

The IAHCCE Chronicle



Pearls of Wisdom Strung Together for 99 Years



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NEWS FROM YOUR STATE OFFICERS



Angela Hicks - IAHCCE President

Dear Fellow HCE Members and Friends,

Smiles, smiles, and more smiles abounded the 2023 99th Annual Conference “Pearls of Wisdom Strung Together”! Most everyone seemed to enjoy dressing up—whether fashionably dressed accented with pearls at the “Breakfast at Tiffany’s” luncheon or decked out in their “Gatsby” finery at the Elsie Mies Banquet! The atmosphere was exceptionally pleasurable and well attended by our members and guests.

Grand Awards, Member of the Year Awards, and The County of the Year in two categories were announced, as well as many awards in each educational category. The Winner’s Circle List is in the newsletter. The Great American Family, The Korte’s, were introduced and gave a short but very informative presentation. We also recognized Stephenson County HCE (District 1) for turning 100 this year! The IAHCCE Board congratulates each of you! We encourage the award winners as well as all of the counties to continue to participate, learn, share, and support your communities. *“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.”*- Helen Keller. This is so true, as HCE Members we can accomplish so much!

Last year I was invited to visit 16 more Illinois HCE Counties. IAHCCE reported the membership held steady once again with minimal loss and much gain. IAHCCE ended 2022 with 64 of 66 counties; 4,106 members; 329 actual gains; and a net loss of 138. It is so very important to recognize that the net loss is decreasing every year because YOU are adding more and more new members each year!

Last year a handful of HCE counties (18) reported serving approximately 240 community organization. Can you imagine what the actual total would be if only the rest of the counties submitted reports detailing their good works? Did you know that 52 counties reported a combined total of individual volunteer hours of 420,059? That number is proof you are working!! Thank you and please don’t be shy about reporting your good works!

We want to thank **Mary Eustace**, IAHCCE 1st Vice President for her dedication and service to IAHCCE. Even though Mary is retiring from the State Board we know she is not hanging up her “HCE PomPoms” as she will always have the “HCE Spirit, How About You” attitude!

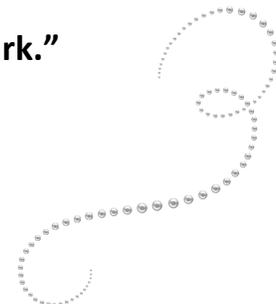
We welcome **Kathy Peterson**, Grundy County, to the IAHCCE Board as the 1st Vice President. We welcome **Melissa Chitwood** to a second term as Treasurer and **Emily McDowell** to a second term as Public Relations/Newsletter Editor. Since we did not have a qualified candidate for CVH/Sales the IAHCCE Board appointed (with Delegate approval) **Ashley Davis** to serve one term only as CVH/Sales Director. We congratulate you all and thank you for once again supporting HCE with you dedication and service!

Thank you to the conference Chairs, **Eleanor Gregory** and **Melissa Chitwood**, as well as your committee members for a fun and entertaining conference! The 99th was a great lead in to the 100th Annual Conference!

Aspiring to inspire others in word and deed is an admirable endeavor as attested to in your reports. My challenge to you is to continue to aspire to inspire! I would like to end this letter with these truly inspiring words of wisdom from an unknown source:

**“Your smile is your logo,
You personality is your business card,
And the way you make others feel is your trademark.”**

Angela Hicks
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Pearls of Wisdom Strung Together

By Angela Hicks, IAHCE President

Volunteering with IAHCE,
Is a wise and noble way,
To enhance lives of families,
And serve your community each day.

Through quality programs and experiences,
We strive to educate and inspire,
To promote responsible leadership,
And help those in need to rise higher.

For 99 years, we've strung together,
Pearls of wisdom and service bright,
Partnering with sisters worldwide,
To make a difference in others' lives.

So join us on this journey,
And let your light shine through,
Together we can make a difference,
And bring hope to those in need anew.

For wisdom is not just knowledge,
But action that speaks true,
And in volunteering with IAHCE,
We can all make our pearls shine through.



2023-2024 IAHCE Board, Tuesday, March 14, 2023



2023-2024 IAHCE Board, Wednesday, March 15, 2023

EXECUTIVE BOARD

1st VICE PRESIDENT – Kathy Peterson

Hi! Happy Spring!

I am so excited to be back on the IAHCE Board. I will enjoy meeting more members and seeing a lot more of the state. I am still collecting items for the museum celebration of 100 years. You can contact me and I will be sending out request for items through your 1st vice president. I will appreciate your help. My goal is to work with the extension and find creative ways and lessons to move us into the next 100 years. See you in August at District Workshops. Remember the challenge in the 1st vice president conference packet.

My pearl of wisdom is: Be present in all things and be thankful for all things— Maya Angelou



2nd VICE PRESIDENT – Mary Johnson

The IAHCE 99th Annual Conference was a huge success! Over the three-day conference we heard many words of wisdom from state board members, speakers and members. It was wonderful to be together again. It was fun to see so many embrace the theme and wear pearls, black dresses, and flapper gear! You all clean up nicely.

After a rough couple of years our membership numbers are headed in the right direction. We had twenty counties report a net increase in membership this past year. During the 2nd VP meeting, several reported they've already attracted several new members! Each and every county is working hard, trying new activities, and INVITING guests to attend. Keep you the good work.

Plans on already well underway for our 100th Anniversary Conference in March 2024. This conference will be new and exciting and one you will definitely want to attend. Stay tuned for more details!

One goal for all our IAHCE districts this year is to hold district mini-meetings. Districts 4 & 5 have been holding these meetings in June and October for a while. Districts 1, 2, and 3 are exploring holding at least one mini district meeting this year. These meetings are a wonderful opportunity to network with other counties in your district. Your district directors will be getting you more information as plans are made.

August District Workshops will be starting in the south this year. August 8th Districts 4 & 5 will meet in Mt. Vernon, August 9th, District 3 meeting will be in Springfield, and August 10th, Districts 1 and 2, will meet in Mt. Carroll. These meetings are open to all members. Please encourage all members to attend. Registration materials will be sent to you in June.



Treat others like you want to be treated.

Just because someone does something, it doesn't mean you have to do it.

Don't judge the book by the cover.—Pat Tappenday

SECRETARY- Cathy Eathington

WOW, what a great conference we had! You ladies all looked outstanding in your pearls and flapper dresses. The 100th IAHCE Annual Conference will be held March 12-14, 2024 in Effingham. Melissa Chitwood is Chairman and would like all members to participate. If you can serve on a committee, please call Melissa At 217-493-4441 or email at mchitwoo@illinois.edu. District Workshops will be August 8, 2023 for District 4 & 5 in Mount Vernon, August 9, 2023 for District 3 in Springfield, and August 10, 2023 for District 1 & 2 in Mount Carroll.



PLEASE SEND UPDATED COUNTY OFFICER LISTS TO ME AS SOON AS YOU HAVE YOUR ANNUAL MEETING

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the District Workshops. May you and your family all stay healthy and happy. God Bless you all.

TREASURER- Melissa Chitwood

Thank you to those who attended this year's conference, Pearls of Wisdom Strung together IAHCE 99 Years. What a wonderful conference and it was great to see so many smiling faces! I also want to say thank you to Champaign County for setting up and running the game room at conference. If you are interested in volunteering for next year's conference please let me know. Are you an extravert? Are you a rowdy one? A people person? Then you should volunteer to help sell the "Pot of Gold" tickets! Some guests didn't know these tickets were available this year, so next year I will work harder to make sure you can easily find where to get your tickets! Let me know if you are interested in helping!



The silent auction was a success! Thank you to all those who helped in the silent auction room (Carol Froeschl of Champaign County, Lynn Trotter of Champaign County, Sandy Henke of Lake County, Carla Meyer of Stephenson County, and Diana Ethridge of Stephenson County), as well as my fellow board members. My apologies if I left you off the list and I do appreciate EVERYONE's help! A huge THANK YOU to those of you who donated items and those that bid on items. There were some great things offered this year! The silent auction brought in over \$2,600! Remember, the silent auction and the Pot of Gold drawings are our only fundraiser for the state, so please consider participating next year.

Plans are well underway for the IAHCE 100th Celebration. Please contact Kathy Peterson with any historical items or information you may have. If you signed up to be on a committee at the 2022 Annual Conference, a committee chair should have already contacted you. If you have contact information for individuals who were involved with HCE (prior Extension Directors, Educators, etc), please let me know that as well. We would like to invite these individuals to come celebrate with us!

County treasurers received some valuable information at conference from Tyler McNeely with VanGundy. Information from VanGundy was provided in your Treasurer's Packet. If you have questions regarding insurance coverage and how to receive a certificate of liability, please reach out directly to Colleen at VanGundy if you have questions. Her contact information was also included in the packet.

Well, spring is upon us, or so they say. It feels like aside from tornados we went straight to summer. Shake those cabin blues off and take advantage of this time of year to enjoy the fresh air and sunshine. "Keep your face to the sun and you will never see the shadows." - Helen Keller

Melissa

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Cultural Enrichment- Becky Belcher



Even though I don't wear them often, pearls are my favorite jewelry accessory, so I loved wearing them at conference every day, all day long! It was so much fun seeing all of you decked out in your pearls too, but the pearls were just the icing on the cake... the conference was filled with information, inspiration, entertainment, encouragement, and camaraderie. As far as the Cultural Arts Show goes, wow ladies! There were so many beautiful entries! How impressive your talents are! Thank you all for allowing us to display your treasures. I was so proud to be able to show off your excellent work.

I know this is the time of year when many of you are gathering lesson information and scheduling lessons and activities. In the future I hope I will be able to give you more suggestions and ideas for Cultural Enrichment lessons and activities to include in your county schedule. I plan to include more information in District Workshops in August. Now, I would like to say a few words about what cultural enrichment means to me and what sort of information and activities I think we should be sharing with our members and our communities. Culture, for our purposes here, is simply a way of life. And to enrich is to enhance, improve, or make better. We immediately think our way of life is made richer through exposure to literature, theater, music, the applied and fine arts. While these things are good and are enriching experiences, I want to suggest to you that the simple ability to take pleasure in the moment in what is all around us, free for the taking, can also make our way of life rich and fulfilling. I'm going to be working on a couple of lists- one that includes ways to expose ourselves to literature, theater, music and art, and another that includes simple every day ways on enriching our way of life.

