

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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NEWSLETTER

“HAVE A CUP OF TEA WITH IAHCE”

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**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR
HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION
OFFICERS**

Mrs. Ellie Maroon..... President
7221 E. U. S. Highway 40.....618-483-5227
Altamont, IL 62411.....ellie@altamont.net

Mrs. Nympha White.....1st Vice President
660 Myrtle Ave.....815-249-6411
Grand Ridge, IL 61325nym1019@yahoo.com

Mrs. Margaret Duncan.....2nd Vice President
409 Lickliter Street.....618-439-4717
Benton, IL 62812.....mad1236@hcis.net

Mrs. Nancy Remmers.....Secretary
228 E. 1900 North Rd.....217-669-2178
Weldon, IL 61882.....nancyremmers@netzero.com

Mrs. Melva Reid.....Treasurer
214 N. Frey.....217-839-3132
Gillespie, IL 62033

DIRECTORS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mrs. Carolyn Fisher
1919 Burlington Ave.630-964-6584
Lisle, IL 60532.....cwfisher06@yahoo.com

FAMILY ISSUES

Ms. Lynn Kearney
20720 Enslow Road.....217-854-6013
Atwater, IL 62572.....lkearney@frontiernet.net

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Mrs. Barbara Spencer
8031 Mulkeytown Rd.....618-724-4288
Mulkeytown, IL 62865....barbgail@shawneelink.net
OR.....barbgail@wildblue.net

INTERNATIONAL

Debbie Borries
19797 N. 1150th St.....217-868-2825
Effingham, IL 62401.....deb_storylady@yahoo.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Mrs. Sharon Middleton
1190 Chelsea Way.....217-877-7229
Decatur, IL 62526.....itole2@sbcglobal.net

CERTIFIED VOLUNTEERS / SALES

Ms. Alice Grooms
412 W. Main St.....217-935-7617
Clinton, IL 61727.....alys13@verizon.net

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Bernice Livingston.....District 1
753 Century Estates.....309-335-4560
Galesburg, IL 61401

Mrs. Lorraine Wildman.....District 2/3
381 E. Smith St.....815-932-8962
Bonfield, IL 60913

Mrs. Mary Lea Prentice.....District 4
654 S. Memorial St.....217-285-2308
Pittsfield, IL 62363.....limb30@verizon.net

Mrs. Mary Jane Wood.....District 5
4852 Skyline Dr.....309-473-2844
Heyworth, IL 61745.....woody9435@msn.com

Mrs. Sandra Bechtold.....District 6
15972 Stagecoach Rd.....618-466-3199
Jerseyville, IL 62052.....sandsbech@piasanet.com

Mrs. Treasa Brookman.....District 7
19247 E. 3rd St.....618-756-2271
Opdyke, IL 62872.....tbrook@hamiltoncom.net

University of Illinois Extension Liaison

Susan E. Taylor.....Extension Educator
5527 Miller Circle Drive, Suite C.....708-720-7520
Matteson, IL 60433.....setaylor@uiuc.edu

From the Desk of the President

In the 15 weeks since Annual Conference, I have been very, very busy. I have made 22 county visits, represented IAFCC at the Indiana State Conference (I saved my registration fee by presenting a share shop there), attended and chaired the June board meeting, attended (as a delegate from Illinois) the NVON (our national organization) in Charleston, West Virginia and will be attending the CWC (Country Women's Council) meeting in Hot Springs, Arkansas in September. It has been an exciting, exhilarating, and some times hectic, few months, but I have enjoyed every minute of it!



I was able to get to 11 counties in the northern part of our state for their meetings and that was interesting. Some of these places were places I had never been before and I really liked getting acquainted in these counties. I want to thank all those who provided me with sleeping arrangements while I was traveling around—each home I was in had things of extreme interest to me and just sitting and talking to the members and their husbands was fun. I was even able to meet a few of their children and grandchildren while visiting in their homes.

If I have not been to your county in my term as president and you are having any kind of meeting that you would like me to attend, just let me know. My term will be up 1 March so I will miss many of the Annual Meetings. I could attend some other type of meeting, as long as I can say a few words about our membership. Just please contact me.

The June board meeting has been here and gone. We got a lot done and still finished by noon on Tuesday—which everyone seems to like very much. Our budget loves it because we saved the cost of meals for 17 plus one night in the motel for 9 rooms. We worked hard to get all our business done and I would like to thank all of the board members for keeping to the task and getting it all done in a very timely fashion.

Our 2009 Annual Conference will be held in Springfield, March 3, 4 & 5 and should be very exciting—it is Mr. Lincoln's birthday! Come enjoy all that is being planned.

I read all of your newsletters and cut out anything I really want to keep and use later. This was in one of them and I really loved it so I will share it with you then sign off until the next time. Invite everyone you know to join you at your county's events!

An Old Farmer's advise (works for city folk too)

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump. The best sermons are lived, not preached. Most of the stuff people worry about ain't gonna happen anyway. Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer. Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.

Your President, *Ellie Maroon*



First Vice President

NYMPHA WHITE



Finally, summer weather has come after an unusual winter and spring season we just had. Yes, we now have a nice and warm temperature though sometimes it's terribly windy and stormy. However, let's not forget some of our neighbors like Iowa, Missouri, Wisconsin and even our very own western counties which suffered severe flooding and damaged crops.

Our organization is really known as a compassionate, generous and helpful group and so let's extend our helping hand for whatever is needed in your particular area that needs assistance. I'm sure some of you may have already assisted either monetary or labor of love. Remember the saying "Charity begins at home". To all of you, THANK YOU!!!!

As your new First Vice President, please bear with me as I am trying to re-acquaint the role or ropes of this office. In the meantime, if you have any questions or suggestions for programs for our Lessons for Living, please don't hesitate to send it to me. Also, if anyone or county would like to order a Gray Guidebook, just let me know and I will try to bring it to our Fall Workshops.

Some of us on the State Board and members of the 2009 NVON conference committee will be attending the 2008 NVON conference in Charleston, West Virginia. I hope we will be able to bring home to you some new ideas or programs that we could use for our Lessons for Living.

Meanwhile, continue the good work you've been doing and we look forward to seeing you at the Fall Workshop. Enjoy the beautiful summer weather including the fresh flowers, fruits and vegetables from your garden.

Nympha White

2nd Vice President

MARGARET DUNCAN



Margaret Duncan

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Outreach

CAROLYN FISHER



This is the final year of my 3-year term and the Nominating Committee is looking for a successor, preferably someone who hasn't served on the IAHCCE Board before. The opportunity to lead, teach and be taught, and to travel the state is open to you.

Thinking back to only two years ago we were in a state of drought, now we have flooding conditions and potential loss of crops. Is it just a coincidence that this is happening right after the United States announced that for the first time in history our country is less than 50% agrarian? The concrete jungle is advancing and leaves little planning for flood waters. What contractors have planned for retention ponds are not as sufficient as planned.

Keep working with your individual projects and those Linus Blankets. Also remember our NVON Project in Common "MAD" - working with foster children.

Reach Out!

Carolyn Fisher

ASK A FRIEND TO
JOIN YOU
AT YOUR NEXT
HCE MEETING!

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Family Issues

LYNN KEARNEY

Hello Fellow HCE Members

We just came back from our June State Board Meeting; which was very successful. Sandy Bechtold and I have been planning a great Annual Conference for all of you. It will be March 3, 4 & 5,

2009 at the Crown Plaza in Springfield. We hope we can have even more members attend than last year.

I will be teaching about Strokes at the August workshops. Once again I have been working with the American Heart Association to bring you the latest information on the topic of Heart Health at my Family Issues lecture. I hope as many of you as are able will be at workshops in your area. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at your District Workshops.

The State Board has voted us permission to fundraise to help offset the cost of the conferences. In the last few years we have had to take monies from the state budget to make up this lost. We will be selling ads to be placed in the program booklets. They can be sold to anyone, but businesses are the best bet. They will sell for \$200.00 for a whole page and \$100.00 for a half a page. This is get advising at a low cost to the business. If you have anyone in your area that you can sell an ad to or you know some, I would be happy to contact them. If you think of someone email me, or write or bring their names, address and phone number to the Workshops. As we all know, prices are continuing to go up so help us to defer the conference costs. The cost of registration will also be going up; start saving, ask your children to give you a little seed money to help pay your way; this would be a great Christmas or birthday gift that they could give you. Since gas is so high and relief is not sight, you might think about taking the train or bus. You could make it a fun trip with your unit or county. Crown Plaza has a shuttle free of charge which could pick you up. Don't let the increase in registration and room rates keep you from attending the Annual Conference in Springfield, March 3, 4 & 5, 2009.

Over the next few months, let's all think of things we can make to bring to the Silent Auction at the Annual Conference. Handmade items always bring a good price; such as embroidered hankies, tea towels, both new and antique.

I am looking forward to seeing each county's Family Issues director at the Fall Workshops in your area.

Lynn Kearney

Cultural Enrichment

BARB SPENCER

Are you getting excited I am. In a very short time, the IAHCE Traveling Board will be visiting in Rock Falls, Decatur and Mt. Vernon for the Fall Workshops. I look forward to seeing you and exchanging ideas. This is my second trip to visit you and I'm bringing lessons that should be a help to you in your position on your county board.

I enjoy getting your county newsletters and reading what you have been doing in Cultural Enrichment and hope that you will share with other counties.

