



# The Acorn

## Newsletter

### Adams County HCE Newsletter

#### 2016-17 ACHCE Board

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##### Linda Chezem, Acorn Newsletter

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After having such a mild winter, it seems almost unnecessary to look forward to spring's coming in March. We just wonder if we're going to have a hot summer!

Your two presidents are busy getting ready to go to state conference in mid-March. We have been busy putting together the documentations of all of Adams County activities in 2016 and putting it all in a notebook that we have been asked to bring with us when we go to conference. There will be 5 board members attending the conference and hopefully we'll come back with all kinds of ideas.

Some of the things we discovered doing this research for the community outreach report to the state was that our units do some unique projects that are of great service to the communities in the county. We urge the units to report these activities by submitting articles for the Oak Leaf column in the Acorn and also letting your district director know about the activities and they will share with the county board. If this is done in 2017 we will have a glowing report to turn in to the state president.

We want to thank all of the members who helped with the Applebee's Flapjack Breakfast by organizing it, buying and selling tickets, volunteering at the event or coming to the event with your family and friends.

A committee will be reviewing all of the scholarship applications that have been received by March 1 to give to students going to college.

Plans are under way for the annual meeting in April at the Paloma Community Building. The cost of the dinner is \$13 and the tickets will be available at your March unit meeting. We will have a speaker telling us about the Philippines and wonderful baskets from all of the units. The money raised in this basket raffle will be going to the scholarship fund for next year.

*Heather Ator and Judy Milfs, ACHCE Co-Presidents*



*Photo of volunteers before our fundraiser supports arrived. Other people did volunteer during the 2-hour event.*

#### Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser

Adams County HCE 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser was held on February 25. Proceeds from the Flapjack Breakfast netted \$892. We served 138 friends and members of HCE. Funds are kept in our treasury to supplement Scholarships and our support of the Extension programs in Adams County. They are available for other projects as determined by the board.

## We have the bus for our Road Trip!!!

Yes! We have enough reservations to get the bus for the trip to the Missouri Botanical Garden on March 25. Thank you to everyone who has registered and sent in their payments. Registration and payment was due by February 28. If you missed the deadline, a limited number of seats are still available. Contact Amy Looten, 2124 N. Wilmar Drive, Quincy IL 62301 or call Amy at 217-242-9980 if you have any questions. This should be a fun spring outing. See you on Saturday, March 25.



## HCE Bus Trip to MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

### Saturday March 25

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

\$53/person

8:00—**Depart from Lowe's Parking Lot**, 6030 Broadway

10:30—Arrive at Missouri Botanical Garden

10:45—**Private Tour of the Gardens**—One of the knowledgeable Garden Guides will introduce our HCE ladies to the Missouri Botanical Garden. We will learn its history and see their featured gardens and conservatories. Walking distance is approximately 1.5 miles. Japanese Gardens included.

12:45—**Lunch at the Sassafras Café**. We will grab a light meal or a quick snack, Dutch treat. Seasonal menus include delicious Garden-themed salads, sandwiches, soups, and snacks, with daily specials.

1:30—**Orchid Show**. This annual show offers visitors a once-a-year opportunity to see a rotating display of hundreds of orchids from the Garden's expansive permanent living collection amid a tropical oasis inside the Orthwein Floral Display Hall.

2:00—**Visit the gift shop**.

2:30—**Load buses for home**.





## 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.

- Last month we highlighted an activity the Quinsippi Unit has at each meeting. Unit President, Debbie Cramsey highlights a special "This Day" with information and provides treats or handouts. If you would like to do this too, or are just curious about what to celebrate each day, one of the websites that Debbie uses is: <http://www.nationaldaycalendar.com>.
- The Sunshine Girls have decided to furnish cupcakes for St. Patrick's day in March to the Alzheimer's unit at North Adams nursing home.
- The Tumbleweed unit will be hosting a Stanley party in April plus they will be bringing stuffed animals to the April meeting to be distributed to the Alzheimer unit at North Adams nursing home. The Tumbleweeds decided to do this for their community project.
- The Quilt League participated in the Farm & Home Show on February 24-26 at the Farm & Home Supply on East Broadway. The show includes farm related exhibits from all over Adams county. The Quilt League laid out the new quilt of valor blocks and spent many hours hand quilting another quilt which Rosalie Post had set up on quilt racks.

Thank you for all the amazing ways HCE contributes to the wellbeing of Adams County. Does your unit do any special recognitions or activities? Please let us know and we will highlight it here.

## HCE Book Club

The Adams County HCE Book Club met on Wednesday, February 15, at the 48<sup>th</sup> & Broadway Daylight Donut to discuss the book, *3<sup>RD</sup> DEGREE*, written by James Patterson and Andrew Cross. Our discussion leaders were Ginny Miller and Lucille Churchwell both from the Quinsippi Unit



(Front L-R) Nancy Kleiboeker, Juanita Moss, Lois Schneider, Eunice Robinette, Donna Wilson  
(Rear L-R) Camie Hempelman, Mary Voorhis, Diana Dabney, Leslie Geschwandner, Sharon Reinberg, Ginny Miller, and Lucille Churchwell. Not pictured was Debbie Cramsey.