Have a great spring and summer.

Family and Community Issues- Eleanor Gregory



Thank you to all the individuals and counties who made the IAHCE Conference so memorable. As the chair of the 2023 IAHCE Conference, I wondered how my co-chair, Melissa Chitwood and I could make this conference a grand celebration of 99 years. Wow, you did it! YOU made the Celebration of 99 Years an awesome conference by wearing your pearls and your smiles! Dressing up for "Breakfast at Tiffany's" and our "Great Gatsby Night" presented a unique picture of how special you are, how special you are to others, and how special you are to our organization! I thank you for coming to our conference and supporting our programs. I trust you gained much wisdom and can share this wisdom with your county HCE members. Perhaps, next year more members (not just board members) will come as we celebrate our 100TH!!!

Thank you to all of the counties that sent in project books that documented your activities and documented the HCE members who initiated these special projects. These projects made a difference to children, families, and seniors.. Especially those in special care centers... in your communities. The amount of time spent on these projects, the creativity involved, and the results of your efforts are immeasurable. Begin now to jump-start some new projects AND continue those projects that help so many others. HCE ladies do make a difference in the lives of others!!!

Congratulations to our 2022 Great American Family! I was so happy to present Steve and Norma Korte and their son Darryl from Metropolis, Illinois with a plaque of recognition from the IAHCE Board after their interesting presentation about their family and their farm at our 2023 conference on awards night.

Now that spring is here, the flowers are growing and will be blooming. Let's continue to consider the pollinators and help them in a big way, by sharing our knowledge of keeping our environment friendly "BEE-CAUSE Pollinators Feed the World"!

All the best and God Bless,

Eleanor Gregory

International- Janel Kassing

Happy Spring Ladies!

As I write this article tonight, I've just finished doing the Easter decorating in my house and then cleaned the house. Now is the time to finish some filing of HCE paperwork I brought home from conference.

What a fun conference we experienced! It was so great to see so many of you embrace the little black dress/pearls and the Great Gatsby themes. Such a sea of elegance and fun. It's so great that Patty adds to the festivities with all the decorations. So sorry if you missed the fun! Now for details and news:

In Jane's bee session, I mentioned a book "The Bee Dance" by Rick Chrustowski. The end of this book has a page that explains the waggle dance so well. I found it to be available in a variety of places and prices from \$5-almost \$20. I borrowed it from my local public library. I can make this page available again, if needed. (I included it in the August 22 International packet.)

Someone wrote a note on the contact list I passed around at the International meeting. They stated that they had questions but no name was on the note. If that is you, please contact me with your questions.

ACWW is changing. As you could see in our collection bags, the logo has changed. Because numbers of members and funding was down, they are narrowing their scope to 3 areas of focus as opposed to the previous 6: Climate-Smart Agriculture, Rural Women's Health, and Education/Community Development. There will be fewer projects funded but there'll be greater investment in each community. As time goes on in this new approach, I will continue to keep you apprised of the new developments.

On May 15, several IAHCE members will fly to Malaysia for the triennial. Four of us will leave St. Louis and fly via Denver/Tokyo. So anxious to attend. The triennial in Australia was inspiring, so I feel this will be amazing.

A new country to study for 2024 will be announced in August 2023. Hasn't Egypt been interesting? I've learned so much I had no idea about. Your newsletters have included such interesting facts. I received 14 projects from counties on Italy. I'll be so anxious to read your projects about Egypt and see you fun International events. Be creative, have fun, and take lots of pictures to include in your projects sent to me in January 2024.

I'll see you in August where I'll be ready to share about our Malaysian trip.

Certified Volunteer Hours/Sales- Ashley Davis

As I type this, the wind is blowing in the afternoon storms. I look at it as God is blowing the spring air and letting nature know we are ready for spring. It was great to see you all again at the 2023 IAHCE Annual Conference. It's nice that we can all get together as a membership again. I will say that I am excited to be able to work with you all for another three year term. God has blessed me over and over again to be able to serve on the IAHCE State Board. Thank you all for trusting me to do this job again.

We have some changes coming up, but nothing we haven't already had in the CVH program before. I will say that I have been doing research and going through the history of the CVH program and I have learned so much. I will be sharing that with you all too. We will be bringing back the gold seals, so be ready for that.

Lets talk about those CVH hours that were turned in for 2022! How awesome were the final numbers? As always, I am amazed by all the dedication to our organization and to the communities.



Below is a recap of our numbers all over the state:

2022 IAHCe Annual All Over State CVH Report:

1,733 members turned in CVH hours for the State of Illinois

35 members turned in 1,000 or more hours.

146,337 HCE hours were turned in by 52 counties.

272,484 other hours were turned in.

420,059 Total CVH hours were turned in for 2022 by January 31st, 2022.

52 out of 64 Counties reported CVH hours.

226 were new reporting hours.

558 certificates of recognition are being handed out.

Total Hours for 2021 that were turned in in 2022 = 1629 hours x \$28.54 = \$46,492

Dollar Value of each volunteer hour for 2022 = \$29.95

Total CVH reported for 2022= 420,059 x \$29.95 = \$12,580,767.00

If you look back on 2021, we had 320,827 hours turned in. In 2022, we had 420,059 hours turned in. That is a 99,232 hours difference in just a year! KUDOS to you all! It is volunteers like you that make this wacky world a better place.

As always, if you have any questions on anything please know you can call, text, or email me at any time!

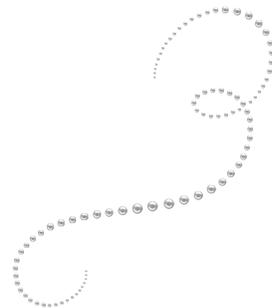
Ashley

Public Relations- Emily McDowell

What a wonderful conference we had! I will tell you that I am not typically a pearls girl, but I really had fun with the theme of this year's conference and embraced the pearls! I had a pearl tie that I even wore for our business meeting! We went from inspiring others in 2022 to imparting our wisdom this year, 2023. I always try imparting my wisdom in the things I do daily. When I was growing up I always dreamed of being a counselor because I often gave advice to my friends and family. Needless to say, that wasn't always a wise decision and I never did become a psychologist or counselor, but I still enjoy trying to share bits of wisdom to those around me. Lately, it's been at church, vendor events, and at work. One is never too old to start learning and never too wise to impart their knowledge onto others.

If you received my PR packet at conference, you will find lots of ideas for imparting wisdom in your local communities. As we settle into our counties after the high we received at conference, let's not forget all the wisdom we can share that we learned while we were there. What bits of wisdom will you share in your programming? Think upon these things as the year progresses. August will be here before you know it and then it's off to our 100th Anniversary Celebration!

We will need everyone's help in making next year a year to remember. We are encouraging everyone to find a committee they can be involved in. I am currently working on a scavenger hunt that can be done throughout the whole year all throughout the state and I'd love to hear your ideas on how we can do that. Please email me at emhohl@gmail.com with any ideas you have.



DISTRICT 1 NEWS

DISTRICT 1 DIRECTOR – Becky Thomas



Pearls of Wisdom-Strung together, the theme of 2023 makes me think of good things and good people. The conference this year was encouraging and motivating. Congratulations to Marilyn Wurster of Jo Daviess County, our District 1 Member of the year. District 1 needs a new District Director by August. Donna Pinger of Mercer County, Diane Dugan of Warren County and Carla Meyer of Stephenson County are the nominating committee, but it is up to all of us to nominate a person to fill this spot. The Annual meetings are coming in and I will try to make as many as I can. I am pretty lucky though, I can use vacation most of the time at work. I collected many strands of "pearls" while getting ready for conference so I am starting to wear them. I get compliments and it's fun. May you think about wearing your pearls often.

This is wedding week in our house. All the planning is in place and I am so happy for my son and his fiancée. Remember our words of wisdom? I have a new one --Take It There Now- I learned it from Dana K White of <https://www.aslobcomesclean.com/>. She is the author of several Decluttering books. Her way of decluttering does not make a big mess, only progress. It is helpful to me.

Please share your officer packets with your county board. The IAHCE Board is excited about your county and your activities. Take Care of Yourselves.

Becky Thomas



Jo-Daviess

Greetings from the top of Illinois!

Jo Daviess County is cheering for basketball, spring baseball, and Spring! The county HCE board meeting was cancelled, or postponed on consecutive Thursdays, thanks to the weather. We are now back on track. Our units and the board members are looking forward to our delegates sharing all the information they learned from the state convention.

We are very please to congratulate our very own HCE board member, treasurer and Derinda Unit member, Marilyn Wurster, for being named District 1 Member of the Year.

Dressed for flapper night is Marilyn Wurster, Alice Davis, and Deb Dombrowski.

Our units are busy making book bags for our preschoolers in the county. Every spring we select preschools to receive the backpacks, which include a book for each student. This is the 30th year for this very successful project for Jo Daviess County!

We were pleased to be recognized as 2nd place County of the Year this year, and many of our members were awarded certificates for their volunteer hours.

Thanks to all who made the state conference a memorable event.



PICTURES FROM JO-DAVISS COUNTY



Rock Island

Rock Island County HCE is growing. Some units received new members and we are proud to announce that a new unit was formed in November of 2022. The unit is named Westwood and is located at Westwood Terrace Apartments, a high rise apartment building for the elderly and handicapped. Each meeting has brought new members.

RI County has several activities planned for the upcoming months. There will be a painting project at a new local business, Board and Brush, in March. You pick the size board and the stencil you want to use and everything else is included.

HCE is sponsoring an event at Circa 21, our local dinner theater, in May. This will be a performance of the musical "Mamma Mia".

We are working on the Bee-Cause Pollinator Project. The following was included in our county newsletter and I thought you might find it interesting:

Morgan Freeman converted his 124-acre ranch into a giant honeybee sanctuary to save the bees. Morgan Freeman is an actor, film director, and philanthropist who recently added the title "beekeeper" to his list. The 81 year old celebrity decided to convert his Mississippi ranch into a bee sanctuary.

