the categories and Cultural Enrichment contest!! It is exciting and inspiring to see and hear what other counties are doing.

Hope you are enjoying India as the year progresses. I enjoy the county newsletters with reports of activities especially the International ones.

Several IAHCE members will have attended the ACWW triennial by the time you read this so we will be enjoying Australia a little bit longer. Deon our exchangee to AU will also be home and accepting dates to tell of her trip. I hope you got to check out her blog. I'm not sure how long it stays up, it was at deontoaustralia.blogspot.com. She can be reached at her phone 309-645-4911 to schedule talks. Try to share dates with surrounding counties so she can travel once and catch several groups in that trip. She is doing 3 days in our area.

Our new country of study and 2020 theme will be revealed at District meetings in August. Hope to see you there - BE sure to check International due dates - and ENJOY Celebrating Around the World until we meet again!

Cara Ausmus

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Pat Hildebrand

Happy May!

It was really great to see so many of you at 2019 Annual Conference in March. The Public Relations/ CVH meeting room was packed! I was delighted there was such a good turnout; however, we sort of ran out of time. So guess what!! We’ll start over on the agenda at the August Workshops with a discussion on writing news releases.

A news release is an official announcement that HCE gives to the news media. (It is called "news release," a "press statement," a "press release," or a "media release," —it’s the same basic thing.)

Think of it as a ticket to earning news coverage AND a valuable piece to market HCE.

To begin thinking ahead here are some points:

• Grab attention with a good headline.
• Get right to the point in the first paragraph.
• Reporters are busy people. Grab their attention in the first couple sentence. the rest is just supporting information.
• Include hard numbers. This supports the significance of your program/HCE/announcement.
• Proofread your press release well before sending it. Even a single mistake can keep you from being taken seriously.
• Include quotes whenever possible. Give a human element to the press release. It’s also a source of information.
• Include your contact information and website.
• One page is best — two at the most. Shorter is usually better.

NOTE: There is always some fun that goes along with technology! My computer was “compromised” twice in the past couple weeks. Some of your e-mails just disappeared after I read them. I make myself notes as soon as I see a message about IAHCE Public Relations, so I think I caught them all, but if you sent an article and it’s not printed in this newsletter, please let me know and I’ll make sure it’s printed in the August issue so you can share what your county has been doing and also get credit. I either missed it or it’s still out there somewhere in “LaLaLand”. A BIG THANK YOU to all of you who resent your article and pictures.

...And, please check the mailing label on this newsletter to see when your subscription will expire.

See you in August!

Pat Hildebrand

GREETINGS FROM RUTT

This year has gone by even faster than the last one. I have no idea how it happened. In September, me and Madli went to Tunisia to relax and to see Sahara Desert. It was wonderful! We had a tour of the whole country, tasted lots of local food and had a camel ride in Sahara Desert.

We have had many different parties to host, it is a challenge every time, people want so many different things. But in the end of the day it is all good, when people leave happily from our farm.

Rutt Tuvike. Estonia
2016 member exchange person
EXTENSION REPORT

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Happy Spring IAHCE!

I’m not sure spring has officially sprung here in Northern Illinois, but the warmer temps are a welcome change from this harsh, snowy, cold winter! As my yard and garden is slowly coming to life, I can’t help but feel rejuvenated and full of life as well!

A big thank you to all of the board and IAHCE members who attended the Annual Conference last month. I was thrilled that several of our Family and Consumer Sciences educators presented Share Shops. I hope you found their programs educational, relevant, timely, and FUN!

Lessons from the FCS team have been very well received this year. So far in 2019, What’s New in the Kitchen and Communicating with Individuals with Dementia have been presented. If you didn’t have a chance to join these webinars in February or March, please plan to join later in the year. We have gotten tremendous feedback that both of these programs are excellent.

To schedule in-person, webinar, and package lessons, reach out to your local University of Illinois Extension office. They have lessons for you!!!!! If you are not sure where your local Extension office is or if you have trouble identifying whom should be helping you locally, please reach out to me. I’d be happy to put you in touch with the right people. My contact information is below.

As strange as it sounds, we are working on preparing lessons for Living Schedule around July 1st – available from your First Vice President or your local Extension office.

If you have any suggestions or comments on FCS lessons through UI Extension, please contact me at 815.632.3611 or kbelzer@illinois.edu.

Cheers to warmer weather and sunshine!

Karla Belzer

DISTRICT 1 NEWS

DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR
Becky Thomas

Well, I have a year of District Director under my belt and still have a lot to learn. Thank you for the support that I have received from District 1.

The 95th Annual Conference was energetic from the beginning entertainment with Nina and Johannes’s German music to ending with Dr. Naam and his patriotism for America and volunteerism.

Our district will focus on Membership this year and retaining members. Change is hard at first, but new members can bring a different perspective to a unit or a county board. My goal is to visit county meetings and functions when I can as I am still working weekends.

The Support Fund is available to counties that want to implement a new idea or program. Application blanks are on pages 64 and 65 in the guidebook. Try something new.

A thought from Dr. Seuss, ‘And when things start to happen, don’t worry. Don’t stew. Just go right along. You’ll start happening too.’ from Oh, the Places You’ll Go!

Becky Thomas

JO DAVIESS

Organized 1935

News from the top of Illinois: Jo Daviess County HCE: The winter in Jo Daviess County delayed a few Unit meetings for the being of the 2019 year, but programs on India, Health Foods, and Caregivers coping with dementia patients have taken place. Our units continued to support the reading outreach program to our preschools in our county with the making of book bags and donation of books. Each child will receive a book bag and a book.

The Annual Meeting for Jo Daviess County HCE will be April 30th, at the Apple River Events Center. The speaker will present from table projects in Jo Daviess County and installation of new officers will take place.

The Hills Unit assisted 17 Scales Mound 4-H club before the Hills monthly meeting and taught them how to make pies. Each 4-H kid made their own small pie from mixing and rolling out dough to making their own filling. They chose from Apple, Cherry, Blueberry, Peach and Pumpkin. With our school no longer offering Home Economics,

Some people try to turn back their “odometers.” Not me. I want people to know why I look this way. I’ve traveled a long way and a lot of the roads were not paved.
it was a great opportunity for the kids to learn how to make a pie, and a great chance for our members to teach such a special skill.

The following list is of community service activities that the HCE Units from Jo Daviess county have participated in this past year; many projects are ongoing:

1. Lap blankets, clothing protectors, pillow cases made for nursing home
2. Cards, May Day baskets to shut-ins
3. 4-H foundation monetary support, homemade pies donated for the 4-H Fair food stand, volunteers for judging
4. Make book bags and supply a book with them to a designated pre-school
5. Monetary/donated food items to 3 local food pantries
6. Knitted caps for newborn babies for local hospital,
7. Collected and sent calendars to VA hospital
8. Bought a microwave and coffee pot for town hall (where Unit meetings are held)
9. Recycle/repurpose tennis shoes, plastic bags, used greeting cards
10. Cleaned town hall and landscape

- President Alice Davis put the above report together for the state conference.

Ann Coppernoll
Public Relations/Historian, Jo Daviess

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MERCER...........
Organized 1917

Kudos to Our Neighboring County!!
Let me take this opportunity to say, “Congratulations to Warren County” for receiving the Grand Award with Outstanding Achievement for a county with less than 75 active members at the recent Illinois Association Conference!!

This award requires dedication to maintaining the educational goals of Home and Community Education and bringing them to the Public in a variety of ways, for developing the programs that reach a variety of audiences and also meet the needs of individuals within that audience, to continue providing cultural enrichment activities and community workshops, and all the while remaining steadfast in constant volunteerism with various community outreach services. Their documentation of each and every program, newsletter, educational lesson, detailed accounts of programs and activities provided for many audiences was amazing! Again Girls—Congratulations!!

Mercer County has continued with their SPUN Groups. The winter has been discouraging. Many groups were unable to meet due to weather constraints. Planning ahead to choose a day or evening for engaging in a group session was often a last minute disappointment. The weather would change in a moment, and then the telephones would jingle or ring!

However, one group has had tremendous success. Whether it be the leader or the topic remains to be seen. This group is the “Lunch Bunch”. They started with 5 members and now they are bursting at the seams with 13 attendees!! Wow! I wish all groups would prosper that well! They have been able to find new venues each month — places where most members have not ventured nor realized that the place was within reach or even in the hamlets of Mercer County! Imagine that one does not know where a good restaurant may be located, even in the vastness of Mercer County?

I’m not sure whether it be the delicious food at the restaurant or whether it is the company that they keep, but keep the spirit alive! I will join you when the time is right.

Donna Pinger
Public Relations, Mercer County

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ROCK ISLAND........
Organized 1921

Rock Island County HCE Rock Island wasn’t excluded when the upper Midwest received an over abundance of unpleasant weather earlier this year. Local units, for reasons of safety, felt it best to cancel some of their meetings, and it seemed we got off to a slow start after the holidays. However planning was taking place and we have several interesting things coming up.
DISTRICT 1 NEWS

Come March we were pleased that our plant sale had gone well. Our HCE members and 4-H clubs didn’t let Old Man Winter get in their way; they contacted past customers and searched out new ones. The end result was approximately 4700 Geranium plants sold. The plants which arrive the first of May have been healthy with buds ready to bloom. Thus, satisfied customers.

A membership tea has been planned which will take place the first Saturday in May. Local units were contacted, ask to invite friends family, neighbors and fill up the hall. Hopes are for a sizeable group to join together for conversation, tasting a variety of teas, enjoy a light lunch, and hearing something interesting about tea and HCE.

June is fast approaching and the end of the 2018-19 year. Our 98th annual meeting is scheduled for late June. There will be several new faces on the new board and we look forward to renewed energy and new ideas. Some events have been planned for the new HCE year.

In August a bus trip is planned to White Pines State Park where we will attend a play. The day trip has been popular as it isn’t a long ride. We have a nice buffet meal waiting for us on arrival, and after viewing the play, we are home by late afternoon. Makes for an enjoyable day.

Also, again this year we will be offering a recycling room at the county fair. It is a good opportunity for getting rid of useable unwanted items and offering them for free to others.

Our Lessons for Living are almost completed. The last lesson is “Food and Drug Interaction” should give us reliable information. As in the past few years, we will give a lesson in June to be used in September.

We in upper state Illinois are enjoying the spring weather, snow all gone, rivers back in their banks, spring flowers in bloom and the smell of fresh air. We hope you are enjoying as well, have a great summer to renewed energy and new ideas.

Mary L. Ecker
Public Relations, Rock Island County

STEVENSON———
Organized 1923

We managed to survive the cold, snowy and icy winter. Many of our units couldn’t meet every month due to the weather.

Seven of our Board members attended the IAHCE state convention in Effingham. One of our members, Marilyn DeVries, was the lucky winner of the very large Teddy Bear. It is almost as tall as she is. She and her great-granddaughter are enjoying playing with it.

On March 23rd, we sponsored a workshop on Electric Pressure Cookers. We learned how to make different kinds of food in the pot. Samples of vegetables, chicken dish, macaroni and cheese and desserts were provided. The workshop was held at the Farm Bureau building and opened to the public.

On March 30th, we hosted the final Heritage Workshop. Carroll, Jo Daviess and Lee counties joined us for the workshops. Six different workshops were offered. Lunch was provided.

Hope you had a Happy Easter!

Ann Runkle
Public Relations, Stephenson County

People who think time heals everything haven’t sat it out in a doctor’s waiting room.
WARREN…….
Organized 1928

Warren County HCE is celebrating its 90th anniversary. In 1928, meetings were held to determine if there was interest in forming a county chapter of Home Bureau Federation. With over 400 pledge cards, the group was formed. The unit meetings and lessons started in January of 1929. Mrs. George McVey was elected county president but resigned and Mrs. Leonard (Jinny) Killey took the position. She writes, “We had a great many thrills in our work. Such as running out of gas, flat tires, some of the husbands having to get his own meals when we were not home on time and...even keeping the children while mother’s went to call on ladies in other townships, but with all that we had lots of fun.”

Jinny Killey had three small children while serving as Warren County President and then in 1934 she excepted the position of Illinois State President. In 1935, she traveled to the first Woman’s Conference in Washington, D.C. where she spoke at Illinois Health Work. She was an accomplished speaker and worked tirelessly to further Home and Farm Bureau. I am pleased we still have a unit that bares her name.