The March book for discussion is *Elizabeth is Missing* by Emma Heasley. The discussion leaders will be Camie Hempelman and Donna Wilson. The Book Club meets at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at Daylight Donuts (48th & Broadway).

**Description:** In this darkly riveting debut novel, a sophisticated psychological mystery, one woman will stop at nothing to find her best friend. Maud suffers from dementia, but she has a growing anxiety about her best friend, Elizabeth. Even with the dementia, Maud, cannot forget her best friend. Armed with an overwhelming feeling that Elizabeth needs her help, Maud resolves to discover the truth — no matter what it takes. Since no one believes Maud — the police, or Elizabeth's son — she has an uphill struggle to convince anyone of her friends absence.

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

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Anyone who loves to read is welcome at the book club. There are currently 25 members of the HCE Book. The group meets from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at Daylight Donut. For information, contact: Mary Voorhis 217-224-0084.



## INVITATION TO A PICNIC!!!

### Adams County HCE 54<sup>th</sup> 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 17<sup>th</sup>. If you need tickets earlier for your meeting in March, call Mary Ann Peter and she will mail them to the unit president.

Melba Funk  
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# Things to Do..... Places to Go!

## 2016 Family and Community Issues Reports

### Adams County Volunteer Hours

Our 2016 Adams County Volunteer Hours (CVHs) total was 17,294 hours (5,867 HCE/11,427 Other Community), down from last year. We totaled 17,294 hours with only 79% of our membership reporting. Individual totals will be recognized at our 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner Meeting scheduled on April 25 at the Paloma Community Building. The members of Adams County HCE reporting made contributions to their local schools, churches, and non-profit organizations. A thank you is extended to the following individuals who had a part in unit reporting to ensure it was accomplished by due date: Alice Rakers, Charlotte Green, Carol Lewis, Joyce Dietrich, Marge Shank, Sharon Frese, Pat Lawber, Paula Baker, Eunice Robinette, Linda Duncan, Heather Ator, and Debbie Cramsey. A reminder that CVHs in 2017 reporting will continue to be 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!

### Walk Around Adams County 2017 Challenge ....

If you did not participate in 2016...2017 can be your year!



Please consider recording your activity. Did you take advantage of the break in our weather patterns for February and get out for a bike, walk, or run? Have you become a regular at the KROC Center or YMCA? How is your math? Are you able to figure out mileage from your pedometer steps or equivalents?

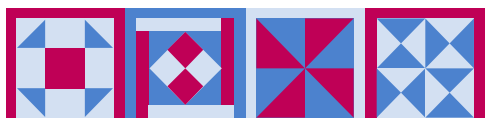
Just in case you have not, here is water activity example ... Water jogging class yields 242 steps per minute ... your class was 30 mins (multiply steps per minute by 30 minutes) and then divide by 2,100 (1 mile = 2,100 steps).  $242 \times 30 \text{ mins} = 7,260$  divided by 2,100 = 3.46 miles in 30 minutes. Record your activity in this manner all year and at the end of the year you can celebrate your accomplishments, who knows...you may even come in 1<sup>st</sup> place with the most mileage!

### The HCE Quilt League

The HCE Quilt League members have completed 30 red, white and blue quilt squares for their next Quilt of Valor.

Each month one of our members demonstrates the next block of the month design for our sampler quilts. Our blocks have names like Magic Triangles and Double X. Or perhaps you would like to learn how to "Stack and Wack" your scraps into a beautiful quilt.

The next Quilt League meeting is March 8<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement with Ginny Miller presenting our next block of the month demonstration.



### 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](mailto:leslie.geschwandner@gmail.com)

### HCE Card & Game Club Meeting



Do you like to play cards and games? If you do, mark your calendar and plan attend the next HCE Card & Game Club meeting on March 22 at 11:00 a.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement. Lunch will be available – pork tenderloin, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, toss salad, and pie. In addition, prizes will be awarded. For reservations, contact either Camie Hempelman, 217-577-5293, or Sharon Beedle, 217-224-0709. The public is welcome.

**PENNIES FOR FRIENDSHIP** is due by March 31 for the 2016-2017 year. Please send to treasurer Melba Funk, 2742 N 230 Ave, Liberty, IL 62347. Country Women of the World projects are funded by our gifts of Pennies.



# More Things to Do..... Places to Go!

## What do you think of a block party to be held on Saturday, May 6, 2017?

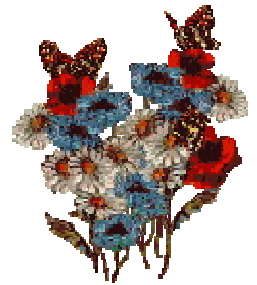


This date is on Saturday after the Dogwood Parade. Mary Voorhis brought up this suggestion for the Adams County Units. A suggested time is 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Camie Hempelman has offered her home location for a block party. Are you interested in doing a block party? Some ideas were to have food, sell used books, white elephant items---one person's junk is another person's treasure--used clothes, toys, etc. Any ideas for the party are welcome and appreciated. This could be a good way for HCE to have their name in the public eye, and encourage new members to join our organization. Please contact Mary Voorhis, 217-224-0084 if you are interested or have suggestions.