Freeman's foray into beekeeping began in 2014, where he discussed his new hobby with Jimmy Fallon during The Tonight Show. Freeman had taken up beekeeping just a couple of weeks before appearing on the show and talked about his experience keeping bees and the need to preserve and save wild bees for health environments.

As part of his interview, Freeman talked a bit about the motivation as to why he began beekeeping. "There is a concerted effort for bring bees back onto the planet. We do not realize that they are the foundation, I think, of the growth of the planet and vegetation".

Freeman imported 26 bee hives from Arkansas to his ranch in Mississippi. There, Freeman works to feed the bees sugar and water and has helped plant bee-friendly magnolia trees, lavender, clover, etc.

Freeman added that he never wears a bee suit or a bee hat and they haven't stung him yet. He only feeds them and has no intention of harvesting honey or disrupting the beehives.

We are in the midst of our annual Geranium Sale, our major fundraiser for the year. We sell geraniums in January and February and they can be picked up the first weekend in May. They are \$2.50 each and come in five colors; white, pink, red, salmon, and purple/plum. If you are interested, please contact our treasurer Emma Hoke at 309-787-3398. We hope everyone has a nice spring and summer!

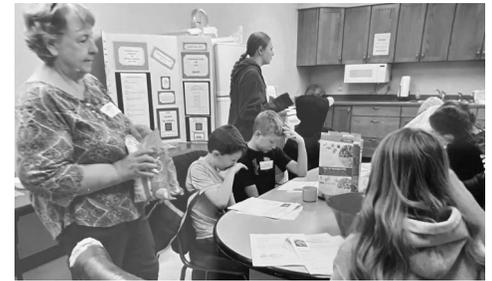
Stephenson

GREETINGS!

During the holiday season, Stephenson County HCE once again participated in the Freeport Health Network (FHN) Community Festival of Trees held at the Freeport Public Library. The theme this year was, “Together Is a Great Place to Be”. Non-profit organizations are invited by FHN to decorate a Christmas tree in a competition where they can win prize money for their organization. The public is encouraged to vote for their favorite tree on a “People’s Choice Ballot”. A panel of judges also awards additional cash prizes. This is a beautiful holiday event that helps us put our organization’s name out in front of visitors to the library.



On the morning of March 4, 2023, the University of Illinois Extension hosted its annual 4-H Super Saturday at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau. Area youth can sign up in advance for a variety of informative workshops that change from year to year. Stephenson County HCE President, Carla Meyer, presented two sessions on appetizers. She made ham and cheese pinwheels, baked cream cheese wontons, and cheesy snack mix. Thirteen 4-H members took her class. All the participants were sent home with appetizer recipes they could try on their own.



Five Stephenson County HCE members traveled to Effingham for the IAHCE 99th Annual Conference (March 14-16). Members attended meetings, workshops, dinners, and banquets. They volunteered their time at silent auction and bingo games. One of our members, Lila Miche, was awarded a “trophy” by the Tuesday noon speaker, County Extension Director, Carl Baker, for being the oldest HCE members attending this year’s conference (92 years young).



At the awards banquet, Stephenson County HCE was presented a plaque in recognition of our organization’s 100th anniversary (1923-2023). Our county received several education awards for different programs and activities, including, Backyard Birds of Illinois, Festival of Trees, 4-H Super Saturday, and Country of Study, Italy. We also received the Grand Award for our Stephenson County fair display and demonstrations. For certified volunteer hours in District 1, we had the highest number of members reporting volunteer hours after the highest HCE hours.

Congratulations on the IAHCE 99th Annual Conference and we are looking forward to the IAHCE 100th Celebration Conference in March, 2024!

Have a great spring and summer!

Janice Fryer



Due unto others as you would have them
do to you— Marilyn Schaefer. Effingham

Warren

Warren County had three board members attend the state conference March 14-16 in Effingham. They were JoAnne Nelson, Diana Dugan, and Sandy Brown (who went in place of president, Diane Fedorow). The three ladies attended share shops and brought home some good information to share as well as over eight lessons for the county.

We will have a fundraiser on April 22nd at the Fine Arts Vendor Show at the Warren County History Museum in Monmouth. Baked goods and crafts will be available to sell.

WCHCE will be hosting a Cabin Fever Day on April 29th from 1-4 p.m. at the Warren/Henderson Farm Bureau (rescheduled from February). Diane Fedorow will demonstrate how to make a charcuterie table scape to use for parties or holiday entertainment and samples will be available for attendees to try. Gladys Olson will lead a class on making Jumping Frog cards and we will play a few games.

We are excited to have a full board this year. Lynne Devlin is our new secretary and Sandy Brown has accepted the position of culture enrichment.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Dugan

DISTRICT 2 NEWS

DISTRICT 2 DIRECTOR – Rita



I want to thank you all for your attendance at the 99th Annual IAHCE Conference. I am looking forward to your annual meetings. I want to send everyone spring greetings and to all a Happy Mother's Day. It's now time to start getting items from each of your counties ready for the IAHCE 100th Celebration, next March. The deadline for items is October 1st, which you can get to Kathy Peterson. Please mark them with information on each whether you want them back or not. Remember that district workshops are Thursday, August 10, in Mt Caroll. I am looking forward to seeing you all soon. I'll leave you with a pearl of wisdom, "It's not how far you fall, but how high you bounce."

DuPage

We had our International Tasting featuring Italian foods at the extension office on November 14th. Those who attended enjoyed a full lunch of assorted samples and a video about Sicily. Mary Lambert hosted a holiday tea on December 9th at her house. Those who attended were asked to bring a donation for the food pantry.

On January 18th we made cards for veterans on Community Service Day. Dorothy Nasland joined our HCE County Board as our International Director, relieving Marge Steinhoff to concentrate on Cultural Enrichment and no longer perform double duty.

Due to a weather and heavy snow warning, the DuPage 4-H International Night was postponed from Friday, March 3rd, to Saturday, April 15th. Each 4-H club features a food sampling from their assigned country of study. HCE joins in the festivities with their own booth, this year featuring Egypt.

Three members attended the IAHCE Annual Conference, Mary Lambert, Pat Quetsch, and Marge Steinhoff. The lunch bunch met at Manhattan in Carol Stream on January 26th, Cooper's Corner in Winfield on February 27th, and to Quigley's Irish Pub in Naperville, on March 30th.

This group is open to all members and friends.

We attended the following lessons for living; “Finding Your Get Up and Go”, on November 10th, “Financial Emergency Preparedness for Older Adults” on February 16th, and “The Fuel to Fight Cancer” on March 21st.

Mylon Fisher



Left: Members about to take part in a Taste of Italy pot luck.

Right: Director Marge Steinhoff, presents her International Program featuring the country of the year, Italy.



Below Left: DuPage HCE Warrenville Unit members display their Valentine cards they received at their Valentine’s Day party meeting



Right: Member Judy Valentine preparing one of the many “Thinking of You” cards made at the community service workshop. They were given out at Hines Hospital on Valentine’s Day



Grundy

What a wild winter we have had. Wind, rain, snow, more wind, more rain, temps in the 50’s and then down to sub-zero. I already see buds on my magnolia tree and hope that we don’t have a bad freeze. I just got back from the IAHCe Annual Conference. We had seven people from Grundy County go to the conference. The conference had lots of information. The share shops were fantastic and very informative. We brought back lots of information to share for our county. We enjoyed ourselves and met up with old friends and met new friends. We had barrels of laughs and good speakers. Everyone was enjoying themselves and the entertainment. We dressed up for lunch on Wednesday for Breakfast at Tiffany’s with our pearls, long gloves, and dresses. Thursday night we dressed in Roaring 20’s attire. Some dressed up to the max with gloves, feather boas, flapper dresses, fishnet stockings, and of course pearls.

Kathy Peterson, our county board President was elected to the board as Frist Vice President. We can’t wait for next year and our 100th anniversary celebration! We also received a certificate of a 14% gain in our county for membership. We enjoyed Jane Chapman’s bee presentation and the waggle dance, which we were told to join in and participate.



Kane

Instilled with enthusiasm and renewed energy after attending IAHCE conference, the very next week Kane County members, along with their board, presented an incredible Egyptian International Day program. In the absence of Director Naomi Redman, the program carried on as scheduled. Guests from DuPage County were welcomed. Ninety percent of those in attendance were wearing their ‘Pearls of Wisdom’ on our tour to Egypt.

A “Taste of Egypt” was offered prior to the luncheon. Several board members had prepared Egyptian recipes for snacking. Claudia Lake’s artistic skills were evident as we traveled to Egypt via her diorama. The pyramids, camels, palm trees, and the flowing Nile were exceptionally depicted. Hampshire/Henpeck Unit developed a photography display of pictures of Egypt taken by the 12 year old great nephew of Geraldine Rizik. He also shared his artwork through a history handout. Another student, 16 year old granddaughter of Elaine Bond, shared a camel, an authentic artifact made in Egypt and also a four foot tall stuffed camel, her very favorite, stood proudly with us for the day.

Joan Ziethen shared a display of three camels which she uses in a Christmas nativity during the holidays. Other displays for the program included informational books and magazines of Egypt, membership drive, pollinators and bees, and state award booklets.

Recycling efforts continue as fabrics, Styrofoam, stamps, and egg cartons were collected. These items were taken by board members to be distributed to local agencies.

Our focused presenter was Dr. Catherine Foster. Dr. Foster is a retired nursing educator, Peace Corps, and humanitarian volunteer. Catherine is a world traveler and shared her personal experiences visiting Egypt. Containers with scenes of Egypt were used to collect Friendship Projects funds.

As spring and summer approaches, Kane County has some activities already on the schedule. We are anticipating more offerings for the members to enjoy and learn. Kane County will join DuPage County for a trip and tour to DeKalb where the Egyptian Theater will be included. May 17th is our annual meeting. The meeting will feature a local business that aims at environmental issues.