There were up to 19 units and 20 4-H clubs at one time in Warren County with a membership of over 500. Drama, Poetry, Book Clubs and Heritage Arts-the Basket Club. Lessons included Home Accounting, Canning to Furniture Refinishing. There were radio spots twice a month talking about what was happening with Home Bureau. Wonderful articles were published in the papers and elaborate banquets were held for international and annual meetings. Corsages and lavish floral arrangement graced the ladies and stage at these events.

One of the most popular events was “Fiesta” . It was held in the fall. There was a theme and each unit participated by having a display, costumes, crafts and food. The public was invited to this event and from this grew our annual Craft and Home Show which will celebrate it’s 40th anniversary this year. This became our annual fund raiser and a way for the organization to promote women in business. The craft part of the show has been taken over by Warren Achievement this year and they will continue to host the craft side of the show. The home-based business show started seven years ago and the bake sale will still be the organization’s main fund raiser. With only 54 active members and 16 mail box members, we do a wonderful job of volunteering and supporting our community.—by Diane Fedorow

Warren County — May 2019

After many cancellations and rescheduling due to the weather we are back on tract with meetings and events. We were able to participate in the OSF Woman’s Heart Health Fair on Saturday, February 9 in Monmouth. It was a 10 degree below day so turn out was low but we handed out 15 lessons on Crock Pots Meals and signed up two new Mail Box members that wanted to join the Craft Club we started last year. We look forward to next year’s event and warmer temps.

The big news is we won County of the Year -75 and Under! It was just like the Academy Awards. Jane Chapman announced the other 4 counties in the running and then Warren County. We had 3 members to receive the award.

We also won an International award and CVH and Janet Steiner won Best in Show for her counted cross stitch stocking. We are going to include several things we learned at the Make and Take Class in our upcoming Craft Club Classes. We got a lot from the Share shops and enjoyed all the festivities at the Annual Conference.

Our sewing group has taken on making walker bags for Jameson Center Meals on Wheels recipients and Warren Achievement residents. At conference we learned a new way of making them both easier and faster from another county we sat with at lunch. That’s the best take away from conference - the things we learn from one another. Great job!

Diane Fedorow
Public Relations, Warren County
DISTRICT 2/3 DIRECTOR
Kathy Peterson

Conference was AWESOME! Remember to share with your members. Also, want to let you know, we are fundraising and collecting history of HCE as we move toward our 100th Celebration in 2024. I could really use your help.

"Life should not only be lived. It should be celebrated." — by OSHO.

Kathy Peterson

DISTRICT 1 AND 2/3
August 8, 2019
Sycamore United Methodist Church
Sycamore, IL

DU PAGE……..
Organized 1930

So happy that we’re having some sunny warmer days lately. We are ready for Spring!

In October, we celebrated HCE Week with an Open House. The quilting group met as well as the card players. Our lesson at the Extension Office was about the importance of eggs in our diet. Members met for lunch at the “Bohemian Crystal Restaurant.

November brought colder weather, but the ladies attended the Holiday Craft for a great time. Later that month, we had a Community Service Project where we made Christmas napkin holders for the local nursing homes. We had our International Tea at the Extension Office. Australia was featured.

December found the quilting group meeting for the their monthly activity. Many units had their own Christmas parties. The annual Christmas Tea was held at the home of Mary Lambert.

January was a cold and snowy month. Some activities were canceled. Some members did attend our Lunch Bunch.

In February, we had a lesson on “What’s new in the Kitchen” at the Extension Office.

Our booth also featured the DuPage County HCE Display-“Celebrating Around the World with IAHCE.” Many informative pamphlets were handed out.

At 4-H International Night, the 4-H members had to answer a question asked of us. If correct, we marked their score sheet and they received an animal cookie.

The Lunch Bunch continue to gather monthly at different restaurants for food, fun and friendship.

Some members of our county attended the IAHCE conference in Effingham. They enjoyed the workshops and friendships renewed.

Before returning home we stopped overnight at Turkey Run State Park in Indiana. We especially enjoyed sitting on the porch in a rocking chair in 74 degree weather that afternoon. The next morning, it was 39 degrees. I guess that’s Spring for you!

A fun stay at Turkey Run State Park in Indiana
before heading home from conference in Effingham.
Sandy Decker, Mary Lambert, Marge Slienhoff, Mr. Bald Eagle, Pat Quetsch, Anita Masters

Mary Lambert
President, DuPage County

DuPage HCE participated in the 4-H International night. Our booth featured Australia

“Light Up HCE”
GRUNDY……..  
Organized 1938

Well it has been a how should I put it, an unusual winter, but we are now waiting for the weather to get better so we can prepare the soils for gardening and crops.

Seven from our county went down to Effingham for the IAHCE Annual Conference. The different countries theme was great, along with the food, entertainment, and wonderful speakers, especially Dr. Naam.

KANE……..  
Organized 1918

Kane County delegates to the Annual IAHCE Conference wish to thank all the state board members and all the other participants who prepared such an outstanding program for the HCE organization. We enjoyed learning and meeting more of our statewide members. THANK YOU.

Since the last newsletter, the Kane County Units all celebrated the holiday seasons with parties, programs at restaurants, or dinners with friends and members to welcome in the “New Year 2019.” Then reports for awards were prepared in the county and in the IAHCE awards competition. Many made New Years’ resolutions to complete these earlier next year.

On March 23rd, the Country, India-International Luncheon and a Silent Auction Fundraiser were held at the Advent Christian Church in Aurora. So the Board members could arrive fresh on that morning, they had met and decorated the hall on that Wednesday afternoon. Tables were covered in bright cloths. Peacock feathers (India national bird) in vases adorned the tables. Fifty-two persons were registered. The silent auction items filled five tables with “treasures” on which to bid. This is the only fundraiser done county-wide at this time. Authentic Indian food was served by Shree Exquisite Outdoor Caterers. Prepared for our banquet were the dishes, Samosa, Dal Makhni, Butter Naan, Saaj Paneer, Rice and Butter Chicken.

Reverend Avani Christian, Pastor, Kaneville United Methodist Church, presented an afternoon program. She is the pastor for Protestant services for Fox Knolls Residence in Aurora where some members reside. She traveled to India with her family to visit her parents in January 2019. Born and reared in our 2019 Country of Study, we learned from her the republic’s diverse population, economy, languages, culture and geography.

Several different fabric saris were on display. Reverend Avani demonstrated the manner in which they are wrapped for wear. Avani’s husband, Sachin had accompanied her and added several interesting facts that were from a man’s point of view, even

Ruth O’Hara received recognition for her 62 years of being a member at the state conference.

Monica Evans
Public Relations,
Grundy County

Reverend Avani wraps her Sari assisted by Joan Rossi at International luncheon.
KENDALL…… Organized 1938

Maggie Bowers, Kendall County Family Living Director, has been in charge of the "Little Dresses for Africa" project in Kendall County. There have been over 2000 dresses and many hundreds of boys shorts sent to many places in the world, not just Africa. She asks for contacts of groups or people who are traveling to possible areas of need. The items have also been sent to places in the United States, including Indian reservations.

KANEKAKEE…… Organized 1915

We had a great time at Annual Conference, learned a lot and made new friends. Each year it gets better. Looking forward to next year.

A nursing home requested 100 coasters for their dining room and it has been completed. Ladies are still making autism blankets, lap blankets, wheel chair bags, walker bags and adult bibs.

KENDALL…… Organized 1938

Maggie continues to sew, using many donated supplies.

Kendall County President, Joan McEachern, took some to India when she went to the ACWW Conference in 2013.

DISTRICT 2/3 NEWS

Kendall County Family Living Director, Maggie Bowers, Kendall County Family Living Director, has been in charge of the "Little Dresses for Africa" project in Kendall County. There have been over 2000 dresses and many hundreds of boys shorts sent to many places in the world, not just Africa. She asks for contacts of groups or people who are traveling to possible areas of need. The items have also been sent to places in the United States, including Indian reservations.

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KENDALL…… Organized 1938

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KANEKAKEE…… Organized 1915

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A nursing home requested 100 coasters for their dining room and it has been completed. Ladies are still making autism blankets, lap blankets, wheel chair bags, walker bags and adult bibs.
Lake County, continued

December is when we have our major fundraiser, the Christmas Cookie Sale. Margaret Hilliard has a busy time between November and December, as she heads the Ways and Means Committee that coordinates this sale, as well as International Day. We raised $1,400.00 and had enough cookies left over to give to first responders at several police and fire stations in our area and to newly recruited sailors who spent Christmas away from home.

Christmas Cookie Sale

We hunkered down in January, especially at the end of the month during the Polar Vortex. On February 13, we held the webinar lesson, “What’s New in the Kitchen”. Betty Wertke (First VP) arranged for a display of equipment to augment the lesson.

Here is What is New in the Kitchen!

Candace L. Keegan
Secretary/Newsletter Editor

LA SALLE……
Organized 1918

LaSalle County Home Community and Education attended the 94th Annual Conference at Effingham on March 12-14. This year's theme was "Celebrating Around the World." Meals, entertainment, decorations and activities were reflected with the theme. Members attending were Joan Anderson, Penny Carter, Carol Elmore, Paula Freepartner, Melanie Goodchild, Darlene Hettel, Gail Kapp, and Becky Kendall. There were 25 different lessons which they will bring back to their organizations.

Awards were given with LaSalle County receiving 2 of them. The first one was Recognition for the County of Study. Sandy Martin had invited the Mayors to our International Day. Sandy Martin did an amazing job planning the event. The second award was The Grand Award for Public Information on our 100 year Anniversary Celebration. Carol Elmore and Becky Kendall did an amazing job with the Celebration. They had an event planned for most of the year. We started in January with an Open House on the day the very first meeting took place.

In April, we hosted a Heritage Craft Day. The attendees had to choose from 2 different items to make for the morning session and the afternoon session. They were from different decades.

In May, we hosted our HCE Spring team with the program being Hats Off to Another 100 years. We served cookies from the 1940's Home Bureau Cookbook. We saved pop & water caps to have 2 benches made for the Extension Office and the Fair Grounds to honor the 100 Years.

In June, a Flag pole was installed at the U of I Extension Office in Ottawa, Illinois with help from the Awesome Owls 4-H Club.

As the year came to a close, we celebrated an early Christmas at our Annual meeting with the Awesome Owls performing a skit and a sing-along. Here's to another 100 years for LaSalle County Home Community and Education.

Darlene Hettel
Public Information, LaSalle County

LIVINGSTON……
Organized 1918

Five Livingston County HCE members attended the 94th annual IAHCE Conference in Effingham. They were Arlene Martell, president; Ellie Bossert, secretary; Sandi Kimpling, 2nd vice president; Peggy Vaughan, Cultural Enrichment and Connie Kostelc, Public Relations and CVH. They came back enthusiastic about sharing things at their annual meeting in April. The annual meeting will include a brunch and a program on "Silver Sneakers" given by Amy Epple, marketing director and "Silver Sneakers" instructor at Evenglow Lodge.
DISTRICT 2/3 and 4 NEWS

Abraham Lincoln said, “Whatever you are, be a good one”. A challenge from our 16th President to your new District 4 Director. I have been asked to fill the “big shoes” of Mary Eustace who succeeded as a District Director and has set the bar very high for me. I am Mary Johnson from Sangamon County. I live in the small town of Rochester, just outside of Springfield. I have been married to my husband Edward for almost 41 years. We have two grown sons, two wonderful daughter-in-law’s and two grandsons.

During my time with HCE, I have held the positions of President and Community Outreach Director at the unit level and PR/Publicity and Community Outreach Director at the county level. A year and a half ago, I was blessed to travel with Eleanor Gregory from Madison County to the Baltic States. Upon our return, Eleanor and I traveled throughout the state of Illinois and had the opportunity to speak with many of you about our adventures. I loved meeting many of you at the Annual Conference in Effingham this past March. What an amazing conference. HCE has filled my heart! I believe that the message and purpose of HCE is as relevant today as it has ever been. I look forward to working with all of you in the coming years.

I will see you at your Annual Meetings. We have many new and exciting things to talk about! Please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any questions in the meantime. My email is rsqmom2@gmail.com and my cell number is 217-553-5256.

I hope by the time I see you it will be SPRING! I am ready for sunshine and warm breezes.

Mary Johnson

DISTRICT 4 NEWS

MC HENRY ......
Organized 1918

Up here in Northern Illinois we are so glad that winter has passed and spring is here, we had a very cold snowy and icy winter. Many of my friends have fallen and broken their bones.