Due to the Annual Conference in 2009 being held at an earlier date, the dates for reports and registration for Best of Show has been changed. **All President's Award reports will be due January 15th and Cultural Enrichment Best of Show deadline is February 15th.** This means that you must get your forms filled out and mailed in two weeks earlier!

I appreciate all the interest in the poetry books. I did reorder them and they are available now and will be at the Fall Workshops. The price is still only \$2.00. If you would like to have yours before then, e-mail me at: quilterscorner1@verizon.net and I will let you know how much the postage is going to be and put them in the mail to you. They do make nice little gifts.

I hope that some of you will be thinking about teaching a craft at Make-It Take-It at Annual Conference. I also would like you to consider being a volunteer at Best of Show. I will need at least three ladies to register the items and at least three more to help display them. We had 180 items last year and I look for even more in 2009.

On August 19, we will see you in Rock Falls, on August 20 in Decatur and on August 21 in Mt. Vernon; so all take care and plan to go to your Fall Workshop.

Barbara Spencer

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

International

DEBBIE BORRIES

Creetings! I have been researching recipes and trying to choose a new country for next year. This will be announced at the District meetings in August. Please mark your calendars to attend your area's meeting.



At District Meetings I will have information about where your pennies (coins) go in the world. Briefly, the last Pennies in 2007 went to an Improved Fishing and Nutrition project in Kenya, Women's Empowerment in Social Development in Tanzania and the 2008 monies we sent in March are to go to the Support Adult Literacy Activities, Stop HIV Project in Cameroon, and to a Rural Sanitation Project in India. We will collect pennies and coins at the District and Annual Meetings.

We just got back from the board meetings last week. I am happy to say the International has an updated budget and there is some mileage for travel to counties in it. If you would like the International Director to visit your county for an International event, let me know. If your county is able to help with mileage costs in full or in part, please do so. If not, then perhaps I will still be able to attend because of this allotted money. As International Director, I am excited to attend your events if my schedule allows; I am also available to speak if you need a speaker. Call me and let me know if you need help with materials or anything else.

We had to change the deadline for the President Awards applications -January 15th, 2009. This change is due to the early date for Annual Conference. Be sure to get your applications and read the rules carefully. This is listed in the Gray Book on pages 49-52.

I also hope you will apply for stipends based on what you did for International this year, January-December 2008.

Thanks to all the County International

Chairpersons who have notified me of their names and email addresses and had their newsletters sent to me. I read each newsletter and get some great ideas from each one. You are all doing amazing things! My county International night is September 18, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. (I think), and we have a tasting night for just the Unit International people who then take the lesson back to their units. If you'd like to attend, let me know.

Looking forward to seeing new and familiar faces at District Meetings. Keep in touch!

Debbie Borries

Public Relations

SHARON MIDDLETON

Well, can you believe it has been three months plus since Annual Conference? I have been so excited seeing some of the photos from each of your county's groups setting at our "Photo Op" at the Conference. I do hope that you used this opportunity to send the photo with a press release about attending the Conference to your local newspaper. What a way to get HCE's name out. You all looked so ready to go to a tea. And so we did! What a tea party that was. Mark your calendars for the 2009 Conference, March 3, 4 and 5 in Springfield.



This will be your second newsletter for this year then the last issue for the year comes in December with all of your 2009 Conference information. Continue to generate interest in our State Newsletter. I try to get a variety of news from all over the Illinois; to keep you informed what is going on with our organization.

Many are celebrating 90 years with IAHCE. What a great time to be sure you are notifying all of your newspaper contacts, radio, television and other medias in your area to show what a truly great organization we are

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

in and how many contacts you will reach with what HCE is all about. The more we expose ourselves to the public, the more awareness there is of HCE.

Those that are Public Relations or Public Information Directors in your counties are the ones to keep in touch with all news medias. Have a list to send articles of all of your activities so that it might generate interest in joining our group. Good Luck! Keep up the good work.

Our Fall Workshops will be here very shortly. You will find the traveling board in Rock Falls, August 19, Decatur (my hometown), August 20 and in Mt. Vernon, August 21. Since I was unable to attend last year, this will be my first Fall Workshop on the State Board. I know as a member coming to those Fall Workshops in the past, that you get so much information for each of your board positions to take back to your counties. The State Board Educators work really hard to bring helpful information that you can use. I do hope that as many of your board can attend and visit with others in your position to see what they are doing in their counties.

Continue all of your good work in whatever position you are in your county whether it be as a county board member or as members of units. It takes all of us to help HCE grow.

Sharon Middleton



**Certified Volunteer
Hours/Sales
ALICE GROOMS**

Alice Grooms

SPECIAL REPORT

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Postmark Deadline is **SEPTEMBER 15, 2008** due to an earlier IAHCE Board Meeting.

Would you like to make a difference on the IAHCE State Board? Are you available to meet for less than a week in June and October? Would you be willing to travel the state for 5 days in August? Are you able to come to IAHCE Annual Conference 2 days early and leave 1 day later? Are you in good health and are able to drive long distances? Have you served on your HCE County Board?

Those are a few of the questions asked of an applicant for IAHCE State Board. We will be electing and installing four 3-year (full term) positions (President, Secretary, Community Outreach Director and International Director) and Treasurer in a partial 2-year term at our 2009 IAHCE Annual Conference in Springfield in March.

The President must have served on the IAHCE State Board. This position arranges the committee lists, chairs the Executive Committee, serves as ex-officio on other (not all) committees, presides over the Annual Meeting, as well as other duties pertaining to the leadership of IAHCE. Travels will include IAHCE District Workshops (every year), the ACWW Triennial Conference, and a noble attempt to visit every member county of IAHCE once during the three years. Other states may invite our President to attend their conferences.

The Secretary is a member of the Executive Committee, as well as other committees. The major duties are keeping accurate minutes and arranging for accommodations for board meetings, maintaining the Past Board Members list, and revising the "Yellow" Activities list, and travels to the IAHCE District Workshops.

The Treasurer must have knowledge of accounting, budgets, tax requirements and bookkeeping. She chairs the Budget Committee and serves on the Executive Committee, as well as other duties, and may be

one who travels to the IAHCE District Workshops.

The Community Outreach Director and International Director both serve on the Education Committee, as well as other committees, and travel to the IAHCE District Workshops. The International Director administers the Pennies of Friendship and chairs the International Projects Committee and its budget.

Interviews will be held on Sunday, October 4, 2008 in Springfield. Please send the completed IAHCE State Board Application on pages 54 and 55 of the IAHCE (Gray) Guidebook by September 15, 2008 to Mrs. Carolyn Fisher, IAHCE Nominating Committee Chairman, 1919 Burlington Avenue, Lisle, IL 60532. Questions? cwfisher@yahoo.com OR call 630-964-6594.

Nominating Committee Chairman,

Carolyn Fisher

SUPPORT FUND

We have five candidates to review for 2008 Support Fund Grants. They will be notified shortly (if they haven't received their letter already) as to their status.

Two reports are in the process of being written for the 2007 Support Grants, the other two have been completed.

New updated pages for the Support Fund Application (IAHCE Gray Guidebook 64 & 65) are ready for distribution at the IAHCE District Workshops. Please use these new pages in the future.

IAHCE Support Fund Chairman

Carolyn Fisher

NVON CONFERENCE DATE

2008 - Charleston, W. Virginia - July 11-13

SPECIAL REPORT

DEWITT COUNTY HOSTS SPECIAL GUEST!

DeWitt County is having a special guest in their town of Clinton, October 4, 2009 and are inviting members of IAHCE to join them. The special guest is Ursula Goh of Malaysia, the ACWW President who will be visiting DeWitt county member, Ruth Pevery, also a member of ACWW. Ruth has traveled internationally and made friends with many people including Ursula. Ruth has consented to share her with us.

The DeWitt County chapter of HCE will host a coffee hour for Ursula on the morning of October 4, 2009 at 9:30AM at the Clinton, IL Christian Church. We would like to invite any HCE members and also the State Board members who would like to come to listen to her speak. The Clinton Christian Church is located at 200 West Main St. in Clinton.

Please RSVP by August 31 to the extension office (217-935-5764) so we will have some idea of how many will be attending.



CWC CONFERENCE DATES

2008 - Hot Springs, Arkansas - Sept. 25-27

2009 - West Des Moines, Iowa

ACWW CONFERENCE DATES

2010 - Hot Springs, Arkansas - April 19-28

2013 - Shenyang, China

ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD

We have received a note expressing a sincere thanks and gratitude to members of IAHCE from ACWW for our Pennies for Friendship that was sent to them after our March 2009 Conference. The money was allocated for:

- Cameroon - Support Adult Literacy Activities/Stop HIV
- India - Rural Sanitation Project

A part of last year's donation was to be used for projects in Peru but due to complications, the \$1,533.44 has been allocated to the Cameroon Project mention above.

Below are pictured some of the projects our monies also go for:



Milk Cows



Beneficiaries of the Agricultural Project



Some of the Beneficiaries working in the field.

SPECIAL REPORT

SUSAN TAYLOR, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

I want to thank everyone who contacted their State Representative and Senator regarding Extension funding. Your efforts and others helped to reinstate the current year budget that ends June 30, 2008. Remember to invite your State Senator and Representative to your functions in their districts. Helping to tell the story is important to these stakeholders. Since the State budget is not signed, we need to continue to have contact with your State Senator and Representative. Funding has been proposed, but there is a shortfall in available funds and we don't want Extension funding to be cut again.

