



The Acorn

Announcements

Adams County HCE Newsletter



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Adams County wins at State Conference

Thank you Adams County HCE Units for all your community activities that made it possible for Adams County to place as number 4 in the State of Illinois for the second year in a row in the County of the Year competition. Your Co-Presidents just filled out the application and gathered the supporting materials; the units did the work that was recognized at the State Conference. Activities from several units: supplying guitar lessons for a veteran, sponsoring a student for a year in a weekend backpack food program were mentioned in President, Jane Chapman's remarks. Please continue to share your activities with the District Directors to make it easier next year to document Adams County's achievements.

Adams County also received the Education Award in Family and Community Affairs for the Flag Etiquette and Patriotism articles in the Acorn and our activities in support of area veterans. Thank you for enthusiastically helping to support this theme. Veteran activities continue to be part of the 2017 – 2018 suggested theme. The books that were submitted for each of these honors will be available for review at the annual meeting.

Congratulations to Susan Sprague for the education win in the Cultural Enrichment category for the Halloween door decoration session.

Right: HCE. 5H Day display made by Heather with information from Linda Duncan. Displayed at Illinois Association of HCE Conference. Very nice representation of Adams County HCE.



2017 Adams Co. Annual Meeting

Plans are being finalized for our 2017 Annual Business Meeting and banquet on Tuesday, April 25th at 6 PM at the Paloma Community Building. Doors will open at 5:15PM. Tickets are \$13 and are available at your unit meetings. Be sure to get yours. Unit Presidents please notify Melba Funk, Board Treasurer or your District Director of the number of ticket sales from your unit by Monday, April 17th. Kathy Neisen will be our caterer and her menu promises to appeal to all.

District 4 Director, Mary Eustace will be joining us once again for installation of new county officers (and to take home the rubber chicken!). We'll have a guest, Virginia Sharrow, sharing her Philippine heritage, the Illinois 2017 International Country of the Year. Scholarship winners will be announced, top volunteers and walkers will be revealed and you could take home an opportunity basket while supporting the Adams Co. scholarship fund. Mark your calendars for a night "Down by the Riverside".

Unity Nite will be the decorators this year. They have some creative ideas in keeping with the theme. Thank you to the Paloma Unit for again conducting the basket raffle. Tickets will be available for \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The organizers request that you do not bring large bills (\$50 or \$100) as they will not have change. Just as a reminder, each unit or special interest group is asked to furnish one or more raffle baskets. Our baskets have always been creative and great temptations.

Come "Down by the Riverside" in Paloma on Tuesday, April 25th and celebrate HCE in Adams County. (See invitation on page 3.)

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ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Affiliate of Associated Country Women of the World



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March 21, 2017

Dear District 4 County President and Board Members;

The IAHCCE Board would like to thank those of you who attended the 93rd IAHCCE Annual Conference! Interesting facts: 305 members from 59 counties attended the conference. The IAHCCE Board would also like to thank those of you who volunteered and/or donated table decoration money. The table decorations were well received and we plan to do them again next year! It is participation that makes the conference successful, both by the members and by the Board. The conference will be held in Effingham next year, so encourage all of your members to join us.

Let's welcome the new officers and/or officers in new positions – 1st VP, Sharon Middleton; CVH/Sales, Ashley Davis and returning to Treasurer, Beverly Combs and returning to PR/Newsletter Editor, Pat Hildebrand. We would also like to thank, Norma Korte and Joan Stanley for their dedication and service to IAHCCE.

Caitlin Huth, U of I Extension Liaison, reported that the 2016 Certified Volunteer Hours as reported by the counties totaled 581,966. These hours are worth \$23.56 which amounts to a total worth this last year as a whopping \$13,711,118.96. Congratulations to all who turned in their volunteer hours.

State T-shirts are available for purchase. Sizes are small, Med, large, X large, 2X large and 3 X large. They are purple with the state logo in white printed on the front or back. Please send name, size, logo placement (front or back), district number & county with a check for \$15. Payable to IAHCCE by July 7th to: Janel Kassing, 328 S. Main Street, Red Bud, IL 62278. The T-shirts will be delivered at your District Workshop in August.