Four members attended the annual IAHCE Conference in Effingham.

McHenry County
Marlene Rader, Judy Corson, Carol Giammattei, and Karen Wootton

McHenry County HCE will be doing some changes this next year. Our president, Carol Giammattei, has completed her 3 year term and with no one willing to take the presidency Carol has decided to continue to be the president only on a limited basis.

The Board has voted at the March meeting that will become a “Specialty County”. According to Jane Chapman IAHCE President, “There are numerous ways we can still be members of HCE and not do the traditional thing”. Specialty units are a beginning, this unit could be a pioneer for other counties units going through similar challenges with fewer active members.

We hope to hear from our members at our annual meeting in April with their ideas and suggestions. HCE is about education and community outreach and hopefully the members will want it to continue. Keep us in your thoughts as we make these changes.

Happy Spring!

Florence Spesard
Public Relations, McHenry County

DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR
Mary Johnson

Abraham Lincoln said, “Whatever you are, be a good one”. A challenge from our 16th President to your new District 4 Director. I have been asked to fill the “big shoes” of Mary Eustace who succeeded as a District Director and has set the bar very high for me. I am Mary Johnson from Sangamon County. I live in the small town of Rochester, just outside of Springfield. I have been married to my husband Edward for almost 41 years. We have two grown sons, two wonderful daughter-in-law’s and two grandsons.

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Mary Johnson
DISTRICT 4 NEWS

ADAMS……
Organized 1917

HCE’s Kiddie Bazaar has been a Adams County tradition for nearly 30 years. So, once again on December 1st, more than 200 children in kindergarten to fifth grade shopped the beautiful handmade and specially selected items provided by our HCE members. With assistance from HCE and 4-H members, the children purchased presents for their parents and grandparents, siblings, teachers and even their pets. The purchases were wrapped before the children were returned to their parents, so everything would be a surprise on Christmas morning.

“The Kiddie Bazaar teaches young children several things,” says Adams County HCE President Heather Ator. “They must learn to budget their money, they learn to think about what OTHERS might like instead of finding items that THEY would like, and they learn that it is as much fun to give as it is to receive. This project not only serves as our major fundraiser for the year, but it also is a great community service for our clubs.”

The lousy weather cancelled many of our unit meetings in January and February, so members and their families were more than happy to get out of the house for our fourth annual Flapjack Fundraiser on February 16th. Our local Applebee’s restaurant provides the space, the dishes and the chef, who prepares pancakes and bacon for all. HCE ladies are the waitresses, who deliver the food and refill coffee, juice and milk. We served nearly 100 people that morning.

Adams County President Heather Ator, 1st Vice President Sandy McKevie, 2nd Vice President Joyce Welsh, Treasurer Edna Flesner, and Cultural Arts Director Sara Husemann attended the IAHCE State Conference in March. Congratulations to Sara, who was recognized as a 60-year HCE member and a past member of the State board. Adams County received third in the County of the Year competition (among counties over 75 members). We also received two education awards for activities surrounding our 100th Birthday celebration last fall: Marcia Schutte’s beautiful quilt was awarded “viewers’ choice” in cultural arts and we were recognized in two areas for volunteerism.

As the weather turns nicer, we are looking forward to our annual meeting on Tuesday, April 30, where we will celebrate another successful year, award two $500 scholarships to students entering/in college who are the children/grandchildren of HCE members, and welcome our new District 4 Director, Mary Johnson.

Amy Looten
Public Relations Director, Adams County

SANGAMON……
Organized 1947

Sangamon County is slowly coming out of hibernation. It seems to have been a long winter for our members, but signs of spring are giving us all hope of warmer days ahead. Sangamon County members have managed to stay busy and active during this cold winter. Our monthly project day found members working on weighted blankets, layettes for a local homeless women’s shelter and sewing cloth bags for Sadie’s Dream for a Cure. We received a large donation of fabric and voted to make lap blankets for 55 residents of a low-income care facility in Springfield.

Several of our County Board members attended the IAHCE Conference in Effingham in March. Members came away recharged and ready for an exciting new year in HCE. We all agreed this was the best conference ever!

We were sorry to say goodbye to Mary Eustace as our District Director. She has been an amazing director for the last six years and she will certainly be missed. We are excited that our new director is from Sangamon county! Mary Johnson has been installed and is ready for the challenges ahead.

Busy months are ahead with Annual Meeting, Membership Tea and a Co-County event with Macoupin County. We are planning a bus trip to Arthur in September. With all these wonderful events coming up we hope to attract new members. We hope spring is really here and wish a blessed Easter for all.

Mary Johnson
Public Relations, Sangamon County
TAZEWELL......
Organized 1918

Greetings from Tazewell County-

We recently held our first Annual Cabin Fever Day. Those who came enjoyed tasting various food dips that the officers had prepared for them. Thirty-three members and one guest spent the afternoon making the Folded Iris Star, playing board games, and putting together a jigsaw puzzle. We also played “Quilt-o”-a version of BINGO using quilting terms in place of numbers on the cards.

Tazewell County won the Certified Volunteer Award for the county with the highest number of hours reported in District 4. The number of hours reported was 23,752. We are so proud of Kate Schmitgall and Judy McFarland who won purple ribbons for their quilts displayed in the Cultural Enrichment projects at conference.

We are very excited that our county units, raised $444.40 of the $8604.31 state total donated to Zero Hunger Challenge. Units are currently filling out Know and Grow forms and preparing for our Annual Meeting on May 6th.

Happy Spring.....hoping it arrives soon !!

Darlene Curry
Public Relations, Tazewell County

Cabin Fever Days
Six members attended the state conference at Effingham. Vivian Gerrietts served on the committee for the Support Fund. Kate Schmitgall taught the Folded Paper Sack Flower and Darlene Curry was on the 2019 Business meeting minutes committee.

DISTRICT 4 AND 5
August 7, 2019
Southern View Chapel Springfield, IL

CHRISTIAN......
Organized 1936

We held our Annual Meeting November 13th and elected a full slate of officers. This is the first full slate in a number of years. Our speaker was Patricia A. McKnight from the Butterfly Dreams Alliance who spoke on “Human Trafficking in Rural Areas”.

Five members of our Board attended Annual Conference in Effingham in March. They were Board President Georgette Merrifield, 1st Vice President Roberta Gorden, 2nd Vice President Julie Pearson, 4-H/Family Issues Director Cindy Simmons, & International Director Helen Holestein. Julie & Georgette attended all 3 days of the conference. The others attended on Wednesday to attend the officer workshops.
DISTRICT 5 NEWS

We will hold our Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 4th in the University of Illinois Extension Office. This is our annual fund raiser. We usually sell out of plants. We sell annuals & the Master Gardeners sell perennials at the same time.

Georgette Merrifield
President CCHCEA

CHAMPAIGN........
Organized 1918

Champaign County Home and Community Education held the International Luncheon on November 14, 2019 at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium. Guest speaker was Tamara Ducey, Parkland College instructor, traveled extensively throughout Australia. The luncheon was a potluck with a few dishes from Australia.

Our 4th Annual Holiday Trees and Craft Sale was held on December 1, 2018 at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium. Several HCE Units had beautifully decorated trees and wreaths for the sale. The sale of the trees/wreaths were sold by silent auction with proceeds being a moneymaker for the Units. Vendors were HCE members and non-members selling their handcrafted items. Members also made homemade Holiday baked goods sold during the event. A very enjoyable day and profitable event for CCHCE.

The CCHCE County Board members had their Christmas gathering by attending the Holiday Show at the Beef House in Covington, IN on December 5, 2018. Entertainment was the Hopkins and Miller show. Miller was outstanding playing a medley of songs from Fiddler on the Roof on his banjo. An enjoyable day of food and entertainment.

The County Board held a Leadership Conference January 11th 2019, at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium for all Unit officers. Unit officers were invited to meet the County Board Officers and the County Board members gave presentations and handed out information packets for the Unit officers for 2019. A package lesson was distributed to the Units. Refreshments were served.

Champaign County HCE had 13 Units that participated in the Zero Hunger Challenge. Our county collected $678.60 for this IAHCE State project. Thank you to our Unit members that participated.

Thirteen members attended the IAHCE Conference March 12-14, 2019 at the Keller Convention Center in Effingham. Our county received 2018 Education Awards for Public Relations, report submitted by Carol Froeschl; Family and Community Issues, report submitted by Judy French and Certified Volunteer Hours for County with the highest number of hours reported (31,986), report submitted by Pat Meriedth. Two of our board members celebrated their birthdays at the conference.

On March 18th from 10 am-2:00 pm was our annual Game Day at the Farm Bureau Auditorium. A variety of games were played and the most popular activity was BINGO with winners winning great gifts provided by Dorothy Rogers. All attending brought delicious snacks to share. Also, offered was a craft. We had several members making flowers out of corn husks.

On May 3rd and 4th we will be having our annual Spring Craft and Plant Sale. Members and non-members will be vendors with their handcrafted items for sale. We will have a variety of plants that will be for sale.

May 15th will be Champaign County HCE 101st Annual meeting at 9:30 a.m. at the Farm Bureau Auditorium with the theme Around the World with CCHCE. Several positions on the County Board will be voted on and those elected will be installed at the meeting.

Our county projects for Family and Community Issues continue to support and keep members busy with their monthly sewing days making weighted blankets for autistic children in Champaign County. Twenty-one blankets so far this year have been made and delivered for families in need. Also, four HCE units support Developmental Service Center group homes for adults in Champaign County. Residents at the home are with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Units sponsoring a group home are Mayview Unit, Staley Unit, Rantoul Unit and Bondville/Seymour Unit. The units support the homes with activities for the residents by sending cards and letters; giving gift cards and non-food

Christian County, continued

We will hold our Annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 4th in the University of Illinois Extension Office. This is our annual fund raiser. We usually sell out of plants. We sell annuals & the Master Gardeners sell perennials at the same time.

Georgette Merrifield
President CCHCEA

Champaign County at 2019 IAHCE Annual Conference
Front row: Mary Lou Younger, Elizabeth Michael, Dorothy Rogers, Carol Froeschl, Donna Schirer
Back row: Bonnie Whiteside, Becky Gatewood, Lynn Trotter, Marge Probasco, Bobbi McEntire, Judy French, Richey Vanderspool, Melissa Chitwood.

State Conference Awards
Carol Froeschl, Judy French and Pat Meriedth

On March 18th from 10 am-2:00 pm was our annual Game Day at the Farm Bureau Auditorium. A variety of games were played and the most popular activity was BINGO with winners winning great gifts provided by Dorothy Rogers. All attending brought delicious snacks to share. Also, offered was a craft. We had several members making flowers out of corn husks.

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items and materials for projects for the residents on their birthdays and on holidays. Janice McAteer, DSC Director of Development, Stephanie Davenport, Development Specialist and Contact for Adopt-a-Home Program, plus Taylor Jacobs, a DSC home resident (and Janice’s daughter) attended the Staley Unit meeting in February. Janice gave a very interesting report on the services and support available through DSC in our community and what DSC provides for each age group.

Jean’s Craft Club continues to meet and have a fun time making a variety of crafts. They meet after each of the Extension Lessons given at the Farm Bureau Building. Some of the great crafts they have made are painted wooden pallets, pillowcases for the Developmental Service Center, tole painting, a day crafting with grandchildren, jewelry and quilt blocks.

Champaign County HCE continues to encourage our members to invite guests to their monthly meetings and our county events.

Champaign County had 14 new members for 2018 with a total of 283 members as of December 31, 2018.

Have an enjoyable and safe summer

Carol Froeschl
HCE Public Relations Chairman, Champaign County

MACON………
Organized 1918

County of the Year — Macon County
(Over 75 member category)
L - R: Sharon and Clarence Middleton, Carol Ropp, Jane Chapman IAHCE president presenting award, Karen Cahill, Sally Dennis

County of the Year for the second year in a row!

Three of our board members won awards for their education booklets, and our own Carol Myers placed first in the knitted afghan category in the Cultural Enrichment Division.

1st Place - Knitted Afghan
Carol Myers

Our County Board and our wonderful volunteer members work very hard to provide interesting and entertaining programs for both our members and prospective members. Many hours are spent in contacting our members and planning these programs.

Our wonderful Illinois weather caused some havoc these last few months. Several programs had to be canceled and rescheduled to another time. Our popular program about hummingbirds, as well as several of our sewing days were canceled because of the inclement weather.