To encourage membership in HCE, July brings participation in Kane County Fair, the District 1/2 meeting in August, and the County picnic scheduled for August 15th. The Cultural Enrichment Director, Joan Rossi, has found a possible tour to a candy store. Wouldn’t that be tasty and sweet?

Kane County wishes to thank the State Board for an excellent Annual Conference. Meeting new members and being reacquainted with others across the state is so rewarding. We look forward to the District Meeting.



Kankakee

We were unable to attend the IAHCE Conference in March, but our District Director and County 2nd Vice, came back with lots of great information and what a wonderful time was had by all those in attendance. Members are still working on weighted blankets, food protectors and walker bags. We are looking forward to the lessons on bee pollination, succulent plants, and container gardens. Several field trips and game days are planned to get new members. Our Annual meeting is May 19th at the U of I Ext. Office, 1650 Commerce Drive, Bourbonnais IL

Lake

Hello from Lake County. Mother Nature has been very kind to us this winter. According to WGN weather reports, we have not seen snowfall this low since 1949. As we start spring, the forecast is for snow, but the temperatures could get into the 40's which means most of the white stuff should melt as it hits the ground.

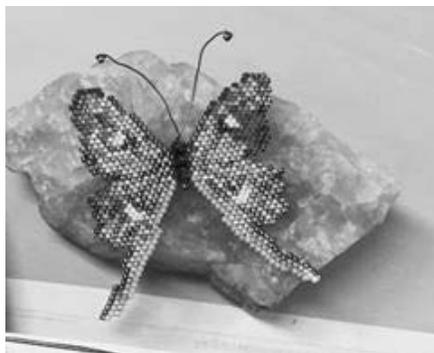
Since the last newsletter, our county held its Cultural Enrichment Event, planned our 2023 lessons and programs, participated in our first "in person" bake sale since 2019, and sent a delegation to the IAHCE Annual Conference.

On November 5, 2022, we held our yearly Cultural Enrichment Event. The CE Director, Pat Weitzmann and her committee brought us a program called "Cultural Inspiration Across the USA". We learned most states have a state song. The singer/songwriter/actor Rick Pickren, sang many of these giving us the origin of how they came to be, interjecting humor with his stories. In addition, we were treated to an array of desserts inspired by US regional specialties.

We started 2023 by being invited to participate in a "Seed Exchange Expo" promoted by the U of I Extension's Master Gardener Program. We were asked to prepare baked goods to sell at this event. With short notice, the Expo was only 3 weeks away, we had a lot to do. The bakers among our membership needed to be notified, baked items needed packing and labeling, and then delivered to the expo by February 4. We provided the sales force, Candace Keegan, Pat Weitzmann, Sandy Henke, Barb Rowland, Ann Drevalas, Jane Ellen Keroson, and Angela Hicks. The doors opened at 10:00 a.m. with the rooms filled with vendors ready to greet people. After four hours of what felt like nonstop traffic, the expo closed at 2:00 p.m. The attendance was reported to be over 2000 people and we were very tired, but happy. We got our name out to a large number of people, we made some money for our county, and we had a great time.



We had four of our board members and several unit members join our county president, Angela Hicks, as she presided over the 2023 IAHCE Annual Conference as president of IAHCE. I was excited to learn about the awards members from our county. We had three members win in the cultural enrichment art show and contest and our treasurer, Sandy Henke, received the 2022 District 2 Member of the Year Award. Sandy Henke, who is also president of Volo, along with Volo member Noel Henke, and Town and Country member, Sarah Storaali, won for the cultural enrichment categories in which their items were entered. Noel Henke's entry also won the People's Choice award. These award winning items are pictured below.



Jewelry (Handmade): Beaded Pin
Made by Sandy Henke



Nature Items: Owl:
Made by Noel Henke



Scrapbooking/Paper Crafts: Handmade Photo Album
Made by Sarah Storaali

After celebrating with our fellow HCE members at the state level, we are getting ready to attend our Annual Business Meeting at the end of April. It will be very interesting to see how we celebrate this year's theme "Pearls of Wisdom Strung Together". This will be reported in the next article. Stay well and be safe until next time.

Candace Keegan

McLean

Greetings from McLean County where units have enjoyed learning about online shopping, charcuterie boards, and pollinators, January through March. In late March, Super Saturday took place with Livingston County. Programs for April through June were shared with local leaders on hummingbirds, hankies, and art the art of delicious desserts.

The community service days each month have produced quilt as you go flannel blankets for Center for Hope. This followed 781 Christmas stockings filled with 8,673 items delivered to 9 nursing homes, one veterans home, and the Bloomington SOAR program. In February, members met for Read and Share: The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter by Hazel Gaynor. April members will discuss the book The Children's Blizzard by Melanie Benjamin.

Cultural enrichment found eight members and guests at the McLean County History Museum for a January destination. Lunch followed at Rosie's and Sugar Mama's. On February 18, members and guests toured Kara and Kaylee's Kloset in Normal (a non profit dress donation program run by Roxanne Hatrich). Teens and adults may borrow dresses for free. Cracker Barrel was the place for lunch. Easter basket weaving taught by Rosemary Martin was enjoyed in March.

A February Friendship Membership Tea was celebrated by 64 members and guests as they listened to Amy Wertheim of Wertheim's Gardens, Atlanta, IL, share her knowledge of herb and spice gardening.

In February, McLean County HCE provided bake sale tables at the Towanda Scouts pancake and sausage breakfast.

Each month this year, units continue to learn more about Italy. Since January, we have learned about agriculture, people, demographics, and cities.

In March, seven members enjoyed attending the 99th IAHCE Annual Conference, "Pearls of Wisdom" at the Thelma Keller Convention Center in Effingham. Awards were won in several categories.

Family Issues/Community Outreach collected for Home Sweet Home Mission. We collected 136 men's socks, 38 large cans of shaving cream and 43 three-in-one shampoo, conditioner, and body washes. Items for soldiers will go through the Veteran's Administration in Bloomington plus a contact with the VA in Peoria.

Cultural enrichment will continue with a presentation on balsamic vinegar and olive oils by Traci Howe of the Olive Bin of Normal and followed by lunch at Fiesta Ranchero. May brings a tour of the VanDolah Castle in Lexington with lunch at Uncle Vaits.

For current updated information and more details, visit our media sites at www.mclenahce.org and LIKE our Facebook page at **McLean-County-Association-for-Home-and-Community-Education**

See you in McLean County! Come Visit!

Barb Jurgens



Will



April is mostly a mix of mild and harsh weather. We were able to elude the winter snows this year, but it could still happen. Anyway, my daffodils are blooming and I see the Forsythia in my neighbor's yard getting ready to burst with flowers. Spring here is always so pretty. I so appreciate nature and all she does to lift our spirits.

The Will County HCE had another great "Game Day" in February. Our members brought their lunches and afterwards, played Bunco. We had such a great time, not only playing the game, but meeting members from other units. There was no pressure, just fun! We were even able to convince two guests to become members. We are definitely planning another game day in a few months.

Andrea Zoelle, our International chairman, just returned from the IAHCCE Conference in Effingham. Her enthusiastic report delighted the entire board. Although she traveled solo, she met many other members from various counties and shared so many good things she experienced. This was her eighth trip to the IAHCCE Conference. I wonder if she will be there to celebrate IAHCCE's 100th year celebration?

Gail Shaw, our president, is presently recovering from hip surgery. She hopes to be recovered enough to preside over the annual meeting on May 9th. Our board has already been planning for this day. We hope to incorporate the state's theme, "Pearls of Wisdom" into the festivities. After our normal business meeting, Sandy Vasko, Director of the Will County Historical Museum, will talk about early pioneer women and their contributions to today's society. She is such an interesting speaker and keeps us entertained.

Elaine Czajoski, Family and Community Issues, is asking members to collect food for the local food pantries and bring it to the meeting. We recently ended collecting clothing and items for the homeless at St. Joseph's Hospital Closet and small toy items for children visiting the emergency room there due to a change in hospital policy.

For the annual meeting, the board is asking that attendees dress up in pretty dresses and wear hats and pearls. Lunch will be an afternoon tea party. Bella Cucina will provide tea sandwiches and scones. There will also be a variety of teatime sweets as a conclusion of the affair. It should be a nice time for our members and one they should not miss.

Installation of officers will take place after the tea. Rita Overacker will conduct the ceremony. In addition to the present board positions, there are two openings needing to be filled including second vice president and a cultural arts chairman. We hope our members will step up and assume those positions. It would be nice to have a full board.

Happy Easter to everyone!

Mary Barrett



A smile doesn't
cost you anything.
—Donna Vancil,
Jefferson County



DISTRICT 3 NEWS

DISTRICT 3 DIRECTOR – Karen Cahill



What a fun, beautiful 99th conference we just had in Effingham. You all looked so lovely in your pearls and dressy outfits as you shared your pearls of wisdom. I enjoyed meeting with you at the various sessions and look forward to visiting your counties to install your officers this year.

Please share the packets you received from conference with your members!

Remember to mark your calendars for our first mini District 3 meeting in Decatur on Wednesday, June 28 at 1:00. There will be more details closer to the time.

The official District 3 Workshop will again be held at Southern View Chapel in Springfield on Wednesday, August 9. To those of you who have already volunteered to help that day, I thank you.

Happy spring! Please contact me if I can be of any help.

Champaign

It has been 12 years since Champaign County Home and Community Education (CCHCE) won County of the Year. Thank you to our members for a great year! The county also won four education awards for public relations, family and community issues, cultural enrichment, international, and one of our members, Nancy Mathis, won “best of show” for her beautiful embroidered pillow cases. We also won several awards for volunteer hours in District 3. CCHCE was also in charge of the game night at conference with numerous board games, puzzles, and packet with word games. We had “guess how many pearls” were in a glass jar too. Nine CCHCE members attended the 2023 conference. It was a great conference.

On November 4 and 5, we held our 7th Annual Holiday Trees and Craft Sale at the Champaign County Farm Bureau Auditorium. We had several beautifully decorated trees by some of our members and units. The trees are sold by silent auction with proceeds being a moneymaker for the units. Vendors for the craft sales were CCHCE members and non-members selling their handcrafted items. Members also made homemade holiday baked goods that they sold during the event. Proceeds from the bake sale and the entry fee were given to our Weighted Blankets project and The Family Room, a nonprofit organization in Champaign County serving families with foster children or children in transition.