The 2008 hourly rate for volunteering is \$19.51/hour according to the Independent Sector. Start counting your CVU's. Your time is valuable to this organization and other community groups.

I recently met with the State IAHCE Board in Bloomington, IL. At the Annual Conference, I was asked to bring ideas of ways we can increase HCE membership. Here are a few of the ideas:

- Think back to when you were invited to HCE for the first time. It may have been under a different name.
- How did that happen? Did you go by yourself, or did someone pick you up, or you read about it in the newspaper?
- Did you decide to go back? Or even join?

Some reasons that invited potential members came back are: It was fun; Interesting lessons, Trips, Crafts, Met other people, Liked learning

Sometimes we just need to ask friends to come. In the near future, over 2.9 million baby boomers in Illinois will be retiring. Some of these individuals may be members. Others were too busy with work and family responsibilities to be a member. They may have said no in the past but it never hurts to

ask again. These are the empty nesters, recently retired that may be looking for an organization to join.

- Has your organization used marketing to the community as a way to recruit? Community Fair booth, newspaper articles about meetings, fundraising events, honoring a scholarship, etc.
- If you had to give a short speech about HCE – 10 seconds – what would it include? Would any of the following items be in your speech?
- Leadership, Life-long learning, Improve quality of life, Strengthen families and individuals, Associated with University of Illinois Extension, Recipes, Community projects, and Friendship and Fun.

From Livingston County Newsletter – Things you can do to increase membership

1. Hand out a "Call me" card – with your personal name, address, and phone to leave with people so they can call you if they want to learn more about HCE.
2. Suggest program ideas and issues that would be of interest to the group.
3. Be Positive about HCE.
4. Make a commitment to HCE to find one new member this year.
5. Realize that if I want a better organization, it starts with ME.

Susan Taylor,
Extension Educator
Consumer & Family Economics

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE!

www. IAHCE.org

2008 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The Scholarship Committee meet during the IAHCE State board meeting in June. With no knowledge of the applicant, background, gender or location the following applications were chosen for the 2008 Scholarship winners:

Alaina Boesche DeKalb County

Alaina plans to attend Barton College in Wilson, NC and major in Fitness Management. She plans to be a Personal Trainer in her own business.



Megan Kvistad DeKalb County

Megan plans to attend Eastern Illinois University to major in English with a Spanish minor - Secondary Education Certification. She plans to teach in the Illinois Public School system as well as sponsor extracurricular activities.

Emily Martin Monroe County

Emily plans to attend Greenville College and plans to major in Digital Medial and Contemporary Christian Music. She plans to utilize her skills in a ministry position at church or counseling opportunities.



Natalie Boesche DeKalb County

Natalie plans to attend Illinois Wesleyan University and major in Educational Studies. She plans to teach second or third grade.



Lisa Pritchett St. Clair County

Lisa plans to attend the University of Illinois in Champaign. She plans to major in Mathematics and Engineering. She wants a career as a Civil Engineer.



Rachel Thiems Bond County

Rachel will be attending Green College and major in Elementary Education.



Josie Millard Macoupin County

Josie will attend St. Louis College. She hopes to become a Registered Pharmacist and work in retail.



Jennifer Moore Pike County



Jennifer plans to attend Millikin University in Decatur for a Business Management major. She wants to own her own

SCHOLARSHIPS , CON'T

Kyle Oetjen Pope County

Kyle plans to attend Washington University in St. Louis to major in Engineering and study about Alternative Fuel Research.



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

PERFECT ATTENDANCE FOR 56 YEARS!

The Tazewell County Association for Home and Community Education in Washington IV Unit are extremely proud of Louise Lecocq.



Fifty-six years ago a neighbor, Jean Buescher, invited her and a friend to join Home Extension as they organized in Washington. In all those years despite illness and other factors, Louise has had perfect attendance every year. The few times she missed, she made the meetings of some other unit to maintain the perfect attendance. Usually she could attend another unit in town, but sometimes she had to travel to nearby communities.

Louise, the last surviving charter member of her unit, has held different offices as well as directorships. Nearly every year she volunteers at the HCE food stand during the 4-H Fair.

Louise worked many years as a telephone operator, having chosen that career upon graduating from Pana High School; she held various supervisory phone positions as well.

Her husband, Paul, worked many years at Caterpillar. One of her favorite lessons was learning how to iron white shirts when she was a young bride. Her skill paid off for her husband and her two sons, Dan and Jerry.

Over the years, Louise has been active in bowling and golfing. She's given up the latter, but she continues to bowl. At 86, she's physically fit!

She has also been active with Paul in the Peoria County ESDA. They were featured in an article in the Peoria Journal Star for their work as storm watchers. Both are amateur radio operators; Louise is W9RRW. This helps them with their ESDA work.

This super lady can serve as a role model for all of us; she's definitely committed to HCE!

Jessica Bathon Perry County

Jessica is attending McKendree University, Lebanon, Illinois. She plans to major in Agricultural Marketing and Agricultural Business Management.



DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT 1

Bernice Livingston , District Director

ROCK ISLAND.....

Those sultry days of summer have arrived. You know the ones I mean. You wake up to blue skies, open the door for your 8:00 am walk, and decide that maybe a walk at the mall might be a better choice. It could be worse. In May we were dealing with cold rainy days. Despite the weather any time of the year, Rock Island County members are on the move.

Several members attended and taught classes at the 2008 Homemakers Craft Day on May 13th in Sterling. This gathering of creative ladies from all corners of the state of Illinois is always fun and exciting. It's a great way to exchange good ideas, good food, and fellowship.

Stretching the imagination and skills of our HCE members is the goal of our Cultural Enrichment Director, Lucille Michels. She coordinated two oil painting classes in April and June. The last Comforter Day until fall was also held in April. Lucille then delivered 46 comforters completed by members to various women's and children's charities. In May 4-H members attended the final Basic Sewing lesson for the year.

Our 87th Annual Meeting was held on June 21st. The membership recognized our latest 50 year member, Shirley Kilgard, shown in the photo with Nancy Edlund, Recycling Director. Our program, "Safety for Women", was presented by Michelle Isaac from the



Community Care Services. In keeping with our theme this year, "RIHCE Goes Green", we enjoyed a delicious salad luncheon. To show our support for a greener planet, for recycling efforts, and for preserving our environment, members were also asked to bring their own "Green Mug" to use at the luncheon and to either wear a "recycled" item of clothing or to wear green. District I Director, Bernice Livingston, once again installed the new officers. As usual, the Raffle items and Door Prizes were a big hit.

Our Recycling Director, Nancy Edlund, has been hard at work preparing for the Rock Island County Fair which we will attend July 16-18th. Since we sponsor a Recycle, Re-Use, Renew booth at the Fair, she has held two workshops where members gather to make items from re-cycled containers, etc. Her imagination in this area knows no bounds. The children at the Fair are the recipients of these wonderfully practical and fun creations. In addition to the Re-cycle booth, we will again sponsor a "Dress a Bear" for charity table. The children really enjoy dressing bears with clothes that members have made. The bears are then distributed to local Police, Fire, and EMT departments. However, the highlight of our booth is always the Denim Quilt which is sewn by Lucille Michels and then raffled off at the Fair. If you have an extra day, come join us at the Fair. We always have a great time.

Brenda Wells, PR Director

STEPHENSON.....

Many Stephenson County Members are involved in the planning and carrying out the work that is involved with our main fund-raiser which is the Dining Hall at our County fair in August. We have our own building with kitchen and sit-down dining room and serve full meals as well as ala carte. We have other area organizations come each day to help with some of the work of preparing and serving the food and split the proceeds with them.

With Greece as our country to learn about, we had an International meeting for all of Stephenson County members October 17th. Our International Chairmen of the Units made several Greek recipes for every one to taste. Our speaker for the evening was a local lady who was born in Greece and had many things to show and tell about the country.

Our county board has started new units in several of our retirement homes in the area. So far, our board members have been presenting the lessons. Hopefully these Satellite Units will organize as a regular units and be on their own.

On October 17th Stephenson County HCE hosted a Craft

DISTRICT NEWS

Show. Both Units and individuals had booths of Crafts and Bake Sale items.

Thirteen of our members attended the State convention in Effingham. We enjoyed wearing our hats at the Tea Party and all members came home with good information from the share-shops they attended.



Back Row: Mary Kerr, Audrey Musser, Karen Macomber, Mary Bicker, Mary Julius, Marilyn DeVreis, Marjie Otte, Judy Prasse, Judy Shippee
 Front Row: Lynn Lott, Pat Meyers, Carla Meyer, Ann Runkle

Our Tri-County Heritage Arts workshop was held March 29th in Jo Davies County, where classes were presented to teach crafts used in the earlier years.

Plans are in the making for our be a catered luncheon Annual County meeting in May which will with our business meeting in the morning and musical entertainment following the luncheon. We are also planning our Tri-County Heritage Workshop for March 29 with Jo Davies and Carroll Counties.

Thanks, Audrey Musser

DISTRICT 2/3

Loarraine Wildman, District Director



Du PAGE.....

We are on our two months without units meeting but still busy. Fair time is July 23-27th. Our booth at the fair is a busy one. We have things with children to make and information for the women; and to answer any questions.

We are gathering up things to send our soldiers overseas. They can use a lot of things.

We are having another craft day in August. We are going to try and create cloth baskets plus make cards to give the veterans in the hospitals. Our craft leaders are trying to give us challenges with the ideas they have come up with.