Our March program was on Human Trafficking and how it affects our population in Decatur and the surrounding communities. Our upcoming programs include an informative program about the most recent scams in our area, our Spring Meeting, a visit to the local Raptor Center and a delicious presentation about tortillas. Sprinkled in between these programs are several pillowcase sewing days and a Tri-County meeting.

Our scholarship deadline is Monday, July 1, 2019. We hope that many of our members’ children or grandchildren will apply for these very important scholarships. Our annual planning session is in July. Many people will need to come up with some more ideas for programs. We have such a talented membership that this should not be a problem!!! Macon County continues to be a wonderful, vibrant group that works diligently to provide quality programs and services in our community and the surrounding areas. I am so proud to be part of this wonderful organization.

Linda Austin
Public Relations, Macon County

IAHCE Official Photographer — Macon County
Clarence Middleton
MC LEAN…….. 
Organized 1918 

McLean County Association HCE finished 2018 with a variety of activities. A very enjoyable Christmas Party was held at the Ozark House Restaurant. Seventy-six people experienced a wonderful buffet, holiday bingo, make-it-take-its, and a Barbershop Quartet!

Workshops and classes were ongoing each month. On Community Service day busy hands work on crafts or other special projects – including fidget lap quilts, hats, scarves and mittens for local children and Operation Santa Stockings for military personnel.

A Heritage Skills Demonstration on bobbin lace and spinning wool into yarn took place in March 13 before interested participants.

This year the Fact Find each month helps members learn about the counties in our HCE District 5 – counties featured recently include Edgar, Champaign, Dewitt and Macon.

Unit lessons in December were Unit holiday gatherings. January was “Brain Health.” February’s lesson “Caregiver/Self Care” and the March lesson The “Power of Positive Aging” were both taught in March due to weather issues. April covered “Wills and Trusts”.

Books read in February and April and then discussed by members were – “Sometimes I Lie” by Alice Feeney and “Educated” by Tara Westover. “The Light Between Oceans” by M. L. Steadman will be read and discussed in June.

The Spring Trip will be a May 14 bus trip to eastern McLean County with Don Meyer, past County Extension Director. Included is lunch at Kelly’s on Route 66 in Lexington.

HCE summer bake sales at the Downs Village Market will be held the 3rd Wednesdays beginning June 19th, and also July 24th, and August 21st and second Wednesday September 18th. Sales bring eager consumers who line up to buy the wonderful delicacies talented members bake to sell. Our McLean County HCE members work tirelessly on money making projects because we believe in and want to support our communities and our local 4-H youth programs. We look forward to our 101st annual meeting on July 9th at the Chateau, Bloomington.
Fourteen McLean HCE members went to the March State IAHCE meeting in Effingham. A wonderful time was had by all.

Piatt County HCE began this year by hosting some local talent. The guest speaker was Brad Thomas, a young entrepreneur, who is passionate about his self-constructed koi pond. He led a “How to . . .” seminar discussion on building a Koi Pond in your own back yard.

We held a Cultural Enrichment Day Celebration with friendly competition in both the foods and non-foods categories.

Piatt County HCE website is: www.piattcountyhce.org. Check out events and pictures of events posted on our Facebook page at: http://www.facebook.com/Piatt-County-Association-for-Home-and-Community-Education. Our Public Relations team is still developing the website. It should be updated soon!

Remember come visit us!  **See you in McLean County.**

**Barb Jurgens**
McLean County Public Relations Team

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Remember come visit us!  **See you in McLean County.**

**Barb Jurgens**
McLean County Public Relations Team

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We held a Cultural Enrichment Day Celebration with friendly competition in both the foods and non-foods categories.

For our Craft Day in February and March, we learned to loom knit. The ladies worked on making winter hats or winter cowl scarves.

March is also when Piatt County HCE members attend the State Conference.

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Above: Miriam Seevers was recognized for being a 50+ year member.
VERMILION…….
Organized 1919

HISTORY OF VERMILION COUNTY AHCE
The Vermilion County Home Bureau was organized April 10, 1919. What do you think of the first adviser’s annual salary—$2,000 and use of a new $855.00 Ford? December of 1943, the group broke into radio! Their program on station WDAN focused on nutrition and consumer problems of that time. In 1956, members began sponsoring the 4-H girls’ units. Name changes came along in 1962. The group became Vermilion County Homemakers Extension Association.

New constitutions and by-laws galore had materialized before the 50th anniversary was celebrated in 1969. Service projects included the Salvation Army. VCHEA hosted the Illinois Homemakers Extension Federation District 4 meeting in September of 1971. VCHEA was in charge of registration at the HEHC (National) Annual Conference held August 4-9, 1974 in Champaign.

Along came the popular bus trips, in the late 1970's and early 1980's. Numerous money-making projects were tried to supplement the annual budget. March of 1989 found VCHEA with a new logo, as the county celebrated its 70th anniversary. Vermilion County members have enjoyed a rich variety of experiences over the years. Some recent activities included sponsoring craft programs at a local senior center, supporting Women’s Care Clinic, numerous other charities, the annual Hobo Picnics, Women Walk the World events, and the well-attended International Luncheon. Presently, we are anticipating a fun day at the Heron Boardwalk.

Vermilion County Parks. We have staged events in each one, plus Kickapoo State Park. We are fortunate to have past and present board members who enjoy planning worthwhile activities for members and guests. We are also fortunate to have five men among our membership.

We invite you to join us as we celebrate the 100th anniversary on Tuesday, June 4. We will enjoy a catered lunch prepared by Applewood Foods. A program by Susan Biggs Warner (yes, she is a Vermilion County Park employee). Susan cooks over a wood fire at pioneer day events, helps with the maple syrup processing, manages herb gardens, and collects vintage clothing and memorabilia. Just mark June 4 on your calendar and call us ASAP. You may contact Vermilion County president/secretary Eleanor White at 217-759-7237 or e-mail to eleanor.white@aol.com for details. Registration deadline is April 28.

EVENTS TO CELEBRATE 100TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR
for VERMILION COUNTY, ILLINOIS!!
“1919 Till 2019”

WOMEN WALK the WORLD Event:
Vermilion County HCE will have their Third Annual Women Walk the World event on Wednesday, April 24 at
DISTRICT 5 NEWS

11:30 at Heron Park Boardwalk. Lunch picnic provided. Come walk, visit, eat, and watch the birds. Learn about the park and how our Pennies for Friendship (now called Friendship Projects Fund by IAHCE) helps others. In 2017 we had eight attend the walk and in 2018 ten attended. Both years our picture was in The Countrywoman, which is the International Magazine of the Associated Country Women of the World. Bring some friends so we can number 12 or more. Our goals are food, fun, and fresh air. Everyone Is Welcome to Attend the Walk! Please give Mary Stampini a Call 217-354-2305.

INTERNATIONAL COUNTRY for 2019 is INDIA.
Vermilion County HCE will have their International potluck Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 11:30 at the East Park Church of Christ, East Voorhees Street, Danville, Illinois. Registration is 10 am till 10:20 am. Applewood Catering will be preparing and serving the luncheon. Cost per person is $14.00. Everyone is welcome to attend. For information call; Eleanor 217-759-7237 or Jo Anne at 217-446-8064.

FALL PICNIC:
September 2019 Vermilion County HCE will be hosting our Annual Fall Outing. Information will be announced later. All are welcome to attend. Call in July, Diane Reddy 217-260-5593.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT/VERMILION COUNTY:
The Danville Art League at 320 N. Franklin St. will have a garage sale Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 8-12. They will also have a fundraiser at Danville Gardens on Monday, April 22, 2019 from 2-6. Tell them your purchase is for the Danville Art League and 20% of the purchase goes to the DAL. Also, look for Danville Art League's member, Eileen Dunavan’s, monthly article "Speak Easel" in the Commercial-News. She will be reporting on various happenings at the Art League.

J. Diane Reddy
Public Relations, Vermilion County HCE

DISTRICT 6 DIRECTOR
Sharon Davis

Hi, HCE Members

My name is Sharon Davis and you might remember me from being on the IAHCE Board as your Family & Community Issues Officer.

Due to health problems I had to lay out of being on the board last year. I’m now better and my meds are working better. Praise God. It was rough for awhile but now I’m up and ready to go.

Anyway, I’ve been asked to be back on the board as the District 6 Director.

I’ve accepted the position and I’m excited about attending annual meetings and installing officers in the District 6 counties. Marilyn Schaefer who was a District Director of 6 before is planning on traveling with me when she can. She also is excited about seeing members that she hasn’t seen in a while.

At this year’s conference I sat with past board members that served as District Directors. I asked them what the pros and cons were of that position. The first thing they said was that the pro was getting to meet everyone and making friends. They didn’t give me any cons. They thought it was the best position on the board. With that information I’m excited about getting to meet all of you.

So until then HAPPY EASTER and I’ll see most of you soon.

Sharon Davis

DISTRICT 6 AND 7
August 6, 2019
St. Johns Lutheran Church
901 W. Jefferson
Effingham, IL

BOND……...
Organized 1944
It has been a cold blustery winter but we are coming into a warm beautiful spring season.

Several board members and unit members visited a long-time member in a local nursing home to brighten her day. Ours too!

Several unit meetings were cancelled due to the bad weather. January's lesson was "Food and Drug Interaction". Check with your physician about what foods to watch for when getting a new prescription.

February found us hosting an annual Red Cross Blood Drive (one of many held in Bond county thru out the year.)
Bond County, continued

Fifteen donors presented themselves on a COLD windy day. "Living With AFib'' was our February lesson. In March - "Creating a NO-Waste Kitchen'' was enjoyed.

Four board members attended the IAHCE Conference in Effingham on March 12-14. We attended Share Shops and a business meeting. Enjoyed looking at the Cultural Arts display and participating in the Silent Auction, Make It-Take It crafts, Bingo and the vendor shows.

On March 16, Bond County HCE had a display talking about HCE, showing food concerns with healthy snacks for children, handed out beany babies for youngsters - all at the Annual HSHS Health Fair. Prospective members had the opportunity to learn about HCE.

Shirley Volentine
Public Relations, Bond County

CLINTON........
Organized 1945

Clinton County HCE has been busy. We had our February Heart Month program on AFib which was presented by a heart doctor, it was a great program. Our international event was on Australia presented by a travel agent. Our 74th annual meeting is coming up next - we are having a farm theme with the speaker who wrote a humorous farm book.

Clinton County Australia program presenter

Of course we just got back from the annual conference, six attended including one first timer! We all enjoyed the conference, the Tuesday afternoon German music was great! Looking forward to next year already.

Nina and Johann German Band at Tuesday Annual Conference luncheon.

Shirley Volentine
Public Relations, Clinton County

CLAY...........
Organized 1947

Clay County HCE has been up to some exciting things and many more planned. Some of these activities included joint efforts between all three of our units. In anticipation of Spring and an effort to promote HCE, we had a booth at the recent Home and Garden Show in Flora with all the units helping. For a day of food, shopping and laughter, the three units are heading to Effingham Performance Center to see the Church Basement Ladies. We held our January and will be holding our April meetings as joint meetings. Our units will host the April Red Cross Blood Drive by providing cookies and always save the leftovers for the 4-H Horse Camp. We will be providing pies for the 4-H BBQ during fair week in July.

Joann Stanford and Margie Dettmer attended the State conference in Effingham and brought back great ideas and information for all.

Probably our most exciting activity was presenting a monetary donation to the three schools in Clay County. We presented $500 to the School Resource Officers for their school safety programs. Thanks to Joann Stanford for organizing the presentation.

Donation to Flora School safety programs.

Flora School Superintendent Joel Hackney, Flora Police Chief, Guye Durre, School Safety Officer Jeb Border and HCE board members Joann Stanford, Margie Dettmer and Cheryl McCarty were present for the monetary donation for the Flora school safety programs. (HCE Board member Beth Fancher is always behind the camera!)

Donation to North Clay and Clay City school safety programs.

The monetary donation for North Clay and Clay City school safety programs was presented to School Safety Officer Chad Milner. Those present were: Margie Dettmer, Office Chad Milner, Joann Stanford and Cheryl McCarty.
DISTRICT 6 NEWS

Each unit has been meeting monthly and we are always looking for new members.
We just learned we have plans for a great speaker from India for our November International Meeting and look forward to learning about her home country.