Our international event was on November 21 with the country of study, Italy. The guest speaker was Donica Holcom from Destinations with Donica who had taken several groups on tours of Italy. Our entertainment was Mavin Lee, a popular local musician. Our lunch was “A Taste of Italy” that was catered by Holy’s Kitchen.

One of our community projects is making favors and cards for the residents of Illini Heritage Rehab and Care Center in Champaign. Units are assigned for all the holidays during the year. Units and members have donated jewelry, packaged snacks, and other items for prizes at their weekly BINGO games. Another project our members have helped with was for 4-H members to make the wreaths.

Two of our lessons for living have been webinars by the Illinois Extension. Our CCHCE pr chairman has set up sessions at the Farm Bureau auditorium for our members who are not able to connect with the webinar, for them to watch the informative lessons as a group.

The next event for CCHC is our annual Spring Craft and Plants Sale on Friday, April 28th and Saturday, April 29th at the Farm Bureau Building, 801 N County Fair Drive, Champaign

Visit our website: www.champaigncountyhce.wordpress.com

Carol Froeschl





County of the Year 2022 – Champaign County

(Over 75 members category)

L-R: Bobbi McEntire, Connie Herrschop, Judy French, Lynn Trotter

Rebecca Gatewood, Bonnie Whiteside, Carol Froeschl, Angela Hicks, IAHCE president, Melissa Chitwood

DeWitt

Things have started slow for DeWitt County. We did not meet in January. In February, Karen Cahill and Mary Ann Platt came from Macon County and gave us a lesson on healthy desserts. Everyone enjoyed the lesson and we have some good recipes to try.

On February 6th, several of us went to our Tri-County board meeting held at the Macon County extension building. We meet with two other counties three times a year to exchange ideas and learn from each other. On April 29th the three counties had a fund raiser, the program was Melissa Gouty speaking on “The West was Won with a Needle and Thread”. I hope some of you were able to attend.

We had an interesting program in March on native pollinators and mason bees taught by Kent McFarland, a DeWitt County Master Gardener.

In March, six of our members were able to attend the IAHCE Annual Conference. Those attending were Linda Long, Judie Knoth, Linda Charlett, Betty Clark, Sonna Hoke, and Alice Grooms. Everyone enjoyed the conference and came back with a lot of good ideas to pass on to our members. They brought back a lot of information to use for improving our meetings.

If you can't say something nice, don't say anything.
—Karen Lamke, Jefferson County

Macon

We are happy to start this year with an interesting and educational program presented by Don Chamberlain. This lesson is about Lewis and Clark and how Sacajawea helped them on their explorations heading west. She has more monuments dedicated to her than any other woman in history. The event is scheduled at the Macon County Extension on Wednesday, April 19th, from 9:30 to 11:00.

Another wonderful program that we are looking forward to is a Tri-County event on Saturday, April 29 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Macon County Extension Office in Decatur. Melissa Gouty, an award winning educator, entrepreneur, marketer, copywriter, blogger, and compassionate human being will be doing a fun-filled, educational program called, "How the West was Won with Needle and Thread". Tickets are \$10 and refreshments will be served. Door prizes will be awarded.

Other future programs are the annual spring meeting on Wednesday, May 3. The 50/50 proceeds will be donated to the honor guard.

A program about stress management will be presented on Wednesday, May 17 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the extension office. Our June meeting will be about the Ameren Emergency Program at our extension office.

Timi's tours representative will tell us all about the exciting upcoming tours in July.

Many of our members were able to attend the state conference in Effingham. They thoroughly enjoyed the programs and are looking forward to next year's 100th anniversary.

Our members are still diligently working on the pillowcases for various organizations around our area. One of our members, Linda Hooge, and her husband delivered pillowcases to New Life Pregnancy Center, the Salvation Army, Decatur Children and Family Services, Dove, Homeward Bound, and Webster Cantrell Hall. More pillowcases and pop tabs will be taken to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield.

Have a wonderful spring and summer! Those are my favorite seasons!

Linda Austin



Tazewell

We held our annual Cabin Fever Day on President’s Day. Mary Eustace came and gave a presentation of the wives of several of our U.S. presidents. Some very interesting facts about those wives were shared with us. After a lunch of soup and favorite cookies of past presidents, a variety of activities were available for our members and their guests. Those present learned how to make a folder book heart, they assembled jigsaw puzzles, and played a variety of games.

In March, the officers attended state conference in Effingham. What a great conference! We attended some great workshops and heard some very interesting and informative speakers. In the cultural arts display, Kate Schmitgall received the “Best of Show” in the quilt category and her quilt also received a “People’s Choice” award. Beth Ruch received the “Best of Show” for her knitted baby layette set. We certainly enjoyed dressing up in our flapper attire for the banquet on Wednesday evening!

We are looking forward to our annual meeting on May 1st. After that we will be making plans for our concession stand at our county 4—H fair.

Darlene Curry



DISTRICT 4 NEWS

DISTRICT 4 DIRECTOR – Donna Richards

The 99th IAHCCE Annual Conference was held March 14-16 in Effingham. Two hundred and thirty-seven members attended a wonderful three days of pearls, share shops, great speakers and entertainment. Members enjoyed many beautiful and inspiring items in the cultural enrichment room, shopped with our vendors, made fun make-it/take-it crafts, game night, bingo, enjoyed the scavenger hunt and bought items from our silent auction. Everyone enjoyed dressing in their roaring 20’s outfits for the Elsie Mies Banquet! Cheri Burcham, University of Illinois Extension Educator, reported that IAHCCE members reported 420,059 volunteer hours in 2022 with an estimated value of 12.5 million dollars!



Don’t forget about our District Workshop in Mt. Vernon on August 8th.

Clinton

Clinton County HCE is busy with many activities like helping with the county Easter egg hunt. We sponsor it by donating \$300 to the event. We also help fill all the plastic eggs too. Three county members attended the state conference in Effingham. What a great time we all had. This is the first time that we attended the evening banquets. We enjoyed the speakers, the food, the share shops, the socializing, and everything else!

We have several community educational things scheduled in the next few months including a diabetic foot and wound care program, two end of life programs, and in May, a master gardener will present a program. We are also excited about our trip in April to Arthur Amish country.

Another project we have done is making baby receiving blankets to hand out at HSHS St. Joseph's Breese hospital to newborns born on the holidays. These blankets include labels that say "Made by Clinton County Home and Community Education".



Crawford

Crawford County HCE members packaged up brand new socks and Valentine treats to be given to nursing home residents in Robinson for their community outreach program. Each unit was responsible for donating several new pairs of new men and women's socks. Helping to decorate and assemble the gift bags were Myrna McNair, Sandy Bryans, Martha Holt, Susan Allison, Barb Miller, and Norma Thompson.

Mary Liz Wright, Food and Wellness Educator, presented a program on "Living in the Blue Zone".

Members of the Morning Glories Unit made Easter favors for the Arbor Rose Facility during the March meeting.



Effingham

March certainly left “like a lion”! Several areas in neighboring counties suffered severely from the tornado. We send our thoughts and prayers to them. On a happy note, seven members of Effingham County HCE attended the IAHCCE Annual Conference in March. Pictured are Pat Tappendorf and Marilyn Schaefer in the front row and Claudia Berg, Nancy Hoene, Pat Hildebrand, Mary Beth Hoene, and Elsie Voelker in the back row. Classes, vendors, speakers, entertainment, and exhibits were all interesting and educational. Oh, can’t forget to mention the food.. Always delicious and beautifully presented. Ruth Abel, Carol Hartke, Marilyn Schaefer, Nancy Hoene, Claudia Berg, Sylvia Dust, and Rosie Kremer entered articles in the cultural arts show. Next year is the 100th Anniversary of this organization. We are really looking forward to that experience.



A butter braid fundraiser was the main source of building funds in the past few months for our county. Just before Easter is always a good time to add to income for the programs we sponsor.

A bus trip is planned for July 12, 2023. Lewis/Clark Museum in Alton, Josephine’s Tea Room and Gifts, Godfrey and the Fayette County Museum and Little Brick House are on the agenda. This should be an interesting and fun day.

Hope to see you in August at the District Workshop.
Pat Hildebrand



Fayette

Fayette County Association for Home and Community Education has done some amazing things in 2022, but the one thing we are the proudest of is our “Operation Goody Bags”. Operation Goody Bags were started by our member Lisa LaMar who wanted to teach her grandkids that giving is better than receiving. Operation Goody Bags, quite simply, is giving a gift to those in need.



This year our bags were filled with oranges, apples, bananas, oatmeal, canned vegetables, candy, cookies, a blanket, Nutrigrain bars, and many other items. We gave out 338 goody bags to elderly, the New Approach School, the homeless, Special Olympics, our Veterans, Andy’s Closet, and to one of the day cares in town. The nicest part is that we were able to tailor the bags to the groups that would be receiving the bags. For example, the homeless received jars of peanut butter, beef stew, self-care items such as combs and nail clippers, shirts, emergency blankets, washcloths, toothbrushes, candies, and cookies. Our kids at the New Approach, who also helped collect canned goods for our bags, were able to get soft blankets, self care items, socks, and so much more. The children at the daycare were adopted by members of FCAHCE and we were able to give them toys as well as all of the goodies that were in their bag.

Throughout the year, Lisa has worked on getting donations from over 21 businesses, one of which was our local Kanata blanket factory that donated a blanket for every good bag. We also held several fundraisers to help buy the fresh fruit and miscellaneous items that we were unable to get donated. Our local stores worked with us to give us the best deals possible so we could get as much as we needed to fill our bags. Tickets were sold for a quilt raffle and a gun raffle that helped us to reach our goal. Thanks to the hard work on the part of our members, we were able to raise right at \$4,000 for our Operation Goody Bags!