As usual, we finished up with a potluck in July. Many different recipes were tried. They were very good. Our group loves to have a good picnic.

A Mexican dinner was prepared for us by one of our County Extension workers. It was very good and educational. We hope to do more of this in the future.

Miriam Ferguson, Public Information

KANE.....

As we began our new year in June, Kane County rolled with the times and changed its organizational name. Formerly HEA (Homemakers Education Association), we are now HCE (Home and Community Education). This better aligns our county's identity with IAHCE. It may attract potential new members who value commitment to home and community (but *not* necessarily to *cooking and cleaning*). Increasing membership today makes this HCE legacy available in the tomorrows to come.

DISTRICT NEWS

Kane, con't

With membership at 210, including 38 mailbox members, we started our 91st year with an Open House August 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the U of I Extension Center in Kane County. Guest speaker was Diane Ahrens, co-owner of two local Piece-A-Cake bakeries.

After a postponement to July 2, we bussed to Starved Rock State Park for a luncheon, plus trolley rides before and after a horse-pulled canal boat ride. We are hoping to have enough participants for an October 4 bus tour to Spoon River, with possibly a Bishop Hill stopover added.

New Member Luncheon and our Fine Arts and Craft Show are now part of Fun Day on October 22 at St. Gall Church in Elburn. (Previously, those two events were attached to February's International Luncheon, which we cancelled.) At Fun Day we also wrap up a fundraiser, launched at Open House, featuring Terri Lynn's candy and nut products.

With all positions filled, our county board is pulling together to better accommodate our current membership through a new BIT Program (Brainstorming/Input/Training). In any one month for a bit (about half an hour prior to the board meeting), up to three different board members are meeting with their corresponding unit officers and directors. (We exclude any month with conflicting priorities.) Perhaps together we may discover new opportunities, new events and new sources for potential members.

Beth Engbrecht, Public Relations

LaSALLE.....

Four local officers of Home and Community Education recently attended the Illinois Association of IAHCE's 84th annual conference in Effingham. More than 400 statewide members attended.

"Have a Cup of Tea with IAHCE" was the theme of the opening luncheon followed by a program by Dr. Lily Su, "All About Tea".



Standing: Nympha White

Sitting: Paula Freepartner, Kathleen Jonen, Gail Hayward, Pat Workman

LaSalle County was presented with an honorable mention award for membership. There was a county banner parade. The Illinois Great American Family award was given to Paul and Kelly Schular family and their three children of McLean County.

The business meeting took place with 130 voting delegates in attendance. Three new state officers were voted into office. Susan Taylor, the University of Illinois liaison, gave a welcome. The choir, led by Nympha White, sang. The banquet and installation of officers was held that evening. Our own Nympha White of Grand Ridge in La Salle County was elected to the state board. Ken Bradbury entertained with music and laughs.

More than twenty members of LaSalle HCE group enjoyed making fleece blankets to donate to local organizations. Blankets were cut and tied in various sizes and patterns for babies to adults. We ended up with 41 blankets and distributed them between Red Stocking, Red Cross, Department of Children and Family Services and other charities.



Ladies with some of the finished blankets.

DISTRICT NEWS

The LaSalle County HCE recently held the twelfth "Cabin Fever Reliever". This fun and learning event had a great turnout of members and guests. Over 70 people took part in twenty some classes. These classes were held to make bracelets, quilting, cupcakes, crock pot soups, basket weaving, investments, photography, bridge, gardening, painting on glass, wheat weaving, gift wrapping and health topics. Everyone enjoyed this event and many new ideas are already being planned for next year.



President Gail Hayward with her wheat weaving project.

Carol Link, Public Relations

McHENRY.....

The 90th Annual Meeting of McHenry County Home and Community Education (HCE) was held April 23rd at the Crystal Lake Country Club. The theme of this year's meeting was "Have a Cup of Tea With HCE".

Honored for 60 years or more with HCE were Selma Davidson - 68 years, Helen Heider and Lucille Thurow - 67 years each, Margaret Richardson - 63 years, Jeannette McCullough - 61 years and our newest honoree is Evelyn Schuring - 60 years. Two members were honored for their 40th and they were Irene Blumhorst and Marlene Rader. Two members were honored for their 10th. They were Mary Macheroux and Marie Payne. Five new members were welcomed.



New Members: Dona Westerhuis, June Quart, Jennie Englebrecht and Eileen Lyford. (Missing was Georgene Kein)

Ellie Maroon, IAHC State President, conducted installation of officers. Newly elected to the board were secretary's co-chairman, Carol Kruse and Susan Randall; Public Relations co-chairman, Florence Spesard and Jean Bowgren.



Back Row: Geri Pondel, Sharon Randall, Jean Pieoni, Ellie Maroon, Florence Spesard
Front Row: Joan Jones, Delores Hermonson, Carol Kruse, Hazel Kniebush, Leonna Rinn

State President, Ellie Maroon talked about the IAHC program, MAD (Making a Difference) where they help children and foster children throughout the state.

County Director, Don Schellhaus reported on the financial problem and the elimination of half of the staff of the University of Illinois Extension Service. Please contact your state representative and governor to make your opinion count about the importance of 4-H for our youth.

Entertainment provided by Decades of Dress from the 1910 to the 1990's. The ladies not only modeled the vintage outfits from each decade, but also told the history.

HCE works with 4-H in their community's food pantry, retirement and nursing homes, Pioneer residential homes, pull-tabs for Ronald McDonald House and Family Alliance.

Florence Spesard, Public Relations

WILL.....

Will County is celebrating! For 70 years we have been learning, living and helping in our communities and enjoying each other and this great organization.

Our annual meeting was held on May 14th in the large

DISTRICT NEWS

meeting room in the Farm Bureau Building. The theme for the day was "Share a Cup of Tea Together." Members and guests came attired for a tea party with their favorite hats and gloves.



A highlight of the day was the large display of teacups and teapots as well the assorted teas belonging to Will County Homemakers Board Treasurer/Secretary Janice Hickey. Members had an opportunity to sample the teas and learn some brewing tips.

Those in attendance were also asked to bring a teacup or teapot for "show and tell." The membership really enjoyed learning the history behind the tea cups and teapots as well as the hats many of the women proudly showed off. A few of the women brought with them the hats they wore on their wedding day.

Will County, con't

On a solemn note, a memorial service was held to honor the memory of members who passed away during the past year. Recognized were April Mettes, Bea Hunter, Helen Phillips, Helen Wirth, Pam Fee and charter member Myrtle Walsh.

During the meeting, \$28.02 was collected for Pennies for Friendship. A special "Support our Troops" collection was also taken and \$84.75 was donated toward the purchase of phone cards for our troops.

Fifty year members, Mary Lewis, Lol Walker and Helen Lamping (all from the Troy Unit) were recognized and honored. Extension Adviser, Emma Theuri presented an interesting and informative program about her visit to her home in Kenya.

Our next significant event will be our July picnic. A pot luck luncheon, bingo (with prizes donated by the board), and a craft "show and tell" are just a few events planned for the day.

Marianne Eisenbrandt, Public Information

DISTRICT 4

Mary Lea Prentice, District Director



As I traveled my counties in District IV these past few weeks, I experienced high water in rivers, detours because of road construction or bridges out, crops not planted or those planted flooded out, levee breakages causing thousands of acres to become flooded, flooded basements, roof damage; the list goes on. But I also saw the resilience and dedication of our HCE members as they saw the devastation in our counties, then their volunteerism as they reacted to help others in the West Central Illinois counties by filling sand bags, proving food, working in food kitchens, opening their homes to shelter displaced families who had to leave their homes; again the list goes on. Earlier our members proceeded to write letters and make telephone calls to our governor and legislatures to try to convince them the importance of our 4-H programs and extension projects that we so strongly support. These women continued to make Linus blankets not only for the statewide project but for local children and adults who have experienced sickness or other tragedies in their lives. As I read our HCE Creed I think if all our members who are **living** this Creed at this time, not just reading the words without reacting.

Now there is one more thing I would like to ask you to do. Flood bucket items are urgently needed at the Mid-West Distribution Center in Springfield. Here are the items that are needed to help our displaced flooded families clean up when they can again return to their homes:

- 5 Gallon buckets with resealable lids
- 1/2 Gallon Bleach
- Liquid Laundry Detergent, 50 oz.
- Liquid Lysol Cleaner concentrate, 12 oz.
- Antibacterial Dish Soap, 16 oz. to 28 oz.

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- Air Freshener, 9 oz.
- Insect Repellent (not killer), 6 to 9 oz. spray (Off, Cutter)
- Scouring Pads (not steel wool), 5 per bucket
- Scrub Brush
- Cleaning Towels (Easy Wipe) reusable, 18 per bucket
- Sponges, 7-pack each bucket, assorted sizes
- Snap Clothes pins, 50 per bucket
- Clothesline (cotton) approximately 3/16" diameter X 100 ft.
- Dust Mask, 5 pack (disposable) per bucket
- Latex gloves, package of 2 pair per each bucket
- Work Gloves (Wells Lamont, Canvas Dot) 1 pair per bucket
- Trash Bags (Glad tie, approximately 30-gallon or larger)

These items can be taken to any United Methodist Church in your area who will in turn see that they are taken to the Mid-west Mission Distribution Center, 1022 New City Road, PO Box 56, Chatham, IL 62629. For additional information or to volunteer to work at this site, please call 217-

The resilience and excellent work ethics of the residents of our counties are phenomenal. Let those of us who are not victims of the flooded areas pitch in and show that we care. Those who have been victims can be bent and stretched but with the help of others can and will bounce back. Take time to read our HCE Creed this afternoon. React immediately to find the thing we as individuals can do to help.