Beth Fancher
Public Relations, Clay County

CRAWFORD……..
Organized 1947

Back: Bonnie Finn, Martha Holt, Marilyn Sheridan, Doris Killingsworth, Dale Davis, Joyce Tracy, Norma Thompson, Susan Allison, and Margaret Inboden
Seated: Nina Rodrick, Beulah Inboden, and Carolyn Coleman.

HCE members met to make “fidget mats” for Alzheimer patients and “walker caddies” for nursing home residents.

State IAHCE Conference
Four ladies, pictured below, represented Crawford County at this year’s state conference in Effingham on March 13. They enjoyed time spent with HCE members from around the state and several interesting “Share Shops”.

Pictured L-R: Evea Miller, Norma Thompson, Susan Allison, LaDonna Harris, and Donna Newbold

FAYETTE……..
Organized 1948

The Fayette County HCE again teamed up with Fayette County 4-H Club Coordinators and assisted in holding a Sewing Class for young people, and again, with good enrollment and good response
Fayette County HCE assisted the Vandalia JR High School with one of the various classes the JR. High provides as part of the “Afternoon Program for Schools”. During the
time of the sewing class, an Art Class was being held in an adjoining room, as part of the program, offering classes of various interest for students with different preferences, abilities and interests.

When Sarah Luce, 4-H Coordinator for U of I Extension, planned to work with the Jr. High in providing a sewing class for the students, she called on Flo Allen, Fayette County HCE president, to enlist some HCE members to provide guidance in the basics of learning to sew.

Renee Whitesel, a teacher at the school, was on board with Luce and Allen.

Sewing machines were in place on the long tables and there was also a table holding materials of various colors and patterns, from which each student could choose for the pillowcase which they would make to take home.

The classes were scheduled for two afternoons after school and were well attended by those who had an interest in the project.

The machines were soon whirring away as the boys and girls worked on sewing and making a pillowcase out of the material which they selected. The sewing Class resulted in 28 young people proud of their accomplishment, an attractive pillowcase to take home with them. (See below.)

The Fayette County HCE helpers were: Flo Allen, Carrie Hill, and Connie Green. The Extension Staff members were: Dana Homann, Youth Development Educator; Patti Logan-Effingham 4-H Coordinator; Katie Turkal-Jasper County 4-H Coordinator.
awesome and informative presentation on Inflammation & Diet. Following the program, Kelsey Millsap and Krista Barber served the refreshments for the "Super Foods Tasting Party"! The door prizes were won by Rosemary Bergbower (Blood test) and Marla Galloway ($50 off Nutrition Plus products). A free HCE membership was awarded to Jill Long. Everyone went home with a lesson and “Tasting Party” recipes.

Books for Beginners Day

HCE members Jane Ochs, Connie Elliott, Marge Thompson and Donna Richards read CHIMP WITH A LIMP as part of Books for Beginners Day sponsored by Jasper County HCE. One hundred and one kindergarteners in four classrooms were each given a book to take home. Each kindergarten teacher was also given a book for her classroom.

Judy Millsap
HCE Board President, Jasper County

JERSEY……...
Organized 1931

Hello all, I hope everyone is enjoying the sunshine. Hopefully the winter is behind us.

Jersey County has been busy so far this year.
- January - a package lesson on: Cooking for 1 & 2.
- February - another package lesson on: Fall Prevention.
- March - Lisa Peterson from University of Illinois Extension Montgomery County gave a lesson on Gateway to Gut Health.
- Our Craft and Quilt clubs have been making: Iris Paper folding Bunny Rabbits, Microwave Plate holders, Fidget Lap mats, and Table Runners.

We added one new member, and hopefully more will follow. We have lots of exciting things coming up and I can't wait to share all that with you in the next letter.

God bless.

Lena Robeen
Public Relations, Jersey County

MACOUPIN……...
Organized 1930

Macoupin County has been busy getting activities and lessons finalized for the remainder of the year. The lessons for 2019 are: Ecyling/Recycling; Modern Kitchen Appliances; Saving Money: TV vs Streaming Options; Communication Challenges & Strategies for Helping People with Dementia; Points of Interest in Illinois; 70 years of the Pillsbury Bake Off; Vegetarianism and Other Special Diets; Self Defense for Women; What’s New in Bread Making, and How Illinois Became a State.

First Vice President, Carol Pollo, and Chris Daugherty, of AT&T, presented the March lesson on “Saving Money-TV vs Streaming Options" at the Extension office.

We are also making final plans for our Annual Meeting which will be held on May 23rd at the First United Methodist Church in Carlinville. The guest speaker will be Roger Kratochvil who will speak on Mother Mary Jones and her influence on the coal mines and unionism.

The DoMore Members, at left, thought outside the box and had one of their meetings at the Villas of South Park in Chatham which a former member, Avis Dadisman, is a resident. The unit and two guests enjoyed lunch and fellowship. Avis will be 101 years young April 11th. Retirement communities are a great place to keep elderly HCE members connected to HCE.
MACADAN COUNTY, continued

Eight County Board members attended IAHCE in Effingham in March. The conference was filled with many interesting and enjoyable events.

Joyce Duelm was recognized for her fifty plus year membership in H.C.E. Macoupin County which is in District 6 was recognized with the highest number of CVH hours reported (20,773) and the highest number of members reporting.

The certificate was presented by Ashley Davis, CVH IAHCE director, to CVH chairperson, Joyce Duelm.

Carol Rimar
Public Relations

MARION……..
Organized 1946

Marion County HCE Week kicked off Tuesday, October 9 with a Membership Social at the Marion County Extension Office located in Salem. The Social began with an explanation of our upcoming Fidget Blanket Projects. Helen Leonhardt and Phyllis Henson-Phillips displayed examples of the blankets and shared the types of items that will be needed to make them. Blankets have already been requested by one local Nursing Home and others will be contacted soon for their need.

In addition to soliciting new members this week, members are encouraged to clean out their closets and drawers to find items for use in the fidget blankets which will be made at a date yet to be determined. Those present then shared the tea pots or tea cup and saucer sets they brought. A variety were shared. While enjoying refreshments of English tea provided by Carrol Murray and cookies each unit provided, members visited amongst themselves and took turns on a FaceTime call with former Marion County Board Member Freda Chasteen who now resides in Tennessee and is a Mailbox Member.

Thursday, October 11, the Marion County Training was held for the Lesson that will be presented in each Unit during the month of November. A Webinar presented by University of Illinois Extension personnel was given on the subject of Plant Pathogenic Viruses. The public is always invited to attend these lessons that are advertised on the WJBD Community Calendar and in the local Salem and Centralia Newspapers. Members were
reminded to visit their local Library on Saturday and attend the Church of their choice on Sunday. Marion County HCE Week ended Monday, October 15 with the Marion County HCE Board Meeting.

Keri Randall, doTERRA Wellness Advocate, presented a Lesson about Cleaning with Essential Oils on Thursday, November 8. She presented a variety of simple, natural cleaning solutions for various items in your home using essential oils. The lesson was well received with several members of the public attending. During the November Board meeting a scholarship was announced for Natalie Hardy who is attending Kaskaskia College.

Thursday, January 24 a University of Illinois Extension webinar was presented regarding Senior Credit Scores. Do you realize that credit scores are used not only by lenders, but also by insurance companies? Even if you do not have debt currently, you need to monitor your credit report and understand factors that affect your credit score. Keeping a positive credit score can save you money!

At the February meeting of the Marion County HCE Board, it was announced that the annual Book Sale to benefit the Marion County Association of HCE Scholarship Fund will be held Friday, April 5, from 9 to 4 and Saturday, April 6, from 9 to 3 at the Marion County Extension Office. Set up begins at 8:00 am on Friday and members are encouraged to help during that time or for a few hours during the sale. Books from your favorite authors of fiction, non-fiction, self-help, and children’s titles will be available for a donation to the Marion County HCE Scholarship Fund.

Board members also discussed the IAHCE Conference to be held in Effingham March 12-14. Members will be attending Share Shops which will educate them about the office they are holding as well as topics of interest or Make It Take It Crafts, a Silent Auction, and a Scavenger Hunt.

Awards Banquet and Business meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference and Cultural Enrichment and Educational Displays will be shared. The meals are always enjoyable and in keeping with this year’s theme “Celebrating Around the World”, items from Germany, Mexico, Italy, France, and Hawaii will be served. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with members from throughout our state while learning new things.

At the March meeting of the Marion County HCE Board the Annual Meeting was set for Wednesday, April 24, at 1:30 pm. The Nominating Committee: Connie Williams, Carrol Murray, and Phyllis Henson-Phillips reported that the Secretary is willing to remain in place and Helen Leonhardt will be presented for election as First Vice-President. An Audit Committee of Phyllis Henson-Phillips, Carrol Murray, and Dorothy Bruce will meet with Treasurer Connie Williams after March 31 and before the Annual Meeting to review the Treasurer’s records and set the Budget for the new year. The Board then enjoyed reports from Helen Leonhardt, Phyllis Henson-Phillips, and Carrol Murray who attended the IAHCE Conference. We were excited to hear that the Education Award in Family and Educational Displays will be shared. The meals are always enjoyable and in keeping with this year’s theme “Celebrating Around the World”, items from Germany, Mexico, Italy, France, and Hawaii will be served. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with members from throughout our state while learning new things.

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**MONROE……**
Organized 1941

Monroe County’s 77th annual meeting was held in November using the theme “The Crossroads of Life.” Officers were installed by District 6 Director, Debbie Segrest. Also, in attendance at the meeting was District 7 Director-Janel Kassing.

**Monroe County**

1st row: Carol Postlewait-Treasurer, Rose Anne Bense-President, Toni Blandford-2nd Vice President, Marlene Kolbe-International, Gracia Schlafly-Community Outreach

2nd row: Rosemary Yaeckel – Co-Cultural Enrichment, Celeste Krausz-Co-Cultural Enrichment, Dorothy Kohler-Family Issues, Marie Schroder-Secretary, and Doris Matzenbacher-1st Vice President

Long-time HCE Members were honored at the annual meeting.
Monroe County, continued

Monroe County HCE Board and Units coordinate and conduct the monthly birthday parties at the county nursing home. Entertainment is secured, cakes are furnished and gifts are provided to the birthday honorees. The New Hanover Unit assisted at the Oak Hill Nursing Home Birthday Party in January.

Eight members traveled to Effingham to attend the annual conference. Ericha Johanning’s photograph was “Best of Show” in its category. Two Education Awards were presented to Monroe County. Carol Hoffmann was recognized for what was submitted for the Country of Study 2018 International Night. Rosemary Yaekel’s Heritage Skill award was for her well-received Cookies and Candy lesson.

Kudos to the three ladies who were honored at the IAHE conference having more than 50 years of membership in HCE.

RICHLAND…….
Organized 1945

Richland County
Seven members attended the 2019 IAHCE Annual Conference in Effingham.

Lisa Weiler
HEA Week Committee
Richland County

L-R: Front Row:
Doris Holdener-65 years,
Christy Lehr-60 Years

L-R: Back row:
Louetta Wilson-50 Years
Delores Steppig-70 Years

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DISTRICT 7 NEWS

DISTRICT 7 DIRECTOR
Janel Kassing

Good Day Mates-

Happy New Year! As Jane said in her video at conference, we are starting a new year in HCE. Make it a good one!

What an amazing group of ladies you are. So happy to see so many of you at conference. Hope you enjoyed conference as much as I did. I can't wait to travel to your Annuals.

Please mark your calendar for June 18 for our mini district meeting at Benton at 9:30. Deon Maas will be with us to share her Australian story and I'm sure I'll have some stories to share, too.

Please send me event/activity dates for June, July, August, September, early October so I can prepare calendars for those months to share June 18.

The Zero Hunger campaign raised over $8,000 across our state. That is a truly phenomenal amount to have raised for such a worthy cause. Thanks to all our counties who have contributed.

We have formed a nominating committee to find my replacement. How fast these 5 years have flown by. Jeanne Stamm, Randolph Co. and Becky Belcher, Hamilton Co. will be seeking a candidate. This is truly an amazing position.

See you all on August 6 in Effingham for District meeting. Watch for info in June. I should have forms at our June 18th meeting.

Enjoying the popping up of Spring. See you soon!

Janel Kassing

FRANKLIN
Organized 1946

Editors Note: This was meant for the December issue. In the editing, it was deleted. Apologizes to Franklin Co.