Our quilt raffle raised \$954.00. A local restaurant donated chili to the daycare and some of the food that went into the bags. They also helped getting the Meals on Wheels bags ready to pack. The St. Elmo school collected 412 cans, Vandalia Christian Academy collected 606 cans, Vandalia Elementary School collected 150 cans, and our New Approach school collected 160 cans for a grand total of 1,328 cans! We were so proud and impressed with all of their hard work!

December 13th, we held a packing day at the senior center where we all come together, along with other members of our community. We spent four hours filling bags. One of the local restaurants donated a huge pot of chili for our packing crew and once we had our fill of chili, we had half a pot left which was then taken to the homeless along with their goody bags. There were so grateful to have a hot meal and to see all the gifts in their bags. The joy that these bags brought to them could be felt and because of our fundraising, we were able to put sensory toys in their bags which they loved.

A total of 338 bags were given.

71 went to the children at New Approach School

49 went to the daycare

11 went to Special Olympics

26 went to the homeless in our area

32 went to local Veterans

10 went to foster care at Andy's Closet

139 went to Meals on Wheels clients in our county



What started as a lesson for children has become a heartfelt lesson for our members, as we were able to see the gratitude and joy these bags have brought to the people who received them. While this was a year long process that took lots of energy, we are so thankful to be a part of the simple joy of giving to those in need. For you will truly be more blessed by giving of your time, energy, and love that you ever thought possible.



Madison

In January, Madison County held their second annual craft camp “Create Around the World”. Fourteen participants made around 14 crafts including Scandinavian gnomes, Russian votive holders, Marimekko dishes, Japanese Cherry Blossom paintings, around the world maps and magnets, mosaic tile trays, and batik garden flags. Plans are already underway for next year’s camp, featuring bees and pollinators.

In February, we held a Hearts and Art event where participants made heart signs and made personal heart shaped pizzas, raspberry vinegarett and berry salads, and a sorbet with 7-up drink. This was our second art and cooking themed event and we plan on doing a couple of more before the year is over with.

In March, we held our annual Children’s Make and Take It at a local library. We had around 32 kids in attendance. Each child could make around nine crafts to take home for free and they left with a goody bag filled with snacks.

April will bring our annual meeting featuring a presentation on wedding traditions and a display of wedding gowns throughout the centuries. In May, we will begin the month with our annual membership tea and conclude the month with our county trip which will be to the Missouri Botanical Gardens and lunch on The Hill.

We are also planning a trivia over the summer, our International Night on Egypt in September, and a children’s tea in August.

We also have been having miniature barn quilt classes every other month. Our last one was held during conference and generated nine new members. Our county board had a marvelous time at this year’s conference wearing our pearls and black dresses. We are already looking forward to conference in 2024!

See you at the district workshops.

Emily McDowell

Marion

Marion County HCE members met Tuesday, March 21st, at the Marion County Extension Office and heard Tami Stevens of the Daughters of the American Revolution present a program about women who played vital roles in American History. This was a timely lesson as March celebrates Women’s History Month. Of particular interest was Ana Strong Smith, Agent 355, who was a key person in the Culper Spy Ring who were of service to General George Washington during the Revolutionary War. Successes of note included obtaining a copy of British spy codes, helping traitorous actions that would have allowed the British to gain West Point. No Culper Spy was ever caught. Smith aided in these operations by advising spy leaders of the arrival of a spy and his location when he was ready to deliver key information. She did this using a code that utilized her laundry hung on the clothesline to dry!

Following the program, the Marion County HCE Board met. During the meeting, co-president Phyllis Henson-Phillips summarized her experience at the 99th Annual IAHCE Conference. Packets from the conference were shared with the board members present. The nominating committee chose a slate of officers to present for election for the 2023/2024 year. These will be presented at the Marion County Home and Community Education Annual Meeting to be held at 1:30 on Thursday, April 20th at the Marion County Extension office. All members are invited to attend and a door prize of an IGA grocery gift card will be offered. Our annual book sale to benefit the Marion County HCE scholarship fund will be held in the summer this year due to scheduling conflicts. Following the meeting, member Char Heskett, shared several lap robes and adult bibs she had made for local facilities. Char will be sharing why she has found participating in book clubs to be a positive experience and reviews of a few of her favorite titles to our meeting in June.



The public is invited to join our members at a webinar entitled “What to Eat When you Can’t Eat” at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 18. Learn how to read labels, identify hidden allergens, and know the difference between an allergy, sensitivity, and intolerance. This program will discuss common and uncommon food allergies and simple substitutions for nutritious meals. Participants will receive recipes to take home that the whole family will enjoy!

DISTRICT 5 NEWS

DISTRICT 5 DIRECTOR – Carol Harms



I am still coming down from the high I felt at this year’s conference! It was wonderful to see all of the pearl jewelry and smiles worn by the people who attended. I think my favorite moments were listening to the Tuesday luncheon speaker Susan Bussler speak about pearls of wisdom (She was insanely funny!) and admiring how beautiful and excited we all looked in our flapper/Great Gatsby outfits for the Elsie Mies banquet on Wednesday night. The happiness and energy in the dining room was amazing!

If you have never attended our state conference, or if you haven’t been there for a while, you really should think about going sometime, especially next year when we celebrate our 100th anniversary. Melissa Chitwood and I, along with the state board and many other members around the state, are working on some fun activities and historical displays to honor the legacy of our great organization. Put March 12-14, 2024, on your calendar now.

By the time you read this, I will have been to several counties for your annual meetings. I look forward to hearing from you and sharing with you lots of Pearls of Wisdom throughout the year. Besides the annual meetings, I look forward to seeing my District 5 ladies at our Mini-District meeting Thursday, June 22, 9:30 a.m., at the Franklin County Extension Office in Benton. I will have updated information from our state board meeting the week before and will be happy to hear what you all have been up to in your counties. Remember that the meeting is open to any member or guest; you do not have to be a county board member to attend. It’s great to hear what is happening in other counties and fun to be with other HCE members.

Besides the mini-district, also put the August Workshop on your calendar too! On Tuesday, August 8, we will meet in **Mt. Vernon** at the West Salem Trinity United Methodist Church, 4212 Broadway Street, at 9:00 a.m. We have appreciated the hospitality at St. John’s Lutheran in Effingham in District 4, but we had the opportunity to try a more central location and one in our district. Thank you to the ladies on the Jefferson County HCE Board for helping with the arrangements.

Here we are in May already! I cannot believe how fast the time goes as I get older. I saw this quote from an unknown author that reminded me to appreciate each day: “Time passes by so quickly. Change happens all around us every day whether we like it or not. Enjoy the moment while you can. One day it will just be another memory.”

Carol

Hamilton

The Hamilton County HCE have had a busy winter and are looking forward to spring! In November, we hosted a soup luncheon as a fundraiser. It was open to the community and HCE members donated desserts for the event. In December, we supported the community and our local 4-H by donating cookies and hot chocolate in the courthouse basement. This was held after the community Christmas parade in Mcleansboro. HCE members helped serve the cookies and hot chocolate to families who came to see Santa and play games. Cabin Fever Day was held in February on President’s Day. School was closed for the day and families were invited to participate. All ages were welcome. HCE members helped participants complete various crafts. Those craft projects included making a purse out of a t-shirt, sewing a bookmark, making a salt owl, and gluing rice or lentils to form a picture. A snack and lunch were provided. Ten kids were present and seven HCE member assisted with the day.

The month of March was busy with attending the state conference in Effingham. Three members attended from Hamilton County. They were Becky Belcher, Rhonda Millenbine, and Jennifer Rister. Jennifer was a first time attendant. Members had fun dressing up for themes including Breakfast at Tiffany's and The Roaring 20s. The sessions were informative and interesting. The meals were excellent! New friends were made and everyone had a great time. We hope more members will be able to attend in the future. To round out the month, HCE held a sewing day in the courthouse basement. Community members were invited to assist with sewing, even if they had never sewn before. The ladies present worked on more lap robes to donate to the local nursing home and hospital. Lunch was provided also.

Jackson

2023 has proven to be as difficult as the past two years with the pandemic. Jackson County HCE continues to carry on. Luann Ostrom, Marie Samuels, and Jean Conrod attended the IAHCE Conference this past March celebrating 99 years of service from our state membership. Next year's celebration will be 100 years and we look forward to the celebration. We have had a lesson laughter presented by Robin Ridgley and a cooking for one or two people lesson with Kris Juelfs. Both were well received with several members in attendance.

We are planning on a lesson on the History of the Mounds cemetery in June. We are looking forward to the 4H children celebrating and dedicating a memorial garden to our past 4H leader, Lawanda Fager. We are making arrangements for our annual meeting in July where we hope to honor members of our Jackson County HCE members with their service. We have a speaker and programs planned for our International lesson in October when we celebrate IAHCE Week. There will be so many programs to finish out the year.

Jefferson

"There is one good thing about this world, there are always sure to be more springs".—L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Avonlea. Greetings friends, here in Jefferson County we are ready for spring, but there is no telling what mother nature has in store for us. Some of the flowers popping up here and there give us hope and anticipation of a good blooming season. Jefferson County HCE began on November 19, 1942. On November 7th we celebrated 80 years at our annual meeting held at Kingdom Seed in Mt. Vernon. We tried to bring back some of the 1942's by wearing clothing from years gone by and wearing hats.

We made posters that read "80 Years, 1942-2022, 80 Years Jefferson County HCE", and "1942-2022 HCE". We had a table of pictures, program books, cookbooks, and other items which had been saved for the past 80 years. Our annual meeting program book shared the history of our beginning in 1942, the names of the charter members, and a photo of charter members. We were honored to have our Jefferson County Board Chairman, Cliff Lindermann, in attendance and he read the board's 80-year Proclamation to the group.

We were also honored to have Carol Harms, Jane Chapman, and Eleanor Gregory in attendance. Sarah Mae Waite and Mary Ann Dagg provided an informative presentation on the Jackson Family, the 2022 Family of the Year. Gloria Blechle's program on Hats! Hats! Hats! Kept us laughing. District 5 Director, Carol Harms, installed our 2023 officers. Our generous members brought canned goods and baby items to the meeting. We donated 147 canned goods and 31 household items including paper products and cleaning supplies, plus \$40 to Epworth Methodist Church Food Pantry and baby item, plus six quilts to Best Beginnings. A few days later we were honored with an article in the local newspaper sharing details from our annual meeting and our 80th Anniversary celebration.