The Support Fund Advisory Committee would like to encourage your County to apply. Forms are on pages 63 and 64 of our IAHCCE Guide Book or on the website. Applications are due June 1, 2017

Announcement: Eleanor Gregory of Madison County and Mary Johnson of Sangamon County will represent IAHCCE in the International Member Exchange to Estonia September 28 – October 20, 2017. After their return, they will be available to give presentations about their trip to IAHCCE county organizations. Host homes are needed for 2-3 days for the International Homemaker Exchange participant, Sara Kenny, from western Australia in March 2018. October 1, 2017 is the deadline for host applications. See page 41 of the IAHCCE Guidebook.

August 9, 2017 District 4 & 5 Workshop will be at Southern View Chapel, 4500 S. Second St., Springfield, IL. Please encourage participation as we have lots of information & fun for our members. I will be taking the reservations this year at \$20 per person. Adams County as agreed to furnish breakfast muffins, breads and rolls along with Pike Co for the August Workshop. Thank you Adams Co.

Also, please continue to add membership to your county. Ask a friend! Looking forward to seeing you at your Annual Meetings and installing officers. Laughter is the BEST medicine – enjoy each day!

Sincerely,

Mary Eustace,
IAHCCE District 4 Director

P.S. District 5 has agreed to take care of Table Decorations and Adams Co and Pike Co will be supplying breakfast pastries for our August Workshop!

INVITATION TO A PICNIC!!!

Adams County HCE 54th Annual Business Meeting and Banquet

All Adams County HCE Members:

You are all invited to join us "Down by the Riverside" for a fantabulous event filled with food, fun, fanfare, and frivolity--the Annual Business Meeting and Banquet.

Where: the Paloma Community Building, Paloma, Illinois

When: April 25, 2017. Doors open at 5:15 p.m. and dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Cost: \$13.00

Menu: Kathy Neisen will cater a faultless feast: pork chops, au gratin potatoes, green beans and cherry or apple crumb pie.

Program Highlights:

- Featured speaker Virginia Sharrow focusing on fascinating facts from the far-off Philippines.
- Fanfare for formidable scholarship winners.
- Farewell to outgoing Adams County Board members and a fervent welcome to the new.
- A finale of individual and unit award winners and fortuitous raffle and basket winners.

To be frank, we want you ALL to join us "Down by the Riverside" and fraternize with us HCE folks.

So don't be a fuddy-duddy or a fence sitter. Come! It's gonna be a fabulous picnic, red check tablecloths and all.

Tickets will be available at your March Unit meetings. Send money and all unsold tickets to the County Treasurer, Melba Funk or your District Representative no later than April 17th. If you need tickets earlier for your meeting in March, call Mary Ann Peter and she will mail them to the unit president.

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The Oak Leaf

The purpose of this column is to recognize and highlight the many contributions of Adams County HCE members in our communities, along with the fun and unique activities or events by the units.

- The Chatton unit celebrated their 70th Anniversary on Thursday, March 23. A full article will be included in the May Acorn Newsletter.

Does your unit do any special recognitions or activities? Please let us know and we will highlight it here.

2016 County Volunteer Hours (CVHs) for Adams County.

We proudly accepted two awards for leading volunteerism in District 4 during the 93rd Annual State Conference held March 14-16 in East Peoria. These awards will be on display at our annual banquet to be held on April 25 in the Paloma Community Building. Hopefully there will be no rubber chicken for Adams County again this year!

During conference it was stated that volunteer hours are currently valued at \$23.56 per hour. That amounted to \$13,711,118.96 value for the state-wide volunteer efforts. Adams County reported 17,294 hours a total value of \$407,446.64. The top five individual county volunteers contributed the following:

Connie Bealor – Unity Nite	874 hours	\$20,591.44
Mary Ann Peter – Unity Nite	728 hours	\$17,151.68
Gena Mintle -- Paloma	680 hours	\$16,020.80
Cheryl Drew – Quinsippi	667 hours	\$15,714.52
Dana Haxel -- Paloma	600 hours	\$14,136.00

Congratulations to all HCE members for your volunteer contributions you make in our communities!

REMINDER ... reporting CVHs in 2017 will continue to be the same -- separated between HCE Hours and Other Community Hours. It is highly encouraged for unit recorders to gather hours each month. Our goal for 2017 is to have 80% reporting!