Finally, thank you to my District IV Counties who have invited me to your meetings this Spring. Your table decorations and programs have been outstanding and your good food, your good fellowship and your patience with me (when I arrived late) was an added plus.

Mary Lea Prentice

ADAMS.....

Adams County HCE entered a float in the annual Dogwood parade held on Saturday, May 3, 2008 in Quincy, IL although the weather was quite chilly (COLD!) and wet, everyone who participated enjoyed the day. The float depicted the early days of HCE as we are celebrating 90 years!! Riding on the float were Sally Dedert at the sewing machine, Ethel Hardy and Camie Hempelman with Bonnie Smith and Mary Twaddle carrying (trying) the banner. The Central Livewires 4-H Club from Paloma, IL also helped us by passing out flyers about the Adams County HCE.

Adams County HCE Board members for 2008-2009 are pictured from left to right (sitting) Mary Twaddle, Public Information; Marcia Schutte, President; Bonnie Smith, Family Issues and South District Director; (standing) Pat Vaughn, Co-Director West District; Mary Voorhis, Acorn Co-Editor; Judy Milfs, Subject Matter; Sally Dedert, Co-Ways & Means and Co-Director North District; Linda Duncan, Secretary and Director East District; Camie Hempelman, Cultural Arts and Co-Director West District and Edna Tenhouse, Treasurer.



Not Pictured: Marla Dietrich, 1st V.P.; Rosie Eickelschulte, Co-Director North District; Sharon Frese, 2nd V.P.; Dana Haxel, Co-Ways & Means and Carol Rust, Acorn Co-Editor.

The Adams County HCE past presidents will be sponsoring a "Tea Party" in honor of HCE's 90th Birthday. This will be held during HCE's month long celebration on October 9, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. in Paloma, IL. They will be inviting HCE members from neighboring counties.

Adams County Board Members voted to sponsor six

DISTRICT NEWS

Adams, con't

trophies for 4-H winners at the 2008 Adams County Fair.

Adams County Cultural Arts dates are as follows:

Sunday, September 14, 2008 – Tour the Quincy Museum, 1601 Maine Street with dinner following at a local restaurant. Reservations will be required.

Thursday, October 23, 2008 – 7:00 p.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement. The speaker will be Dave Delaney telling about steamboats at Quincy on the Mississippi. Reservations will be required.

Thursday, April 16, 2009 will be a Spring Tea with a Style Show from 2:00 p. m. – 4:00 p. m. in the Farm Bureau Basement. Reservations will be required.

Adams County HCE has a new unit that started. They are known as the "Sunshine Girls" and they will be meeting the 2nd Monday of each month.

The 2008 Great American Family award was presented to the Dale and Waneta Farlow family. Mrs. Farlow has been an HCE member for nearly 50 years. They are going to be recommended as candidates for the Illinois Great American Family Award that will be presented at the Illinois Association for HCE annual meeting in March, 2009 at the Crown Plaza in Springfield, IL.



Mary Twaddle, Public Relations

support the local organization. We will fill the Farm Bureau Hall with vendors. Many units will have tables filled with hand made items and baked goods. We also have a candy table filled by each unit. A lunch will be served.

All counties are invited to join us Saturday, October 11, 2008 for the day long event.

The board voted to send our Pennies for Friendship to the water project in Swaziland. Last year our International guest speaker was Synthia Miller. She had traveled there and is soon to join our numbers as she is planning to make her home Pike County.

Ellie Maroon, our State President, attending our 69th annual meeting. Ken Bradbury was our entertainment so you know we had a great time. Our theme was "These are a few of my Favorite Things". Each table was decorated by our board members with collected items of favorites. We enjoy a fried chicken dinner with all the trimmings. The unit of the year award went to Milton/Pearl. The runner up for this title was Pittsfield Nite I. We also honored 25 year members and 60 year members.

Our new board members are Melba Foster, newsletter production, Rayola Daniel and Janet Gwartney, Co-chairs for International and Darlene Moore as our 2nd Vice Chairman.

We donated \$1,700.00 dollars the University of Illinois Foundation and received a thank you from them.

Our units write an article about what they have been doing and this quarter we had Fairmont unit dining out and a quick apple cake recipe. Day Crochet unit is 15 members strong and enjoying Beth Moore teaching techniques. Barry Nite has donated to Quanda and supporting Relay for Life. Hardin Day unit has been very busy. Each month they had lessons and refreshments at a different home. They auctioned off plants at the May meeting and doubled their treasury with this clever idea. The Day Quilters unit had done table runners, baby quilts and wall hangings. They have started a Block of the Month project. The Detroit unit met at members houses for their lessons and had a "bakeless" bake sale for monies donated to Unmet Needs in Pike County. The Barry Day added to

PIKE.....

Greetings from Pike County H.C.E.

Pike County Home and Community Education is continuing the quilt clubs, crocheting clubs and book club through the summer months.

The Christmas in October day is our annual fundraiser. Our theme is "Peace and Plenty in Pike County". It will be held at the Farm Bureau Hall on October 11th. Our units have made woven baskets and will fill the basket with \$30.00 of items and a raffle for the baskets will help

DISTRICT NEWS

their usual meeting and lesson by having a game of list of slogans to product identification. Sounds like fun.

Our International meeting this year will be held at the Farm Bureau Hall on September 18 at 6 P.M. We will be touring Russia by a slide presentation and enjoying the foods of that country.

A group of ladies traveled to St. Louis for the Art Museum's Missouri Quilter's exhibit. Cheryl Zimmerman took her 100 year young mother, Mrs. Frances Redd to the exhibit. All had a great time. Mrs. Redd was a Missouri Quilter when she was younger and still crochets many items in a year.

Pike County, Public Relations

SCOTT.....

The 40th Scott County Annual Meeting was held June 17 with 24 members and two guests attending.

Mary Lea Prentice, District 4 Director, installed the board members, following the tea party theme of the meeting.

Members were recognized for their perfect attendance.

Merna Wisdom, Board 2nd Vice President and Treasurer and also chairman of the Quilting Unit, talked about a display of quilts, old and new, that members brought for show and tell. Among them was Merna's quilt that received "Best of Show" at annual conference. Frances Brown, Family Issues Chairman, showed examples of Linus quilts that are given to children hospitals. This year the quilters made 140; 100 were given to a local hospital and 40 went to Linus headquarters for distribution.

After a potluck luncheon, members were entertained by the Sunshine Singers, a senior group from Jacksonville led by Mary Turner.

One of the on-going projects of Scott County HEA is the Quincy Veterans' Home. Members donated personal items and money to be sent to the home.

Jo Clough, Public Relations

TAZEWELL.....

Tazewell County Association for Home and Community Education celebrated its 90th annual meeting in style at the Ashland House in Morton.

Honored guests were Ellie Maroon, IAHCE President, and Mary Lea Prentice, District IV Director, both of whom offered words of praise, encouragement and humor.

Officers and directors were installed by Director Prentice. They included: President, Diane Scott; 1st Vice President, Ingrid Smith; 2nd Vice President, Jan Busche; Secretary, Doris Doughty; Treasurer, Rosemary Palmer; 4-H and Youth, Mary Jane Riley; Cultural Enrichment, Kate Schmitgall; Ways and Means, Rosemary Palmer; International, Karen Wiseman; Community Outreach, Lily Vermillion; Family Issues, Pauline Trainor; and Public Relations, Shirley Kelly.

The East Peoria Unit was named "Unit of the Year", and the traveling gavel was presented to the Gourmet Gals with 85 percent of its membership in attendance.

Long-time members honored were: Eunice Rowell, 61 years; Annalee Yordy, 60 years; Rose Hasty and Lois Stetzler, 55 years; and Marcella Nelson and Lu Essington, 50 years. Louise Lecocq of Washington IV has 56 consecutive years of perfect attendance.

Following a delicious lunch, Mr. Dave Breeden with his choral group from Morton High School entertained the members with some delightful numbers, both modern and oldies.

Shirley Kelly, Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT 5



Jane Wood, District Director

Wednesday, August 20, 2008, is Districts 4 & 5 fall workshop at the Decatur Hotel and Conference Center in Decatur. You should have received registration information already. I hope that each county in District 5 is well represented. The information you receive certainly helps County officers prepare for the coming year.

This spring I have enjoyed coming to your annual meetings and getting acquainted. As the year progresses, I hope that I will be able to visit those counties I have not yet visited. Be sure to let me know if I can be of any help to you and don't forget membership!

There are a few counties who have not included e-mail addresses with their officers lists. If officers have e-mail, please let me know.

Remember to share any information you received at the annual conference with any officers who are new to their position. The packets prepared by each state officer will certainly help new officers prepare for their time in office.

As indicated elsewhere in this newsletter, DeWitt County will be hosting a coffee welcoming the World President of ACWW, Ursula Goh of Malaysia, along with Louise Nichols, ACWW USA area President. What an honor for DeWitt County and Illinois. I do hope some of you will be able to attend, meet and hear these ladies. You will hear more about this at the fall workshop.

Continue to enjoy your "tea" and start fall with enthusiasm.

Jane Wood

CHAMPAIGN.....