We used our 80-year decorations from annual meeting to decorate a float for the annual Waltonville Veterans Day Parade. We wanted to share our anniversary with the community and we passed out HCE flyers to prospective members. Every Monday throughout the year we delivered food for Meals on Wheels and we continued to provide quilts to the Amy Center for abused children. We gave them 40 quilts in 2022. In January, we donated and delivered a meal to the Life Boat Alliance homeless shelter.

Our January lesson was a paper lesson in the newsletter on the Lifecycle of the Butterfly and the History of the Vatican. On February 13, when we made our Meals on Wheels deliveries, we also gave each household a Valentine and we received many smiles of appreciation. Our February 1 lesson was provided by Rane Kujawa from Spero Family Services who gave an informative presentation about the many services they provide to the community and youth they serve. Teresa Brookman provided us with some fun facts on Southern Illinois, aka Little Egypt, which were shared with our members in our newsletter since our country of study this year is Egypt.

Also in our newsletter, we sent out a food substitution list. With the price of eggs and bare shelves, you might need to substitute one of the items. In March, seven board members attended the IAHCE Conference which was enjoyed by all. We were very honored to receive education awards in cultural enrichment and family and community issues. We will be attending a lesson on Growing Native Plants, provided by Master Gardeners, later this month. Jefferson County HCE is helping NVON in the BEE CAUSE project with monetary donations. The donations are used to inspire and educate students across the US, Canada, the Bahamas, and Puerto Rico, with ways to connect children to the natural world with education pollinator programs. We wish all our IAHCE friends a safe and happy spring.



Always be yourself, you're like no other.—Joana Rossi, Kane County
(a quote her father always said)



Massac

Judy Ferguson, Family and Community Issues Director, reported we had 36 lbs. of food and \$200 donated to COPE Food pantry in January. For February, members put together 218 Valentine gift bags to be delivered to the care facilities in the county. Thank you to the units for helping with cards and snacks. The Community Outreach projects for March were 137 pieces of school supplies for the schools to help students during the last part of the year. The 4-H and FFA went together in the unit to do can construction again. Massac County won for the most canned food items collected, 5500. HCE donated money and canned items when they were at the grocery store to help with their efforts. The New Frontiers Unit made 45 gift baskets for the families who need the help from Hope Unlimited, a Christian based teaching program for low-income families. Two Massac County HCE members, Dorothy Holt and Norma Korte, attended the 99th Annual IAHCE Conference. Massac County HCE was recognized with several awards during the conference, included County of the Year (for counties with 75 members or fewer) and the Grand Award for Public Relations. Massac County HCE also received education awards for International, Family and Community Issues, Cultural Enrichment, and Membership. Thanks also the Massac County and Metropolis communities for supporting HCE events.

The Craft Day was March 25th and we made cards with Mina Haverkamp. Mina had a variety of cards to select from to make. Three people enjoyed making the cards to share with others. Massac County will host a rummage/flea market sale on May 6, 8 a.m.-12 p.m. As we are “decluttering” donated items, they will be brought to the Massac County Community Center. All proceeds will go toward the HCE treasury. We will have a display and past lessons available for visitors to learn more about HCE.

The Norma and Steve Korte family were recognized with the IAHCE Family of the Year award during the 99th Illinois Association of Home and Community Education State Conference on March 14, 2023. Norma, Steve, and Darryl Korte were invited to this special celebration for the whole county! New Frontiers Unit planned a special tea party. Arrived with their spring dress– Sunday Best– with hats, gloves, and pearls. As part of the awards ceremony, the family presented photos and descriptions of their involvement in church, 4-H, FFA, HCE, U of I Extension, Cache River Drainage Board, Massac County Youth Fair, Antique Tractor Show, Soil and Water Conservation Board, and other events in the community. “Like many farmers, we have had good years and bad, but working together, helping in the community, and helping our neighbors and friends are important to us. With God’s help we hope to continue the seven generation farms we are presently taking care of “said Norma Korte.” The presentation also included mention of the centennial farm heritage of the Korte family, in addition of a focus on working together to research new, more efficient farming practices as part of their operation. The awards presentation included recognition of the entire family, including Norma and Steve’s parents, Helen and Clellan Walter and Marie and Lester Korte, children Darryl and Sheila Korte, Daniel and Tiffany Korte, and Debra Korte, and grandchildren Jakob, Austin and fiancé Madison, Logan, and Larkin Korte.

Monroe

Winter and very early spring were a busy time for Monroe County HCE. On February 21, just in time for tornado season, we hosted a meeting on “Disaster Preparedness.” This very informative lesson, covering all types of disasters, was given by Monroe County Public Safety Director, Kevin Scheibe.

On March 23, we hosted a joint lesson with members of the Monroe County Farm Bureau Women’s Committee. The lesson, “Farm to Table” presented information on food storage, newer cooking techniques and equipment. The meeting was the brainchild of Board Member Janese Sondag, who worked at length to coordinate this with Extension Advisor Chris Juelfs and Farm Bureau Women’s Club president, Gale Mueller.

Increasingly, HCE has been working with other groups, including Columbia, IL Rotary on their blood drives, and Farm Bureau’s “Ag in the Classroom.” We hope this increases interest among these members in joining our own organization, but it also lightens the work load of al. In the case of “Ag in the Classroom,” their members work at, and share profits of, our fund major fund raiser, a beverage and snack stand at the Monroe County Fair.

Four of our Board members attended the March IAHCE Annual conference and came away with two major prizes: Kathi Emery won the 2022 Education Award in Family and Community Issues for her work on “Hunger Action Projects,” and Lucille Ohms for the 2022 CVH Award for volunteer hours. We’re proud of their hard work and great job representing Monroe County.

It costs nothing to smile!

It takes fewer muscles to smile.

Frowns cause more wrinkles.

So.... Plant a smile on your face.– Claudia Berg, Effingham County

Perry

The Perry County HCE has been very busy as usual! Around 75 members, friends, and guests joined in our Holiday Ideas Day in November with nearly 400 items being donated to local food pantries. "Sweet Nostalgia" was the theme, and it focused on old fashioned candies, holiday treats, and toys with fun skits by our county board. Our president, Jane Chapman, has been presenting lessons on saving the honeybees to local schools, HCE units and organizations. Many donations of change-filled honey bears have been received and will "bee" given to the Heifer International organization to help communities in need to raise honeybees. There were 129 people that attended the International Passport Party which focused on Egypt and Israel and our county 4-H picks a state too, which was New York. The 4-H clubs and HCE units made table and interactive displays and ate authentic cuisine prepared by HCE units. Perry County's U of I Extension 4-H program coordinator had a very information presentation on her recent trip to Israel. U of I Extension put together a wonderful video tour of the party if you would like to check it out at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tmWSqMLM1c> or search Youtube for 4-H Passport Party.

Our county's 75th Annual Meeting is coming up in April. A bus trip will be taking 48 members and friends to the Grafton, IL area for a day of fun in June. Our bus trips are so much fun that this one filled up before we had a chance to publicize any details in our newsletters.



Pulaski-Alexander

Pulaski unit member, Amy Kerr, delivered snacks to the Veteran's home in Anna in December. There was no meeting in January. In our February meeting, with six members present, we added dates and hostesses to our new program booklets. In March, with four members present, it was noted that several of our members planned to attend the conference at Shawnee College on March 9th. We had a book exchange and a program on Abigail Adams, the wife of John Adams, our second president, in honor of women's history month.

In November, the Shawnee unit met at the extension office along with members of the Pulaski unit for an International Day Celebration of study on Italy. One of our members was born and raised there. Several of our meetings were postponed due to illness. In February, six members met at the library. Unsigned Valentines were given to area nursing homes for distribution to the residents by the staff. June Badgley gave the program on lemons. Lemons are used in foods, drinks, and for cleaning.

At the March meeting, notice was given of the 4H International dinner on April 25th at Shawnee College. Everyone was invited to attend. June gave a report from the board meeting on scholarships to be offered to three area schools. Applications are to be given to the schools and we will grade applications in April. Everyone was invited to attend the conference for IAHCE on March 9th.

Cindy Henderson gave the lesson spices and their origin and their use. Carol Harms, District 5 Director, installed the board officers for the county. Mary Jo King is president, June Badgley is the first and second vice president, Emma Dell Bennett is secretary, Lucille Bierbaum is treasurer, Martha McMunn is public relations, Betty Shumaker is in charge of volunteer hours, and Anna Doardi is our International director.

Martha McMunn, Amy Kerr, Mary Jo King, Emma Dell Bennett, and June Badgley, attended the conference at Shawnee College on March 9th. This was a session for learning, fellowship, and entertainment. A lovely lunch was provided by The Kitchen on Lafayette in Anna. Tony Gerard, re-enactor, presented a program on Jean-Baptiste Le Kaskaskia, one of nine boatmen with Lewis and Clark in 1806.

White

This year was filled with happy moments, sad moments, making new friends, and losing old friends, but today sitting by my picture window, watching the birds happily fluttering about picking up twigs and dead grass making nests in the bushes, brings me joy. They think it is spring and once in awhile they would look up at me as if to say everything is going to be okay. I don't know about the rest of HCE members, but the convention was very upbeat, happy, and rewarding, seeing happy faces and people having a fun time again. Everyone was laughing about how we looked in our Breakfast at Tiffany's outfits. As you can see in the pictures of Kate Land and myself in one and Mary Johnson and myself in the other one.

We went home after the convention with more wisdom and ideas for new lessons to use in our District communities and counties such as how to succeed in getting more people involved and how to get new members. I would like to say to the state board members, thank you for another three days of fun and happiness, with old friends and new friends. I am sure many long hours of wisdom strung together by you guys, is what made our convention and a happy and successful three days of fun, knowledge, and wisdom in a safe no worry environment that we all needed.