At this time, leaves are falling which means bare branches before long and cleaning out gutters. Franklin County was busy as usual last year. Our lessons were What happens to the kids (ones taken from troubled homes), Quilts at the Worlds Fair in Chicago, I'm Aging, Essential Oils, Growing and using Lavender, Study of Illinois, Why Cremation. We had some cancellation of lessons due to sickness, forgetfulness, and wrong date.

We picked Illinois for a lesson because it is the 200th anniversary of our state.

Our state meeting was in April and Janel Kassing was with us. We were able to give three scholarships that day. We had a speaker who talked to us about the Food Pantry and what roles it plays in the community.

We held a membership luncheon to honor our members. We had an auction which is always fun and held a Style Show in September to see the latest fashions.

Janel and Jane Chapman were with us in June and October when our five counties have a mini-workshop. We get to share our activities and learn about what the State is planning.

At this time we are planning our annual Christmas Ideas Day. This has been a project for around 40 years. We have health representatives from the hospital giving blood work-ups, skilled care groups and others, as well as vendors, a taster's table, a country store, and food. We always have a table for items for the food pantry as we charge no admission.

We freed up December for members to enjoy. We'll start our lessons again in January learning about automatic defibulators.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. God Bless.

Barb Spencer

FRANKLIN
For May Issue

What an odd winter we've had here and at this writing is first day of Spring, raining of course. Franklin County ladies accomplished many things during the past few months.

Our Annual Christmas Ideas Day was November 3. Yours truly was hanging onto a walker, expecting it to be a wheelchair, but we did it. Thanks to Loma Baxter our former president who helped me out so much. We had a good group of vendors this year with very interesting items to sell. Our Country Store, Taster's Table and Food Stand always do a good business. Getting ideas now for 2019.

We've started the year with some good lessons. Kim Scott, a volunteer fireman and EMT, gave a class on using the Automatic Defibrillator in January.

In February, a friend, Randy Journey, spoke about her life growing up in Taiwan and even brought a dish to try that her mother always made for Chinese New Year. In March, Judy Biggs, a well-known quilter in the area gave a splendid talk about her father - he learned to carve, had a shoe repair shop, and in later
years made violins which have been played in many countries. He sculpted 3 doughboy statues for towns in the area, Even tho they were made in early years starting in 1946, they stand today.

Our Lesson for Living for April will be on Parkinson's taught by a lady whose husband has this terrible disease.

We have been selling cake rolls to put money in our treasury and at present have done quite well, but are waiting for some late orders.

Our Annual Meeting which will start our 74th year will be April 30. We are excited about our speakers and will be giving scholarships that day.

Barbara Spencer
Public Relations, Franklin County

**HAMilton**********
Organized 1961

Hamilton County has had all kinds of weather the past few months. It would be warm one week and extremely cold the next, with a lot of cloudy, dark days, as well as a lot of strong winds. Now that it's spring, we are hoping for some bright sunny days and will enjoy seeing the spring flowers peeping out.

We have had some interesting lessons since last November. One was "Who Doesn't Like Dips?" which was great for the holiday season. In January, the lesson was on personal safety in today's world, which was very informative. Another recent lesson was "Organize and De-Clutter Your Home," which should be helpful when we start spring housecleaning. It will also help those of us who are trying to downsize.

Our Ways and Means chairman, Pennie Anselment, did a great job promoting our "No Work" fundraiser, a good way to support our county's HCE, and many of the mailbox members, especially those who aren't able to help with other fundraisers, contributed.

We joined with the county 4-H members to serve hot chocolate and cookies after the annual Christmas parade. We have been doing this for quite a while and everyone enjoys it.

The annual Cabin Fever day, scheduled for January 21, had to be re-scheduled due to bad weather, so it was held February 18th. HCE and 4-H members who attended enjoyed crafts and a pizza lunch.

Community Outreach Director, Karol Brown, continues to collect items such as soda tabs, hard plastic, stamps, Boxtops for Education, and Best Choice scanning bars. These are given to the local schools, and the many pounds of plastic has helped several schools in the area to get benches and picnic tables made from them. We continue to collect items for veterans, and recently we delivered several containers full to the VA hospital in Marion, IL.

Four members attended the state conference in Effingham: Becky Belcher, Rhonda Millenbine, Lucille Auten, and Phyllis Parr.

Our annual taco salad luncheon and our Annual Day will be held in April.

We wish everyone a happy spring.

Bernadine Drone
Public Relations, Hamilton County

**Jefferson*******
Organized 1942

The board has traveled and enjoyed another IAHCE Conference at Effingham, IL. The County received many awards, I will let the other officers tell you what they won. We met lots of people and shared ideas and lesson ideas.

I was recognized for 50 years members. My name was on the list on the video, but was left out of the presentation.
OH! Well! I didn't get a picture, but did get a flower. Glad I have been a member since 1968. Lots of good memories.

We collected $64.00 for the Zero Hunger Challenge—Collected Dimes. The State collected $8004.31 and it will be presented in Australia at the ACWW Meeting.

April lesson will be at Annual conference.

June 1 we are going to do another barn quilt at the Community Building in Odyke. Please join us if you missed the first one. $45.00 for 24 x 24-inch very sturdy board (Packing pallet). 5 patterns to choose from and colors of your choice. The board sold for $205 from the first one, so a good money raiser. Hope to see you there.

Volunteer Certificates were presented to Judy Duckworth, Barbara Bajyo, Kathy Hutcherson, Norma Korte, Judy Parr, Anita McConnell, Debra Korte, Diana Kruger, Joyce Taylor, and Rozann Wilkins for volunteering more than 300 hours in the community during 2018.

Norma recognized those ladies who had been HCE members for over fifty years. They include: Dorothy Burklow - 64 years; Betty Travis - 69 years; Mary Lou Stratemeyer - 69 years; Ellen Ruth Bremer - 70 years; Virginia Black, 71 years. All these dedicated ladies received a rose.

Millie Wilson read a poem “So God Made An HCE Member” to honor those HCE members who passed during the year 2018. They include: Joyce Black Flynn, George’s Creek; Louise Reed, New Frontiers; and Joyce Walter, Volleville Unit. They all dedicated many years to our HCE organization.

Thank you also to the Volleville Unit for planning our Annual Meeting this year. George’s Creek Unit will be our host unit in 2020. More about our Annual Meeting will be in the next newsletter.

**HCE SCHOLARSHIPS**

**Congratulations to the 2019 Scholarship Winners!**
The students who will be receiving the HCE scholarships are:
Griffin Greer, son of David & Mandy Greer of Joppa High School, and Madison Miller, daughter of Jennifer Miller of Massac County High School.

First alternate is Gavin Myers, son of Ralph Myers of Joppa High School, and second alternate is Campbell Neely, daughter of Carrie Neely and Hannah Lloyd, daughter of Shain & Jena Lloyd both of Massac High School.

We are happy to offer scholarships to these students and wish them the best in their future educational endeavors.

**Market Street Spring Fling** will be held on May 4, at 8:00 a.m. Massac County HCE will have a booth again this year in front of Happy Hearts. Let’s get out and support our community and HCE!

This year at the IAHCE Conference Massac County was honored to receive the 2018 runner-up for County of the Year Award for membership less than 75.

Massac County

Five Education Awards were also received for all the activities the members do throughout the year. Massac County HCE members who attended the conference (pictured left to right) were: Judy Parr, Millie Wilson, Dorothy Holt, Norma Korte, and Debra Korte.

Norma Korte
Public Relations, Massac County
PERRY....... Organized 1947

IAHCE Week was a great success in Perry County. Our membership set up displays in county stores where people could take a toy soldier as a symbol to remind them to pray for our service men and women. We also collected dimes for the Zero Hunger campaign at 4 different locations and collected around $150 in under 2 hours! Members also handed out water bottles to the public for individuals to keep collecting dimes for the campaign. Many people not only took the bottles, but filled them with dimes and returned them to the Extension Office by the deadline. With the community’s help, our county was able to collect over $800!

Our annual Holiday Ideas Day in November had a theme of “Mad About Plaid!” and over 70 members and guests enjoyed the day. Our speakers were Kay Bishop from Lavender Fields, Kim Kellerman, Perry County Circuit Clerk about Illinois Bicentennial and Angela Britt on Joy. Food donations were collected for the Pinckneyville and DuQuoin Food Pantries and guests also created a craft.

PULASKI-ALEXANDER....... Organized 1945

January meetings gave way to reflections of our December outing at the beautiful home of Robin Dickerson in Marion. Thank you cards were read from the Veteran’s Home for coffee, Cairo Woman’s Shelter for 21 back packs given to them at Christmas. There were also school supplies and birthday party items given to the local food bank by one unit. President of the Pulaski Unit had her long hair cut and donated to make wigs for those in need.

Our country of study this year is India. The collection of dimes was turned in for hunger.

Installation of Officers – Norma Korte, Director; June Badgley, President; Emma Dell Bennett, Secretary; Flora Helman, Secretary; Marilyn Kerr, & Agnes Thurston, Family & Community; Margaret Ann Grace, International; Martha McMunn, Public Relations. Not pictured are Betty Shumaker, 2nd Vice; Amy Kerr, Cultural Enrichment; and Mary Jo King, Volunteer Hours Chairman.

March was a busy month. One representative from the Pulaski unit attended the State Conference in Effingham. The meetings are so well organized, with well over 300 attending the various share shops, vendors, with noted speakers after the evening meal, and meeting new people. Most do not know where our counties are located!!!!

International Night was held on March 15th at the college. On March 29th, the Pulaski unit hosted a dinner in honor of the Villa Ridge Ag 4-H Club. The annual Hillbilly Dinner on April 13th is always a great event. A ham and bean dinner is served; there are items for a live auction and a cake walk. The proceeds are for our Scholarship Fund. Thanks to all who so willingly helped in any and every way.

In March, our members joined up with the "Sew Much Fun" 4-H Club to work on quilts to be given to the Veterans going on the Honor Flight. Our County Board members helped after Board meetings and different units helped after their monthly meeting. As a county, we made 100 lap blankets to donate!

Sara Tanner
Public Relations, Perry County
Future dates to remember are May 21st to help with The Youth Group at Shawnee College.

Watch for dates on the 4-H Livestock Show at the Fair Grounds where lunch will be for sale.

Martha McMunn
Public Relations, Pulaski-Alexander

WASHINGTON.......
Organized 1947

Washington County HCE members held their Annual Meeting April 22 at the Minden School House, New Monden, IL. Registration began at 6 p.m. and a catered meal was served at 6:30 p.m. Our guest speaker was Kay Bishop along with husband, Andy, on lavender - “Lavender Field of Old Du Quoin”. Members brought items for silent auction.

Installation of officers was by our District Director, Janel Kassing. Our county secretary attended the IAHCE Conference and she relayed information to our county.

Our ladies finished the quilt which will be raffled at our Christmas program so tickets are available.

Our county sent $250.00 in dimes for the Zero Hunger Campaign.

Plans are being made for our Christmas special program. Our members will help with the 4-H program, sell quilt tickets at the Nashville Fall Festival, visit nursing home and hospital and remember the veterans.

As we look forward to spring and warm weather and spring flowers, here is a poem by O. J. Robertson for Spring.

Spring surely is a miracle
Where once lay cold white snow.
Green carpets stretch across the fields
And flowers nod in rows.
The sunny skies make us forget
The chill of winter storm.
Spring surely is a miracle
For then our hearts are warmed.

So let’s look forward to sunny days of Spring to warm our hearts.

Adeline Blumhorst
Public Relations, Washington County

RANDOLPH.......
Organized 1945

The past several months have been rather slow. We had planned to have a Cabin Fever Event in February and tried again in March and both times, it had to be canceled due to the snow. We might have it in May, hopefully the weather will cooperate then.

Our units collected items and delivered them to the Ronald McDonald House in St. Louis. Members also help 4-H members sew lap quilts for veterans in the Marion facility.

Nine of our board members attended the conference in Effingham. We enjoyed the fellowship and the Share Shops that we attended.

The annual meeting was set for April 25. We are excited that our board president and District 7 Director Janel Kassing will be back from Australia to tell us about her experience there. The timing was so good, as we concluded our study of that country.

Randolph County was well represented at the (IAHCE) Illinois Association for Home and Community Education 95th Annual Conference March 12-14 in Effingham.

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Randolph County
Those attending: Seated from left, Gertrude Helmers of Steeleville, Shirley Hohgreve of Chester and Charlene Woods and Jane Luch of Red Bud.
In back: Jeanne Stamm, Donna Wetzel, Joan Wiegand and Janel Kassing, all of Red Bud and Cheryn Sutton of Steeleville.