Our annual meeting was held at Park Inn, Urbana on April 17, 2008. Since it was Cancer Awareness Month, members were asked to wear articles of pink clothing. We also had pink carnations on small white vases for our centerpieces. Our "Sea of Pink" made a beautiful room setting. There were 15 members plus 4 guests present. Guests were Marilyn Daughetee, retiring District 5 Director, Jane Wood, new District 5 Director, Joyce Hilgert, a non-member donating \$1000 for a well and Elinor Sinnott, 96 year old member of Mayview Unit for 76 years.

Our president, Elizabeth Michael, presented a framed special certificate to Joyce Hilgert for her donation. Jane Wood installed 2008-2009 officers. Joyce Hinshaw gave a highly entertaining program on bras, associating them with different religions.

The All County Meeting was on May 15, 2008 at the Methodist Church, Savoy. This meeting was a "Tea Party" using china cups and saucers brought by members. Hats and gloves were also worn by most people attending. This was a "fun" meeting. Our program was a style show put on by Dress Barn using board members for models.

May 30 and 31 found several members on a trip to Bear Creek Farms in Indiana. This trip was scheduled by our Activity Director, Dorothy Rogers. Great trips!

Work days have been set up to make more neck coolers and Linus quilts. Many neck coolers have been made but this will be our first attempt at Linus quilts.

Several of our board members will be attending the District 5 meeting on August 20 in Decatur

Millie Hoch, Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

EDGAR.....

The 4-H building in Paris was the recent site of a county wide HCE Tea Party contest. Each unit in Edgar County selected a theme and decorated their tea party table accordingly.

Party themes included: Wedding Shower, Mother's Day, Baby Shower, Valentine's Day, Easter, Sleep Over Birthday Party, St. Patrick's Day, 4th of July and Halloween.

Judges for the competition were Sharon Bailey and Jo Ellen Edmonds. The judges stated that the decision was not easy. All the tables were beautiful. Winners were: 1st place, Chrisman Nite; 2nd place, Mail Box; 3rd place, Redmon Night; and 4th place, Modern Homemakers.

While the judges were busy at their task, Jean McDaniel, long time secretary at the Edgar County Home Extension Office was honored with a gift of a crystal vase and many cards thanking her for her years of service. Jean is retiring and she will be greatly missed.

Edgar County HCE had well over 125 members and guests at the Lakeridge Christian Church in Paris, IL for their 71st annual meeting.

were antique. Ms. Gray attends many estate sales to obtain her linens and then designs a garment to show off their individual characteristics.

The annual business meeting followed the style show. In addition to regular business, Edgar County was congratulated for being selected "County of the Year" for the state of Illinois.

Jane Wood, District 5 Director, and Sharon Middleton, IAHCCE Public Relations Chairperson, were in attendance and brought their congratulations and best wishes for continued success in Edgar County. New officers were elected and installed. They are as follows: Nancy Harper, President; Penny Peterson, 1st Vice; Jamie McNulty, 2nd Vice; Gay Tegler, Secretary; Carol Halloran, Treasurer; Betty Calvert, Cultural Enrichment; Pat Brazelton, International; Vickie Hollingsworth, Community Outreach; April Morris, Family Issues; and Betty Porter, Public Information.

Chrisman Nite Unit conducted a touching memorial for members deceased over the past year.

As is at all Edgar County HCE activities, "A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL".

Betty Porter, Public Information

MACON.....

April 20, 2008, Macon County Home and Community Education celebrated their 90th Anniversary. The festivities were celebrated in the 4-H Building on the Macon County Fairgrounds. The decorations were fabulous and created by Carol Dilbeck and Carol Flitz of the Mt. Zion Unit. The theme was

As those gathered enjoyed a delicious meal, they were treated to a unique style show presented by Victoria Gray from St. Louis, Missouri. All of the garments modeled were made out of linens (napkins, hankies, tablecloths, curtains, etc.). Many of the linens used



Victoria Gray



Katelyn Ledford



Dorothy Farnham

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L-R, Standing: Barbara Hensley, Marilyn Olson, Judy Greene, Norma Sievers, Vivian Faulkner-King, Mary Kludas, Nancy Remmers, Janet Crandall, Louise Brewer, Betsy Wharton.
L-R, Seated: Vernetta Miller, Nancy Born, Elaine Dresback, Kay Kidd, Libby Glasgow

PIATT.....

Retiring and incoming board members and others met for a potluck lunch at our last meeting of the year. They are pictured below. We are winding down the fiscal year or better yet, we are going "Gung-Ho" into the next year.

We had our 78th Annual Meeting in April with Extension Specialist, Cammie Sequin speaking on "Developing a Winning Attitude". To set the mood, the group sang in unison, "Sunny Side of the Street". It was a beautiful spring day. Committees did their best to make this a very festive colorful event.

Our annual fundraiser at Farmers' Market in Monticello is underway. We are there every Thursday with baked goods

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and other items. We have our banner on display and new brochure to hand out. With many gardens under water for weeks, the vegetables we all look forward to may be slow coming in.

We have learned so much from the good programs we had this past year. This year we will be studying Belgium for our International lesson. "Apples", "Illinois Pioneers", "Don't Let a Fall be Your Last Trip", "Fruits & Vegetables", "Violence Across the Life Span" and "Purchasing Online" will be other lessons to look forward to.

Libby Glasgow, Public Relations

PRAIRIE.....

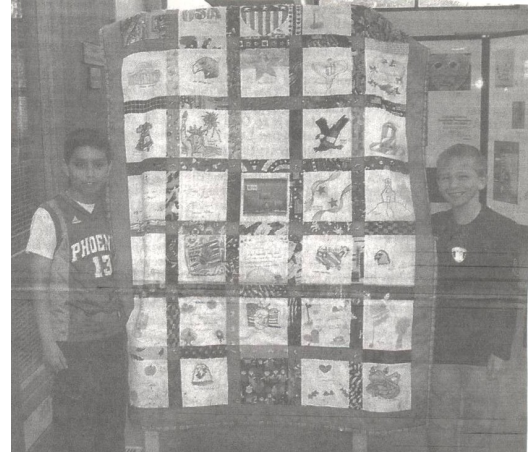
Happenings in Moultrie and Douglas Counties...

For you the reader, Moultrie and Douglas Counties make up, "Prairie Association of Home and Community Education". The name allows the two counties that were getting lost in the listing of county groups to continue being a viable group to IAHCCE. So it is hoped the future will allow all to have an understanding of Prairie Association which was developed when Moultrie and Douglas counties united.

Fun Day in Moultrie & Douglas counties found units providing a great selection of foods for area food pantries. Villa Grove located in Douglas county was part of the early spring flood. So, the wide range of items were greatly appreciated.

Equally important, Fun Day found those attending learning from coordinators from Linus project. They stated the program began when one of their husbands, who worked in the emergency room of a local hospital, ask his wife to make blankets he could give children in care. Also, some funeral homes have blankets for children who have lost immediate family members, classmates or teachers. Linus blankets are given to children who appear in court, classmates and friends of college students killed in central Illinois. Blankets went to New York during 9/11. The women also transported and hand delivered some 25,000 blankets following Katrina. For you who are interested in

Project Linus, you may contact Mary at ProjectLinus.org or



mchughes@insight.com

Afternoon speaker for Fun Day was the Button Lady from Stewardson, IL allowed all to note, buttons come in all sizes, shapes and made from many materials. She has been collecting buttons for many years. She notes buttons can be found in many places. Many end up in glass jars which we learned is bad as the jar damages many buttons.

Quilt Project 2007-2008 School Year found third grade students again creating quilts. Students had the choice of using American Holidays or a patriotic theme. All quilts but one were won by a third grader and the remaining one was won by a parent who has it on display. Some \$600 was returned to the schools.

Prairie Association of Home and Community Education held their 2008 Annual Meeting on April 10th at the Arthur Community Building. Theme for the evening continued from the State Conference, "Have a Cup of Tea

DISTRICT NEWS

with PAHCE". The room was decorated with a variety of tea pots and items needed to make a cup of tea. Included were recipes for tea cakes from a 1928 cookbook.

Following dinner, Denni Hubert, of Second Hand Rose, gave a very interesting program on antique jewelry.

The business meeting was conducted by Margaret Newberry, President. Memorial Moment was presented by Sarah Storm and Josephine Marnet. Members in Memoriam were Velma Browning, Beck Kanam, Dorothy Albers and Bernice Dowd.



New members were Edith Creek, Alice Nelson, Nancy Maxedon, Mary Daugherty and Cora Herschberger.

50 year members were Martha Burns, Janna Lue Baird and Angie Ward.

New officers were installed by Jane Wood, District 5 Director who also shared special advice for each officer using a special tea.

Door prizes were given using the centerpieces from the units.

Winona Saathoff



SHELBY.....

The program, "Five Wishes: Living Wills and Advance Directives for All Ages", was held at the Shelby County Senior Center on May 1st with 43 adults attending. These attendees were from the communities of Shelbyville, Cowden, Stewardston and Windsor.

The speaker was Dr. Kelly Armstrong, a clinical ethicist from the Clinical Ethics Center for Memorial Health System in Springfield, IL. Dr. Armstrong spoke about the need for advance directives to enable us to make our wishes



known when we are unable to speak due to health problems. She provided a handout booklet to enable all present to complete the necessary paperwork. Illinois does not require notarization for this paperwork. She also provided the attendees with her office number in case of any questions. Extra copies of this paperwork are available at the Shelby County Senior Center or at the Shelby County Extension Office.