Support Fund

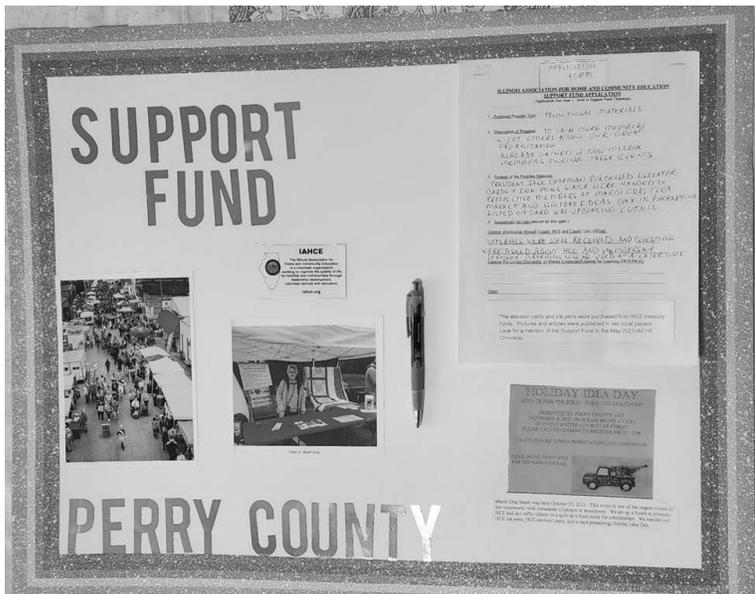
SUPPORT FUND APPLICATIONS ARE DUE JUNE 1

There is still time to send in your Support Fund Application. Did you know that your project doesn't have to be completed prior to sending in your application? Send in your application detailing what your project is and how it benefits promoting HCE and attracting new members along with a proposed budget. You will be notified if your county is selected as a recipient of Support Funding. To actually receive your funds all criteria must be met 1) project has been completed 2) receipts have been submitted to the state treasurer 3) a display was set-up at the state conference showing your project with notation of receiving of Support Fund Assistance and 4) submit a separate article for the Support Fund section of the May Chronicle.

We are always trying to think of ways to encourage new members and develop lessons to share. Let the IAHCe Support help you!

Shannon L. Alder once said, "Life always begins with one step outside of your comfort zone." Take a step outside of your comfort zone and apply today!

Perry County is always looking for ways to promote HCE, encourage volunteerism, and secure new members. We use advertising tools which can be seen by a variety of prospective members. We purchased magnetic IAHCe elevator cards and ink pens which were given out at the annual Pinckneyville Mardi Gras Flea Market the last Saturday in October. This is one of the largest events in our community with thousands of people in attendance. We set up a booth to promote HCE and sell raffle tickets on a quilt as a fund raiser for scholarships. Along with the magnets and pens, we handed out cards to promote our Perry County HCE Holiday Idea Day event.



Aspire to Inspire was the theme for the 98th IAHCe Annual Conference. Members were encouraged to Inspire current members and were asked to Aspire to attract new members. Over the three-day conference members were treated to amazing speakers, interesting and informative share shops, entertainment, officer meetings and a chance to meet with counties in their respective districts. They had a chance to look at a amazing cultural enrichment items, bid on silent auction offerings, and shop with a wide assortment of vendors. The conference gave attendees an opportunity to meet new friends and network with officer's from other counties. The 2022 IAHCe Conference Co-Chairs would like to thank the Support Fund for awarding monies to help offset conference expenses. Each and every dollar was used to further the message of this great organization.

IAHCe Conference Co-Chairs

Mary Johnson and Eleanor Gregory

GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY

Our IAHCe Great American Family, Steve and Norma Korte, own and operate a fifth-generation farm started by Steve's grandmother's family. Their farm operation focuses mainly on white corn and of course, they raise some other crops such as soybeans and bale talot of hay. Their two sons, Daniel and Darryl, carry on with new technologies and new farm management techniques. The grandsons, Austin and Jakob, work alongside contributing their mechanical skills and new ideas to complete the Korte team. Their grandson Logan and granddaughter Larkin, are talented baseball players and are presently preparing for dynamic careers in college and high school, respectively.

The Korte's daughter Debra, now Dr. Debra Korte, is Assistant Dean of ACES at the University of Illinois. The Korte Family have been involved with the 4-H Program at many levels. Norma was inducted into the 2019 4-H Hall of Fame. The Korte Family theme is to learn new ideas, work hard, and support each other by working together!

Congratulations to The Korte Family!!!



Important Dates to Remember

IAHCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 12 – 14, 2024—Thelma Keller Convention Center, Effingham

IAHCE DISTRICT WORKSHOPS

August 8th, 2023— District 4 and 5 - West Salem Trinity United Methodist Church, Mt. Vernon

August 9th, 2023— District 3 – Southern View Chapel, Springfield

August 10th, 2023— District 1 and 2— Mt Carroll Church of God, Mt Carroll

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER OUTREACH NETWORK (NVON) CONFERENCE

July 18-20, 2023 – Blennerhassett Hotel, Parkersburg, West Virginia

ACWW TRIENNIAL

May 17-23, 2023 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Hosted by the Women’s Institute of Pahang and Her Majesty Queen Azizah of Malaysia

IACHE WEEK

October 9-14, 2023



During the June IAHCE Board meeting committees were formed for the planning of our 100th Celebration in 2024. A few of the committees are fundraising/sponsorships, invitations, displays (such as historical), share shops, speakers, entertainment and a few more (we don't want to give all the details away!) If you are interested in joining a committee to help plan this centennial event please let Melissa Chitwood now by email at mchitwoo@illinois.edu

This is our state celebration and it would be wonderful for members all over the state to have a part in the planning process.

Also, donations in support of the 100th Anniversary Celebration may be mailed to:

Melissa Chitwood
IAHCE Treasurer
1408 East 2250 North Road
White Heath, IL 61884

Illinois Association for Home and Community Education

Education and Membership Grand Awards

The 2022 County of the Year, 75 and Under Members – **Massac County**

The 2022 County of the Year, 76 and Over Members – **Champaign County**

The 2022 Great American Family – **The Korte Family, Massac County**

Membership Awards

Member of the Year, District 1 – **Marilyn Wurster, JoDaviess County**

Member of the Year, District 2 – **Sandy Henke, Lake County**

Member of the Year, District 3 – **Sue Chamberlain, Sangamon County**

Member of the Year, District 4 – **Marie Rutger, Wayne County**

Member of the Year, District 5 – **Jane Lucht, Randolph County**

Membership Activity, Grand Award – **Perry County, District 5**

Membership Special Activity, Grand Award – **Stephenson County, District 1**

Cultural Enrichment Awards

Heritage Skills, Grand Award – **McLean County, District 2**

Special Activity, Grand Award – **Perry County, District 5**

Family and Community Issues Awards

Special Activity, Grand Award – **Sangamon County, District 3**

International

Country of Study, Grand Award – **Clay County, District 4**

Other Country of Study, Grand Award – **Pike County, District 3**

Special Event, Grand Award – **Perry County, District 5**

Public Relations

Public Relations, Grand Award – **Massac County, District 5**

Certified Volunteer Hours

Certified Volunteer Hours, Grand Award – **Fayette County, District 4**

(Highest Total HCE Hours)



PROCLAMATION

As HCE Week approaches and next year, it's time to begin thinking about our proclamation. Please reach out to your local county, town, etc. boards and lets see how many proclamations we can receive for next year!

Below is an example of what wording to use. You can use this in your own counties or make one similar.

WHEREAS, since 1924 members of the Illinois Association for Home and Community Education (IAHCE) have been promoting social and economic wellbeing in Illinois homes and neighborhoods: and,

WHEREAS, the State Association is an educational and community service organization comprised of over 5,000 men and women from 66 associations in throughout the state and,

WHEREAS, IAHCE members volunteer their skills and energy to many different community service projects that include sending our troops care packages and making blankets for children in crisis situations and hospitals: and,

WHEREAS, altogether IAHCE members across the Land of Lincoln volunteered 420,059 hours of their time to service projects last year: and,

WHEREAS, the IAHCE organization is celebrating 100 years of doing all of these things and more:

THEREFORE, I _____, Governor/ETC. of _____, do hereby proclaim 2024 as ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION'S YEAR in Illinois, in commendation of IAHCE members for their dedication and commitment to the welfare of local communities throughout our state.

In Witness Whereof, I have here unto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois/ County/Etc. to be affixed.

Done at the Capital/City Hall/ Etc, in the City of _____,
This _____ day of _____, in the
Year of Our Lord twenty thousand and _____, and of the State of
Illinois/County of _____

My mom told me not to go barefoot too much or I would get flat feet! I still go barefoot most of the time and I do have flat feet!- Elsie Voelker



www.acww.org.uk
worldconference@acww.org.uk



Want to attend the Triennial World Conference online? For the first time ever, you can!

How does it work?

Use the QR code below or visit www.acww.org.uk/2023-world-conference and register. You simply fill in the form, and continue to the next page to pay the one-off fee of £75. This will register you for online attendance, and you will receive an automated email to confirm that you have been registered. Nearer the time, you will be sent a special website link, and a password, so you can access the private Online Conference page. There you will be able to watch the Conference live, as well as access a whole host of additional benefits. *Please note you will need an internet connection and suitable device to watch the Conference online!*

What do I get for the registration fee?

As well as being able to watch all Conference business sessions, you will be able to watch:

- The Opening Ceremony, held in the presence of HM The King and HM The Queen of Malaysia
- The Thanksgiving Ceremony and Closing Ceremony
- Video updates and highlights from cultural events and other activities throughout the Conference

In addition:

- We will post you a Conference Pack, with a copy of the programme, and additional information
- With your Conference Pack we will also send you a special "Online Participant" Conference Badge
- Throughout the week we will post updates, mini-videos, and photos
- You'll get PDF recipe cards so you can cook along and enjoy meals that will be served throughout the Conference

After the Conference you'll be able to re-watch sessions, and we will update the page with photos and other updates, allowing you to catch up in your own time if the timezone is inconvenient or you want to relive some of the good times!

Full package for Online Attendance £75

**Use this code to register or visit
www.acww.org.uk/2023-world-conference**



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