Jane Luchet
Public Relations, Randolph County
WAYNE........
Organized 1942

The Wayne County HCE executive Board enjoyed a Christmas Lunch at the Johnsonville Restaurant. In lieu of a gift exchange, food items are donated to the local food banks for Christmas baskets. Many items were generously donated.

In February each year the Wayne County Extension Office, the Fairfield National Bank and the Home and Community HCE sponsor an all-day women’s workshop.

This year’s topics were:
- “Placemaking Keeps Town Strong” - Speaker Steve Groner, U of I Extension
- “Medical Marijuana & Derivatives” - Speaker Stephen Potts, Pharm D
- “Passwords” - Speaker Ron Hallam, FNB Community Bank
- “Notable Women of Wayne County” - Speaker Jami & Niki Roethe, Uniquely Rustique
- “Lincoln Comes to Little Egypt” - Speaker Matt Vaughn, Local Attorney & Lincoln Enthusiast
- “Not Just Another Day” - Speaker Gerry Kinney

Ninety-five women attended the all-day meeting. A buffet of a variety of sweets and fruits were provided by a committee of door prize winners from the year before. Lunch was prepared by the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Fairfield. This educational day is looked forward to by ladies from our county as well as HCE members and friends from surrounding counties.

Wayne County is busy preparing for a busy and fun Spring.

Rusti Grogan
Public Relations, Wayne County

WHITE........
Organized 1940

It is truly March in Illinois; the wind is blowing things around the neighborhood today. Someone’s garbage can just blew by my window. But spring is on its way?

White County H.C.E. has lots going on this spring and summer. Some of our projects and lessons this year were: Cast-Iron cooking in January, Update on Funerals in February, and Decorating with Wreaths in March. Upcoming lesson for May is Cooking for 1 or 2.

We donated desserts for the 4-H Pork Chop dinner. They served 800 dinners.

We are working on a Fund Raiser for White County Relay for Life Cancer Crusade.

Jane Melton
Decorating with Wreaths

Cast Iron Cooking

Our Annual Day is coming up and we are making plans for that.

Let Your Heart Follow The Path It Was Meant To Take.

Thanks,
Fran Matheny
Public Relations, White County
DISTRICT 7 NEWS

WILLIAMSON.......  
Organized April 1918

Many ideas from conference sessions as well as the Make -It-Take-It sessions opening night will be shared with our members who did not attend this year.

At the state conference, HCE President Charlene Morris was able to turn in $190 from Williamson County to help fight hunger. Our county continues to be involved in several local civic causes, but we try to help with any IAHCE projects.

IAHCE Secretary Donna Richards and District 4 Director Mary Eustace accept Williamson County water bottle donations to help fight hunger from County President Charlene Morris.

Williamson County  
L-R: Marie Samuel, Coleen Doss, Yvonne Adams, Nancy Throgmorton (kneeling), president Charlene Morris, Ann Collins, Elaine Fletcher, and Roberta Fox.

This year’s raffle quilt for the 2019 Williamson County HCE Bazaar to be in November shown here was donated by Billie Mathis in honor of her family who made this version of the traditional flower garden block.

Artist of the Month

The February and March Artist of the Month was Marie Samuel. She had a window display of watercolor paintings at Little Egypt Art Association in downtown Marion. The traveling exhibit of rivers and lakes to promote appreciation for clean water done both in our area and on travels was shown in November and December at Giant City Visitor Center. It will be shown next at the Carbondale Science Center in the University Mall.

Marie Samuel, Artist of the Month

It takes this plein air painter about an hour to do each of the works done out of doors. A favorite is the Niagara Falls painting done while on a bus trip.

Marie Samuel  
Public Relations, Williamson County

Attending the annual state IAHCE conference in Effingham March 11-13 were 8 delegates shown here from Williamson County.

At the April 23 annual meeting for Williamson County HCE, 56 of the 75 members were recognized for both total Certified Volunteer Hours and HCE hours submitted for 2018. At the evening potluck salad event, District Director Janel Kassing installed incoming and continuing board members. Outgoing office holders were recognized and thanked for their work.
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

IAHCE in Australia
By Deon Maas

In 2018, the Illinois Association of Home and Community Education hosted a wonderful lady named Sara Kenny from Western Australia’s Country Women’s Association (CWA of WA). In exchange, IAHCE sent me to Western Australia (WA) for three weeks during March of 2019, hosted by the CWA of WA. By the time this is published, I will have also attended the Associated Country Women of the World Triennial with the Illinois delegation, as well as toured Ballarat and Tasmania with Cara Ausmus.

Many IAHCE members followed my blogs at deontoaustralia.blogspot.com or at deontoaustralia.com, where I posted many photographs. I had little time to write about the details of the trip, so this article will cover some of the additional things I learned.

CWA of WA is a separate organization from the Country Women’s Association of Australia (CWA or CWAA). CWA of WA has 135 branches and about 2200 members. They were formed in 1924 in Western Australia. The organization was important because this period of time was when farmers settled the land. Women were often very isolated on farms and stations; CWA meetings were sometimes their only social life. To learn more about CWA of WA, visit their web site at: https://ww.cwaofwa.asn.au/

Sara Kenny and I visited several places in Perth the first few days. At the state CWA of WA office, I met the staff and toured the building. The office was a collection place for many of the members’ altruistic endeavors, such as baby clothes donations for the ACWW Triennial. Handicrafts, jams and recipe books were for sale to the public. I learned about CWA’s many projects. Recently, they have partnered with a local grocery store chain to collect money to donate to farmers who have been victims of a recent drought. CWA of WA provides retirement homes for some of their members. They also have several holiday homes for rent to members or to the public. It is an amazing group!

For example, I met a CWA lady who was visiting the office who had homesteaded in 1966. When her family and she arrived at their new farm, nothing was there, and her husband told her that water was “only” seven miles back. They made a life for themselves on the farm over the years. The group of friends she met through CWA provided friendship and support in the early years and still is an integral part of her life.

I stayed with a total of 9 host families for one, two or three nights. Either the hosts or a member took me to local sites or attractions. I met with many CWA of WA groups throughout the three weeks. The smallest group was two people and the largest group was a CWA of WA craft camp in Albany, which had about 40 people. At each group, I talked about IAHCE, Illinois and my life. I shared different types of sewing projects IAHCE members do around the state, as well as compared altruistic pursuits.

Each CWA of WA group fed me “tea” after the meeting. The word “tea” can have several meanings. Of course, it can refer to the beverage tea. Although coffee is often consumed, usually made from instant, the main beverage is hot tea. English breakfast tea is the favorite, but many other types are consumed also. The second type of “tea” can be “morning tea” or “afternoon tea.” Essentially, it is a time to stop whatever activity one is doing to drink coffee or tea, plus eat some snacks. Snacks can be little sandwiches, cake or cookies, or just crackers and cheese. This is the type of tea I was served after each meeting. But sometimes people call a meal “tea.” One host said one evening, “I’m going to make tea.” I said, “Great, I’ll go get my tea bag.” She looked at me funny and said, “I’m cooking a meal, not boiling water for tea!” Oops! Fortunately, one can laugh at oneself when in another country.

I have learned a lot about the state of Western Australia. Western Australia is very protective of its land and people. There are strict rules for items that come into the country; nuts or fruit cannot be brought into the country, for example. If someone had been on a farm, any shoes they had worn on the farm would be either cleaned or discarded. Since rabies does not exist on the continent, animals brought into the country must be quarantined. I even had to discard an apple when I flew between two cities within the county.

Although most things seem quite familiar to me, there are often subtle differences between the US and Australia. We might have the same piece of farm machinery as the Australians (many come from the US), but it might be called by a different name. For example, what we call a grain wagon or grain cart, they call a chaser wagon. What we call a semi, they call a prime mover or road train. Road trains can consist of a prime mover (the tractor/truck part) with up to four trailers being pulled. Grain is taken directly to area elevators, not store on the farm. The only grain storage on the farm is what will be fed to the farmer’s animals.

Some farmland with good soil was settled and farmed in the early 1900s. Since much of WA had once been under the ocean, this created problems in other areas. With some experimentation and research, it was found that adding phosphorous, potash, copper, zinc, sulfur and/or nitrogen made the ground suitable for crops. Some poisonous plants had to be removed before livestock could graze on the land. The bush, the low growth that covered much of the land, was cleared by dragging a chain between two tractors or by burning. It was hard work establishing a farm in Australia.
Water as and is a huge issue in Australia as it is a very dry continent. At each place I stayed, I asked many questions about their water supply. In Perth, water is provided by a dam, an aquifer and by recycled water. There are restrictions on water usage during certain times of the year. For example, when I was visiting the city, the population was only allowed to use their sprinkler systems two days a week. Many people collect rainwater in the city to supplement the water supply. Rainwater is often preferred as drinking water at many homes. When I asked if it was filtered, some people replied that it was not.

Water supply varied on the farms I visited. One had a permanent river running through it. Others had bore holes (wells) or collected rainwater in dams (ponds) to water the livestock. One farm pumped water to two 30,000 tanks on a hill, and then water was delivered to their paddocks by gravity.

IAHCE’s 2019 exchange program to Australia: Fulton County HCE member, Deon Maas, wrote a blog during her six-week adventure to the Land Down Under. It can be found at deontoaustralia.blogspot.com

PICTURES FROM DEON’S BLOG

These are the Canal Rocks near the Margaret River.

This shows the size of some of the trees at the Valley of the Giants.

Re-purposing

The Brenton and Melanie Dean family was named the 2018 Family of the Year at the Illinois Association Home and Community Education’s 95th Annual Conference March 13, 2019.

Living a farming lifestyle is a family tradition according to Brenton. “I grew up on my family farm in Griggsville, Illinois. Today I am the seventh generation to cultivate the original land, settled upon in 1838.” After graduating from Spoon River Community College, Brenton returned to the farm.

Brenton and his wife, Melanie, have 2 children. Christian decided to return to full time farming after attending Technical School. He will become the 8th generation farmer. Caylin is a sophomore at McKendree University majoring in pre-occupational therapy and plans to pursue her doctorate.

Melanie is the family farm bookkeeper and all-around organizer, prepares meal for family and farm hands at house or field. Cooking is the language of love, and they are sure to extend it to anyone on the family farm.

The Dean family understands the need to develop the future generations of agriculturists and they are doing their part to help by assisting young people in the community by hiring them to do farm work providing them with overall knowledge of the inner workings of the farm.

They are involved in community activities and church along with a group of musicians leading praise music at the contemporary service.

The family strives to always learn, and not become too complacent in their operation, looking for new, different ideas. A farming lifestyle also provides the chance to get their kids involved. Brenton said, “Restoring Grandpa Wagner’s 1939 F20 tractor was a team effort as was a 1977 Pontiac Trans Am, and now a 1957 Chevrolet”.

“The Dean family is a good example of a multi-generational farm family. In this day and time, having a father, and grandfather to learn from and work with is special”, according to Norma Korte IAHCE 2nd Vice President.
2018 CULTURAL ENRICHMENT
Peggy Long, IAHCE Director

Textiles:
McLean County District 5
Set up weekly craft day, taught people how to make hats, scarves, mittens, dish rags, hot pads, fidget blankets, Santa Stockings for the Military; donated to various needed organizations in the county.
Effingham County District 6
Taught people to make fidget blankets at “Sew Days”; blankets donated to nursing homes.
Jefferson County District 7
Held classes on making a quilt from t-shirts.

Heritage Skills:
McLean County District 5
Held a berry basket making lesson.
Monroe County District 6
Held a cookie and candy making lesson hoping to bring families and friends together to start new traditions.
Massac County District 7
Sponsored a special craft day for 4-H members and community; taught how to make a “Tree of Life” pendant and personalized coasters.

Special Activity:
Lake County District 2/3
Held a program, “The Unsinkable Molly Brown” along with their Cultural Enrichment Day.

2018 FAMILY & COMMUNITY ISSUES
Norma Korte, IAHCE Director

Family Living, Safety:
Sangamon County District 4
Made 8 layettes and donated to the Women’s Ministries for Homeless.

Champaign County District 5
Adopted adult group home with disabilities to make special gifts for residents; gave gift cards.

Marion County District 6
Made birthday bags for low income children to share with their families.

Health, Food & Nutrition:
Monroe County District 7
Educated 7th graders in Unit on Nutritional snacks; worked with U of I Extension on Food 101; provided snacks for 911 responders.