New Family & Community Issues Theme

Sharon Davis, the Illinois Family and Community Issues Director announced her new education themes that will run from April, 2017 through March, 2018 to be:

- Helping military families and veterans. Learning what issues affect them and their families. Many of us in Adams Co. can continue to support Veterans, as we have over the past two years.
- Law Enforcement. To start showing them respect and appreciation for what they do.
- First Responders (Fire Departments and EMTs) The same as Law Enforcement.

I encourage our Adams Co. Units to consider how they can support Law Enforcement officers, First Responders and the Military and veterans in our areas. Just sending snacks or a baked treat to the fire house with a note of thanks would be appreciated. More information will be shared in upcoming Acorns.

Walk Around Adams County 2016 Challenge Final Results

“Do you want to continue this challenge in 2017?” Based on 2016 (January-December) membership reporting we went from 175 to 156 ... of the membership only 28 people participated in the challenge. See you at the annual banquet, April 25 in Paloma to recognize the Platinum & Gold members.



REMINDER ...

Leslie is accepting photos, press clippings, reports, etc of YOUR unit activities and events for the Adams County scrapbook. Please send information to Leslie Geschwandner, leslie.geschwandner@gmail.com



Things to Do..... Places to Go!

HCE Book Club

The April book for discussion is *Slow Dollar* by Margaret Maron. Mary Voorhis will be discussion leader.

The Book Club meets at 11 a.m. Wednesday, April 19, 2017 at Daylight Donuts (48th & Bdwy).

Description: This is the 9th book in the Deborah Knott mystery series. The continuing story of Judge Deborah Knott, who lives in Colleton County, North Carolina, tells the reader about a ragtag carnival that comes to Colleton County. In carny lingo — a quick dime’s better than a *Slow Dollar*. When a murder takes place at the carnival, Deborah discovers more than a dead body. Is the death related to money, or grievances fostered in the “carny family?” Before any progress can be made on the murder, she must struggle to win a carny’s trust to find the killer.

Anyone who loves to read is welcome at the book club. We have many opinions about the author and the books. For information, contact: Mary Voorhis 217-224-0084.

Lesson for Living

Protecting Yourself from Scams

Minor Lesson: Understanding Sunscreen Codes
 April 18, 10:00 a.m. the Farm Bureau Basement.
 To be presented at your May meeting.

HCE Card & Game Club Meeting



Come out and play cards and games! Mark your calendar and attend the next HCE Card & Game Club meeting on Wednesday, Apr 26 (White Elephant Bingo, bring a prize to donate) at 11:00 a.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement. Lunch will be available – pulled pork, chips, mac & cheese, green bean casserole, and Texas sheet cake. In addition, prizes will be awarded. There is a nominal admission fee. For reservations, contact either Camie Hempelman, 217-577-5293, or Sharon Beedle, 217-224-0709. The public is welcome to attend.

The HCE Quilt League

On February 25 at Farm & Home Supply in Quincy, Illinois the Adams County HCE Quilt League, Beginning to End, had their next Quilt of Valor on display (right).

Nancy Aden will show how to make a scrap quilt on April 12th and Norma Flesner and Betty Golden will do the Stack and Wack lesson on May 10th.

The Quilt League meets on the second Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement



Dates to Remember

April

11	Board Meeting	9:30 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
12	Quilt League	9:00 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
18	Lesson for Living: Protecting Yourself from Scams	10:00 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
19	Book Club	11:00 AM	Daylight Donuts (48th & Broadway)
25	Adams County 54th Annual Meeting/Dinner Paloma, IL (Doors open at 5:30). (See invitation on Page 3)	6:00 PM	Paloma Community Building

May

9	Board Meeting	9:30 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
10	Quilt League	9:00 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
17	Book Club	11:00 AM	Daylight Donuts (48th & Broadway)
18	County-wide Annual Salad Luncheon	11:30 AM	Farm Bureau Basement

Botanical Gardens Bus Trip

HCE Members and friends enjoyed a bus trip on March 25 to the Botanical Gardens in St. Louis. It was an overcast day, but the rain held off until after we were heading home. Thank you to Amy Looten for organizing a fun day. And, thank you to everyone who has shared photos for this issue.