This program was sponsored by the Shelby County Senior Center and the Shelby County Home Community and Education group. Debbie Borries, SCHCE board member, procured a grant from the IAHCE Support Fund to educate the community. Mary Beth Massey, Senior Center Director, helped sponsor and organize the event. A potluck was held prior to the meeting.

The Shelby County HCE had their annual meeting June 10th. Guest speaker was Esther Duncan, also known as "The Apron Lady," from Indiana. Esther spoke on the history of aprons and used two models to show how different styles have changed. Members brought aprons to show which were displayed on clotheslines and on tables.

Also shown were kitchen gadgets from back in that time. Esther spoke about each apron and remarked on what treasures in the aprons each of the members had - in memories and in heirlooms. During the business

DISTRICT NEWS



meeting, Debbie Borries announced that Shelby County won a Special Awards for Public Relations at the IAHCE Annual Conference for honoring Shelby County's

70th year with guest speaker Lola Bottrell. Debbie had constructed a booklet of pictures and excerpts from Lola's speech. She presented Lola with the booklet at the annual meeting.

Then and Now

From growing our food, to eating out
 From chopping wood, to turning the thermostat
 From sewing clothes and blankets
 To getting them "readymade" from the store.

Our old time skills wrought by necessity
 have become art - no needed anymore.
 Our lives have become so much easier,
 it's no wonder we're all fighting the fat.

DeWitt County HCEA - by Rosalie Summers

Missed getting into our "A Cup of Tea" with
 IAHCE poem booklet.

Barb Spencer

DISTRICT 6

Sandra Bechtold
 District Director

I hope to see you all at the IAHCE Fall Workshop.

We hope to be electing a new District 6 Director who will take over in March after the Conference. It has been a privilege to represent District 6 and all the counties. I just love going and seeing everyone and learning what you've been doing. I've said this time and time again, but the District Director job is the best position on the Board.

I've made it a goal to tell someone about HEA/HCE every chance I get and I hope you'll do the same. I'm so proud of each and everyone of you and proud to be a member of this organization. Bring your ideas to the Workshop and come join the sharing and caring with friends. Thank you all for inviting me to your counties. It sure has been fun. See you later.

Sandy

CLAY.....

The Clay County Homemakers Extension County Board met on March 7th at the Extension Building in Louisville, IL. for their monthly meeting. As Karen Winters had bypass surgery and was absent, Phyllis Hale, 1st Vice Chairman called the meeting to order. Reports by committee chairs were given and approved. We have 58 members in the county.

The State Conference at Effingham on March 11-13, 2008 was discussed with delegates, Shirley Van Dyke and Berenice Brown. Others were urged to attend. Besides those two, Eula Lewis attended. Many interesting shapshop items were brought back to the county.

Our annual county meeting was April 10th at the Farm Bureau Building with a catered meal. A speaker on "Storm Preparedness" was well accepted and enjoyed by 30 plus members.

New officers are Cultural Arts, Connie Wilson; Community Outreach, Shirley Kohut; and returning

DISTRICT NEWS

members for Membership, Elaine Todd; Secretary, Berenice Brown; Treasurer, Shirley Van Dyke; Chairman, Phyllis Hale; 1st Vice Chairman, Sara Richey; and Public Relations, Eula Lewis. They were installed by Sandy Bechtold for the coming year. Door prizes were awarded to several.

Several members prepared sandwiches and cookies for the Blood Drive on May 1st and helped otherwise as needed. The cookies left over were given to the 4-H Horse Show.

The District Meeting, August 21st, at Mt. Vernon will be attended by many of our board members.

The HEA will furnish pies for the Clay County Fair. They also are making plans for the Country Store on October 4th. Also, plans are being planed for other things to help the community throughout the year.

Eula M. Lewis, Public Relations

Madison.....

We had a very well attended annual meeting on April 21st. The board members did a great job in providing entertainment, a great luncheon, a cultural arts exhibit and silent auction. As a result of the annual meeting, the new, old and current board members met together on June 4th. President Marilyn Korte thanked the outgoing board members--Dorothy Smith, Dorothy Akins, Mary Kay Cullen, Arlene Burgess and Charlene Bandy for their hard work and dedication to moving MCAHCE forward. The incoming board members--Margo Crane, Wally Fisher, Gloria Hartmann, Cheryl Hackler and Shirley Plunk were welcomed to the board. We mourn the loss of Betty Jo Stutzman who was to be our 1st Vice. She passed away on May 5th. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family.

Madison, con't

We were sadden to hear of the passing of Leta Plocher who was 104 years old. Leta was vital in initiating the start of Madison County HCE. "She was instrumental in organizing the Homemakers in Madison County and served on the State Homemakers Board for three years. Long time friend and HCE member, Marilyn Korte, recalls

Leta's story of how she loaded her kids in the car and went door to door and up and down dirt roads to get enough women to sign on and establish Madison County Homemakers. In December 1936, her efforts paid off and Madison County Homemakers was chartered." (Buzz News, Marilyn Korte) Leta was active in many community activities including 4-H and was an avid quilter which included some 200 quilts for family, friends, church and organizations. What a shining example to all HCE members who has set the standard for perseverance, dedication and commitment to HCE!

Madison County HCE enjoyed a Fun Day at the Alton Holiday Inn with 51 members present. We saw "Lucy Goes Crusin" at the Dinner Theater. It was a delightful day. Also, Cindy Jones, 2nd Vice President, and all of the 2nd Vice Presidents of Madison County, gave a beautiful and enjoyable Victory Tea Membership Celebration. The food was delicious, the entertainment very enjoyable and the decorations made one feel very special. Cindy and her group did a wonderful job.

On October 28th, the board is sponsoring a Bow Making, Creative wrapping demonstration presented by Gloria Blechle of the Hamel Unit. Plans are being made for our International Day which will be announced shortly. Of course our Christmas in November is being planned for November 6th with the theme "Candy Cane Christmas".

In addition, items continue to be worked on and collected for the Linus Project, turbans for hospice, bed pads, lap robes, heel pads, stuffed bears for local hospitals, clothing, stamps, etc. Also, the membership is very dedicated to H.I.S. K.I.D.S. At the annual meeting the membership brought needed items for the H.I.S. K.I.D.S. summer camp and also cards of encouragement and good cheer for the kids once they are at camp. The ladies in Madison County continue to work on various projects that benefit the communities we live in as well as the global picture!

The MCHCE board members are looking forward to the district meeting in Mt. Vernon on August 21st. I want to thank Charlene Bandy for her work and dedication as the previous Public Relations Director.

Gloria Hartmann, Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

MONTGOMERY.....

The Montgomery County Association for Home and Community Education celebrated HCE Week March 23 through March 29. The Illinois Association for Home and Community Education is one of the largest volunteer organizations in the state. The aim is to improve the quality of life for individuals and the family. Montgomery County HCE has seven units with over 60 regular and...



DISTRICT 7

Treasa Brookman, District Director

mailbox members. Members not only belong to the county organization but also the Country Women's Council and the Associated Country Women of the World, an organization that monitors the problems occurring throughout the world.

On Sunday, March 23, members attended the church of their choice. Monday, March 24, members contacted or visited a friend. March 25, Tuesday, members ate at Taylor and Soapes in Mt. Olive with some members going

Montgomery, can't to Lakeview Nursery and Landscaping, Mt. Olive, and The Briar Rose in Litchfield. Wednesday, March 26, members ate at the Country Inn in Fillmore and toured the Fillmore Museum.

Thursday, March 27, was the annual salad supper to honor new members. New member this year was Gloria Walcher of the Live Wives unit. The salad supper was held at the large meeting room of the Montgomery County Extension Office in Hillsboro. The theme was "Have a Cup of Tea with MCHCE". The New Hope unit provided name tags, the Butler Grove unit made table favors and the Coffeen unit cleaned up. C. J. Liddell, District Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service,

presented the program on preserving our natural resources. He discussed tree planting and types of trees.

Friday, March 28, members ate at the Hillsboro Country Club, went to The Treasure Chest in Coffeen and The Loose Caboose in Donnellson to see crafts and antiques. Saturday, March 29, was unit's choice.

Mary Reynolds, Public Relations

Greetings from the South!

Since Annual conference I have driven 1207 miles and visited 13 counties and have 6 more to go. Those I missed, invite me to one of your Fall events. I really enjoy visiting counties, visiting with your members and learning about you.

We had an enjoyable mini-district meeting on May 19th with 13 counties attending. At these we exchange ideas, programs and this time we discussed the time line for Lesson for Living. Joy Richey, Franklin County Extension Director, joined us and helped us understand the process more. First Vice presidents need to contact your unit leaders after Fall Meetings and chose programs for the next year. Nympha White will let us know when we need program ideas to her for the following year. It's an on-going process.

Send me your ideas for Annual Conference Share Shops ASAP. I need to have them all signed up by Oct. 1st. So far, I have some neat ideas. Hope you like them.
tbrook@hamiltoncom.net

Treasa Brookman

JEFFERSON.....

April was a busy month for many, what with playing April Fool jokes and making sure their taxes were filed. In Jefferson County, our Past Presidents met to choose a young person to be the recipient of the Jefferson County

DISTRICT NEWS

Jefferson, con't

prizes given. One week after our annual meeting, three Jefferson County Board members (plus District 7 Director, Treasa) attended the District 7 meeting in Benton where we were pleased to see our IAHCCE President, Ellie Maroon, also in attendance. Later that week donated items were put into the 'Goody Bags'. 66 completed bags were then delivered to C.A.S.A in Jefferson County. WOW! What a month!