Citizenship, Environment
Cumberland County District 5
Worked with 4-H SPIN Club to honor first responders in their community.

Jefferson County District 7
Made Magic Pillowcases, collected magazines, gave thank you cards for the Illinois Honor Flight for Veterans and for nursing homes.

Special Activity:
Kankakee County District 2/3
Worked with weighted blankets, food protectors, walker bags, school supplies, cancer caps for nursing homes; red hats for babies.

Adams County District 4
Educated community with activities about 100 years of HCE; honored 50+ year membership.

Jersey County District 6
Educated families how to deal with emergencies in the home; when you need to go to hospital

Perry County District 7
Educated members and community about Illinois Bicentennial; celebrated the event.

GRAND AWARD
Special Activity
MC LEAN - District 5
WALL OF HONOR—EDUCATION AWARDS

2018 INTERNATIONAL
Cara Ausmus, IAHCE Director

Country of Study:
- LaSalle District 2/3
  Invited area mayors to International Day.
- DeWitt County District 5
  Knitted kangaroo and koala for door prizes
- Monroe County District 6
  Detailed report, broad scope.
- Massac County District 7
  Used media, Facebook and Outback gift cards.

Other International County of Study:
- Warren County District 1
  Multiple events thru the year including Heritage Skills.
- Crawford County District 6
  Multiple International reaches.

Special International Event
- Lake County District 2/3
  Used U of I marquee to reach out.
- Sangamon County District 4
  Clever artwork with mint recipe book.
- Macon County District 5
  Monthly documents for each newsletter.
- Perry County District 7
  Passport to the World with 4-H

2018 PUBLIC RELATIONS
Pat Hildebrand, IAHCE Director

HCE Week:
- Champaign County District 5
  Celebrated and promoted HCE activities around the county through all types of media.
- Madison County District 6
  An Australian International Night drew over 100 participants.
- Perry County District 7
  Bottles of water and information about the Zero Hunger Challenge were distributed.

Public Relations:
- Adams County District 4
  Media coverage of the 100th Anniversary celebration of HCE reached over 100,000 households; a Facebook page was developed.
- McLean County District 5
  Numerous media forms were used to promote events and activities during HCE Week.
- Massac County District 7
  Networking with local businesses and organizations has provided a way for HCE to be among the leaders in the community.

Special Activity:
- Stephenson County District 1
  A community Festival of Trees placed HCE in front of the community.
- Kane County District 2/3
  The Special Activity was planned to enhance the visit of the IAHCE Australian guest.
- Macon County District 5
  A wide variety of educational programs attracted the community to HCE Week activities.

GRAND AWARD
MONROE District 6

GRAND AWARD
Public Relations
LA SALLE District 2/3
2018 MEMBERSHIP
Angela Hicks, IAHCE Director

Net Gain:
- McHenry County 1.82% District 2/3
- Pike County 5.37% District 4
- Jasper County 10.42% District 6
- Pulaski/Alexander 20.00% District 7

Most Members Gained:
- Rock Island County 8 members District 1
- Kane County 9 members District 2/3
- Sangamon County 17 members District 4
- McLean County 17 members District 5
- Richland County 19 members District 6
- Perry County 14 members District 7

Activities:
- Massac County District 7
  Increasing HCE awareness in the community.

Special Activity:
- McLean County District 7
  Well documented, well advertised and well attended by members and guests, increasing awareness of HCE in the community

GRAND AWARD Membership
Special Activity MC LEAN

GRAND AWARD Membership
Net Gain PULASKI/ALEXANDER
Net Gain (Highest gain in State)

2018 COUNTY OF THE YEAR—75 or Less Members

1st Place: WARREN (pictured above)
2nd Place MASSAC
3rd Place JASPER
4th Place PULASKI/ALEXANDER
5th Place JERSEY

2018 COUNTY OF THE YEAR—76 or More Members

1st Place: MACON (pictured above)
2nd Place MC LEAN
3rd Place ADAMS
4th Place JEFFERSON
5th Place HAMILTON
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>County</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100 Artwork</td>
<td>Nancy Guernsey</td>
<td>Sangamon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200 Counted Cross Stitch</td>
<td>Janet Stiener</td>
<td>Warren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>400 Crafts</td>
<td>Rosie Kremer</td>
<td>Effingham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 Crochet-Other</td>
<td>Sylvia Dust</td>
<td>Effingham</td>
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<tr>
<td>600 Hand Embroidery</td>
<td>Phyllis Kestner</td>
<td>Livingston</td>
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<tr>
<td>700 A H/M Pieced/H q/HCE</td>
<td>Kate Schmitgall</td>
<td>Tazewell</td>
</tr>
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<td>800 Heritage Needlework</td>
<td>Rebecca DeLong</td>
<td>Pike</td>
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<tr>
<td>900 Jewelry</td>
<td>Angela Hicks</td>
<td>Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>1000 Knit Afghans</td>
<td>Carol Myers</td>
<td>Macon</td>
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<tr>
<td>1100 Knit-Other</td>
<td>Noel Henke</td>
<td>Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1200 Machine Embroidery</td>
<td>Judy McFarland</td>
<td>Tazewell</td>
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<tr>
<td>1300 Q Mach. P &amp; Q by HCE</td>
<td>Ona Day Johnston</td>
<td>Pike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1400 Nature Items</td>
<td>Joan Anderson</td>
<td>LaSalle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1500 Photography</td>
<td>Enriche Johunning</td>
<td>Monroe</td>
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<tr>
<td>1600 H. H/M by HCE, Quilt Non HCE</td>
<td>Kate Schmitgall</td>
<td>Tazewell</td>
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<tr>
<td>313-Craft</td>
<td>Rosie Kerner</td>
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<td>506-Crocheted Other</td>
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<td>LaSalle</td>
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<td>Kali Goodchild</td>
<td>LaSalle</td>
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<tr>
<td>1709-Quilted</td>
<td>RoseAnn Rendl</td>
<td>Lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>1900 Scrapbooking/Cardmaking</td>
<td>Diane Laur</td>
<td>Jefferson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 Table runners</td>
<td>Carol Kussart</td>
<td>Piatt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2100 Wearable art</td>
<td>Angela Hicks</td>
<td>Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2200 Wall Hanging</td>
<td>Evelyn Novak</td>
<td>Richland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2300 Current Theme/Country</td>
<td>Gail Dughi</td>
<td>Lake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2400 Sewing</td>
<td>Joan Loma</td>
<td>Richland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IAHCE Conference Memorial Service
Presented by Becky Thomas
IAHCE District 1 Director

So God Made a HCE Member

And on the 9th day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, "Oh dear, the family and the community are going to need help." So God made a HCE Member.

God said, "I need somebody who will get up before dawn, make breakfast, work all day in her career, make time to be with her County HCE Unit and then come home to fix supper and wash up the dishes." So God made a HCE Member.

God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with their newborn babies. And watch them grow. Then pray each morning and teach her children to say, "Please and thank you." I need somebody who can make a fried-egg sandwich, stretch a paycheck or thicken soup, who can clean her house with vinegar, baking soda and hot water and other activities using lessons learned from HCE." So God made a HCE Member.

God said, "I need someone who will stop her work to talk with her HCE members about joys, and troubles. Somebody who could cook and clean and not cut corners. Somebody who would laugh and then sigh and then reply, with smiling eyes, when her daughter says she wants to spend her life "doing what mom does," So God made a HCE Member.

God said, “I need someone who will take a leader lesson, then teach to her unit, open her house to members for a meeting, bake for a 4-H fair, sew baby blankets, collect socks for veterans, teach crafts, travel the counties in the state of Illinois and different parts of the world’’ So God made a HCE Member.

God said, "I need someone who can heed the Aim of the Association, live the lessons of the Creed of the Association and be interested in caring for other women of the world. I need someone to work on committees, become leaders and officers, and enjoy each other.” So God created a HCE Member.

Let us share the memories of our deceased members and the contributions they have made to our County Units and to the Illinois Association for Home and Community Education.

Dr. Nash Naam:

Dr. Naam is an orthopedic surgeon in Effingham and is affiliated with multiple hospitals in the area. He received his medical degree from Cairo University School of Medicine and has been in practice for more than 20 years. His wife, Dr. Elene M. Awad, PhD, MD is an internist in Effingham.

Nina Mend and Johannes:

They are back home in Trautskirchen, Germany where they are working on their family dairy farm. They are looking forward to returning to the States in August...JUST IN TIME for Nina's Birthday MONTH celebration. They will be performing at the Hofbräuhaus St. Louis-Belleville in August and then again in October and November. They look forward to seeing their friends with the IAHCE!!!

Zero Hunger Challenge

The Zero Hunger Challenge was launched by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Kimoon in 2012. The Zero Hunger vision reflects five elements from within the Sustainable Development Goals, which taken together, can end hunger, eliminate all forms of malnutrition, and build inclusive and sustainable food systems.

Jo Almond, USA Area President, has chosen ZERO HUNGER as her Campaign for this triennium. At the Area Meeting, those attending received a small water bottle with a logo on it and cloth pocket to fill with funds. Attached to the bottle was a poem that stated “Check your pockets every day for any dimes if you may. To help bring hunger to an end, fill this little bottle to the brim”. The proceeds from this campaign will be split between a United States hunger program and ACWW.

What kind of a dent did IAHCE put into eliminating hunger throughout the world? IAHCE President Jane Chapman presented Jo Almond with a check from the Illinois Association Home and Community Education for over $8,000.
Hola! Ciao! Salut! Greetings!

Thank you for joining us going “Around the World” at the 2019 Annual Conference. You were all awesome! We had an amazing time in Effingham.

We wanted to send a thank you for all of the great connections made, memories created, and laughs shared during the event. So many of you lent a helping hand—Effingham HCE, Judy Traub and Trudy Bailey (Effingham, who made the potholders), Randolph County (popcorn), the many facilitators and the volunteers during the programs, Patty and the wait staff from the Keller Convention Center and to all who joined our 3-day trip.

Thank you to all who placed ads and who sponsored the entertainment.

Enjoy 2019 with your counties. We hope to see you at the 2020 Annual Conference. Plans are being made right now for new things to learn, do and see in Effingham!

Auf Wiedersehen! ¡Hasta luego! Arrivederci! ’til we meet again,

Marilyn Schaefer, chairman
Pat Hildebrand, co-chair

DATES TO REMEMBER

August 6, 7, and 8, 2019 District Workshops

August 6, 2019 District 6 and 7
St Johns Lutheran Church
901 W. Jefferson, Effingham, IL

August 7, 2019 District 4 and 5
Southern View Chapel
Springfield, IL

August 8, 2019 District 1 and 2/3
Sycamore United Methodist Church
Sycamore, IL

October 14-18, 2019 HCE Week

March 10-12, 2020 96th Annual IAHCE Conference
Thelma Keller Convention Center
Effingham, IL

SILENT AUCTION

Kathleen Emery and Bev Combs
Silent Auction Co-chairs
send
SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to Silent Auction helpers
Marilyn DeVries
Carla Meyer
Ann Runkle and
Janice Fryer
for all their work in making this endeavor go so smoothly.

SUPPORT FUND GRANTS

REMINDER - June 1, 2019, Deadline

Is your county planning an activity that could possibly be used by other counties as a learning tool? Will you be reaching a lot of people with your activity? Could you use some financial support for this new activity?

If the answer is yes to any/all of the above, consider applying for a grant from the IAHCE Support Fund. The guidelines and application can be found in the Guidebook at www.iahce.org. The guidelines are on pages 63a and 63b. Read them to see if one of your county/multi-county programs will qualify. Then fill out the application form on pages 64 & 65 and submit it to me. It must be postmarked by June 1, 2019.

The applications will be discussed by the Support Fund Advisory Committee in August and counties will be notified of their decisions before September 1, 2019.

Bev Combs, Support Fund Chairman
Subscription to IAHCE Newsletter
1 Year Subscription - $9.00 - Three Issues

Mailed in May - August - December

**Deadlines for Articles** - April 1, July 1, November 1

Name________________________________
Address______________________________
City________________________ Zip_______
Telephone w/Area Code__________________
County_____________________ District____
New____ Renewal___ Address Change_____
e-mail________________________________

Mail to:
Pat Hildebrand
302 N. Hutton Drive
Newton, IL 62448
E-mail:
normpat4@yahoo.com

Checks to: IAHCE