June brought the old and the new together at our County Board meeting which consisted of the previous board members and the newly elected, incoming members. We also honored our Fathers.

July will be host to the Jefferson County 4-H Fair starting with the general project show on the 18th being held in the Times Square Mall. The outdoor portion of the fair will run from Sunday, the 20th thru Saturday, the 26th. The outdoor portion includes all livestock shows, bicycle judging, tractor driving contest, crop judging, 'animal dress-up' parade and fun night, livestock auction and of course, fairgrounds clean up and last but not least the horse show.

If all of this wasn't enough, our Community Outreach Chairman, Imogene Lamezyk, has been very busy working on and encouraging others to help make 'Linus Blankets'.

My mother always said, "No rest for the wicked and the tame don't need it!" Umm, I wonder were do I fit in?

Marge Wilcox, Public Relations

PERRY.....

Perry County Homemakers Education Association held their annual meeting on April 24, 2008 at the Sunfield Methodist Church. The theme was "Celebrating 60 Years". Special guests were Treasa Brookman, District 7 Director, Angela and Adam Epplin, 2007 scholarship winners, past presidents of Home Bureau, Perry County Homemakers Extension Association and Perry County Homemakers Education Association. Larry Paszkiewicz,

County Unit Leader, was present and gave an update on the status of the University of Illinois Extension program.

District Director, Treasa Brookman, spoke about increasing membership and about the other organizations that are tied to Illinois Association of Home and Community Education.

Rhonda Shubert, Community Worker, then showed a slide presentation in honor of the living and deceased presidents who served the organization. Many memories were recalled. Jane Chapman presented purple carnations and past-president pins to:



L-R: Jean Ibendahl, Frances Milam, Sherry Fisher, Anne Tabing, Minerva Ruppert, Irene Dixon, Mary Ann Radake, Susan Epplin, Liz Wynn, Sue Kuhnert, Betty Brostmeyer and Rita Stewart. Lily Tanner, a future member, assisted her grandma.

A county-wide LFL on "Meth" was presented by the Illinois State Police in May. June 23rd will be an officers training and share shop. Individuals will help at the 4-H shows with judging and supervising. Jessica Bathon and Adam Epplin won the HEA scholarships to help defray college costs. Six scholarship applications were forwarded

to the state committee for consideration.

Perry County is gearing up for the coming year by announcing plans to walk around Perry County. It is 86 miles around the borders of Perry County and the members will track their miles to see how many virtual miles they can walk in one year.

Carolyn Bathon, Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

PULASKI-ALEXANDER.....

Pulaski-Alexander County ladies have been blessed this year by growing and glowing. After installing new officers at our April Meeting with our District Director, Treasa Brookman, present, we hit the ground running. We had received the Membership Award at the Annual Conference in March and learned lots of new ideas to try for our two units. Several of our officers and members are new to HCE and are attempting to "get it all together." Our new Cultural Enrichment Director, Teresa Althoff, has had us involved in the Linus Project collecting and distributing blankets, and is getting our CVU hours compiled in a timely manner. Our Scholarship Committee, chaired by Betty Lou Shumaker, a retired teacher, did a marvelous job getting graduating seniors from the three high schools in our area to apply. Designing and fairly judging the applicants was done professionally, and our two winners were very deserving. They not only had good grades and turned in a neat application, but they are also very active in school, community, and church activities. We were proud to present our first two \$250 scholarships and have already had a bake sale to start saving for next year. Our president and first-vice president attended the school awards night and gave the girls, Jamie Jordan of Dongola and Nicki Ellis of Karnak checks, Certificates and flowers.

We participated in the letter-writing campaign to push for a new budget to give U of I Extension and 4-H a financial future. There were some tense days in anticipation of the governor's and state legislators' activities in Springfield. But good news came in the end.

Our president, Suzanna Jordan, was happy to accept more than three hundred children's books at Century Grade School. A student with a big heart, Daniel Watson, told his parents he wanted to give his used books to children who didn't have any. His idea turned into a school project which resulted in 1200 books



being turned in by the students. Each student could then take three back home. (Daniel's mom, Jane is pictured, also.) The rest of the books were given to HCE to distribute thru the American Red Cross and other areas of need in our counties.



Celebrate Youth was held at Shawnee Community College again this year, sponsored by the college, IL 4-H, and U of I Extension. Our president, Suzanna, taught Sign Language as one of the sessions for the 571 7th graders from our 5 counties.

Training for all county board members and unit officers was held after the June 2nd Board Meeting. Duties and Guidelines of each office-holder were handed out along with the "Dates for Reference" and "Where and When to Send It" forms. 2nd Vice President Betty Shumaker did an outstanding job of leading this training.

On May 23rd several ladies arrived at 8 a.m. at the Mound City National Cemetery to help place 8400+ American flags on graves for the Memorial Day Service held on Saturday, May 24th. It is a beautiful sight to see every year. For their June meeting, the Shawnee Unit visited the National Cemetery to learn how they can get involved with the Preservation Committee as they improve and enlarge the area used for military burial and care for the restored care keeper's lodge. A very informative DVD is available from the committee which shows the importance of the southernmost parts of Illinois during the Civil War along the 2 rivers. What an amazing story. Any county HCE group within driving distance should take advantage of this treasure.

Our newest member, Amy Kerr, has volunteered to make our quilt square to be added to the quilt raffled off at Craft Camp in September. That is an example of the willingness of our members to give and participate.

Beginning in July, our units are collecting various items needed at Southern IL Pet Society. The list includes used plastic bottles, which are filled with water and frozen for the animals' water buckets or to play with in their pens in

the hot weather. We are also collecting large plastic cans, like coffee cans which make nice water buckets to be tied to the cages. Recyclable items and papers for shredding are some of the other needs.

On July 19th, our ladies will again serve lunch at Shawnee College for the 4-H show. Our walking tacos are always a favorite. August brings the HCE and 4-H potluck which gives our units an opportunity to meet and greet the families of 4-H.

September 24th will be a "What's It Worth?" luncheon at the old Grand Chain Grade School. This is the local way to do an "Antique Roadshow" in our area on a smaller basis. WPSD-TV has a news crew, local personality and antique expert to estimate the worth of items brought to the event by HCE members, guest and public. A salad luncheon will be available. Donations will be accepted at the event.

Suzanna Jordan

SALINE.....

Summer is quickly passing. It is 4-H Fair time. All animal species to be shown will be charged an entry fee this year with payment at entry time. It is always exciting to go out to judge the animals the youngsters have cared for. They are so proud and not only animals, but all the art work, clothing, paintings and gardening. Its amazing to see. This is a great past time and education for children. Saline County Fair Grandstand was destroyed by a wind storm last fall. We are fortunate to get it rebuilt. I have noticed some of the funds and tax money has been cut so there may not be a County Fair to go and visit your community neighbor and friends.



County craft are still making a lot of neck coolers and sending to the service personnel in Iraq . County craft has been re-weaving lawn chairs where the plastic broke, making lap throws and walker caddies for shut-ins or nursing home patients. The caddies have six or eight pockets in them to hold phones, kleenex, cookies, apples, candies or any food from the kitchen or from visitors.

The County cooked three days last week at the Soup Kitchen. It seems there are a lot of needy, hungry people.

The committees are busy getting vendors, demonstrators and entertainment for the Past to Present. Don't forget the Past to Present, September 27 and 28; a Saturday and Sunday at the Saline County Fairgrounds with lots of FOOD and FUN!

Georgia Murphy, Public Relationship

WASHINGTON.....

Washington County Home community Education Association held it's 61st Annual Meeting at Hoyleton Community Club Building. The theme was "Have a Cup of Tea with Me". A buffet meal was served and a silent auction was held. Treasa Brookman, District Director, installed the officers using the theme of different teas.

Two members were recognized for their poems which were printed in the state booklet. A transition meeting was held for the retiring officers and the new officers.

Forty ladies enjoyed a historic hill tour of St. Louis, MO with a step on tour guide, Joe Degregorio, telling interesting stories of the area. A ravioli making demonstration was shown at Mama Toscano's , a tour with a mini concert at St. Ambrose Church, view of homes on the Hall of Fame Sports History tour and lunch at famous "Zia's and Bakery" tour was enjoyed.

A unit has been formed of residents of Friendship Manor Nursing Home, "Young at Heart Activists" meets with other unit members each month. Planting flowers,



singing and other activities are enjoyed by the residents.

HCE members worked at a cake raffle stand at the Relay for Life Day at Nashville, IL. A display of HCE events was displayed and brochures were handed out to visitors.

"Hearts" is the theme for the Southern Illinois Craft Camp at Du Bois, IL, September 9-11th. Washington County Day is September 9th. Members of Evening Belle designed and embroidered a quilt block for the quilt to be raffled there.

Our Community Outreach Chairman is filling requests for Linus blankets for which are made in Nashville, IL for hospitals, Hoyleton Children's Home and firemen's and ambulance calls.

Belgium is the country chosen for the coming year as our country for study in HCE.



Washington Members Attend State Conference

L-R Standing - Winona Huckshold, Bernice Hemminghaus and Sue Miller

L-R Seated - Norma Stone, Felicity Rixmann, Jan Endres, Marietta Dahncke

Adeline Blumhorst, Public Relations

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ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR HOME & COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Sharon Middleton
Public Relations Director
1190 Chelsea Way
Decatur, IL 62526

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