## Lesson for Living

### Attracting Butterflies to your Garden



Minor Lesson: Spring Cleaning Aids  
March 21, 6:30-7:30 p.m. in the Farm Bureau Basement.

To be presented at your April meeting

Kari Houle, Extension Educator - Horticulture, will discuss the types of flowers you should be planting to attract butterflies to your garden this summer.

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## Cultural Enrichment project

The next Cultural Enrichment project will be on March 29th at 1:30 in the Farm Bureau Basement. Cost is \$1.00. Please bring scissors. Guest are welcome. Rsvp to Susan Sprague at 217-653-3349 or email [spraguefarms4@yahoo.com](mailto:spraguefarms4@yahoo.com) by March 22nd.



## Dates to Remember

### March

8	Quilt League	9:00 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
14	Board Meeting	9:30 AM	Farm Bureau Basement
15	Book Club	11:00 AM	Daylight Donuts (48th & Broadway)
14-16	IAHCE 93rd Annual State Conference in East Peoria		
21	Lesson for Living: Attracting Butterflies to your garden	<b>6:30 PM</b>	Farm Bureau Basement
25	Bus Trip to St. Louis Botanical Gardens (see page 2)	8 AM-5PM	Depart from Lowes Parking Lot
29	Cultural Enrichment Lesson	1:30 PM	Farm Bureau Basement

### 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 4)	6:00 PM	Paloma Community Building

Thanks to our friends in Pike County HCE, we will feature a short biography of the wife of an American President in each issue of the Acorn newsletter this year. We appreciate District Director Mary Eustace and the authors of these articles for sharing their work.

# Florence Harding

First Lady 1921-1923

Florence "Flossie" Mabel King Harding, previously DeWolf (Aug. 16, 1860-Nov. 21, 1924), was the wife of President Warren G. Harding and First Lady of the United States from 1921 to 1923.

She married the somewhat younger Harding when he was a newspaper publisher in Ohio, and she was acknowledged as the brains behind the business. Known as The Duchess, she adapted well to the White House, where she gave notably elegant parties.

She was born Florence King in Marion, OH, the eldest of three children of Amos King, a prominent Marion banker of German descent, and Louisa Bouton King, whose French Huguenot ancestors had fled religious persecution.

Aiming to become a concert pianist, Florence began studies at the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music, but at 19, she eloped with Henry Athenton DeWolf and they were married in Columbus on Jan. 22, 1880. On September 22, 1880, Florence gave birth to her only child, Marshall Eugene. The couple separated not long after the birth of her son and were divorced in 1886.

In 1890, Florence became engaged to Warren Gamaliel Harding, owner of the Marion Star, and at 25, her junior by five years. They married on July 8, 1891. They had no children of their own, but Florence's son Marshall lived with them intermittently, and received encouragement from Warren to work in journalism.

During her husband's illness, Florence became business manager of the Marion Star. One of the newsboys, Norman Thomas, later the Socialist presidential candidate,

declared that Warren was the frontman, but Florence was the real driving power of the Marion Star.

In 1905, Florence needed emergency surgery for nephritis (floating kidney), and was treated by Dr. Charles E. Sawyer. His close links with the Harding family and Florence's total trust and dependence on him would later prove controversial. During her convalescence, Warren began an affair with a close friend of hers, Carrie Phillips.

By 1914, Warren's political career had taken him to the U.S. Senate, greatly helped by Florence's management of his finances, social life and public image. By 1920, he was a contender for the Republican presidential nomination, though not a front-runner. Washington clairvoyant 'Madame Marcia' Champrey correctly forecast that Warren would become President, but added that he would die in office. The election was overshadowed further by attempted extortion by Carrie Phillips, threatening to reveal Warren's adultery.

On March 4, 1921, Florence became First Lady, immediately taking an active role in national politics, at times even appearing to dominate the President. She had a strong influence on the selection of government ministers. She made her views known on everything from the League of Nations to vivisection, racism, and women's suffrage. As a White House hostess, she presided over elegant parties where her husband would refer to her as The Duchess.

By 1923, both Florence and her husband were suffering from dangerous illnesses, but still



Photo courtesy: [www.firstladies.org](http://www.firstladies.org)

undertook a coast-to-coast rail tour. Florence proved highly popular at their many scheduled stops, but Warren was visibly ailing. After a bad reaction to seafood, he was rushed to San Francisco's Hotel, where he died. On this tour, Warren had been under the care of Dr. Charles E. Sawyer, who is believed to have misdiagnosed the President's condition and administered stimulants that brought on his fatal heart attack. As Florence did not request an autopsy and also destroyed many of his papers, a conspiracy theory was put forward in a semi-fictional book "The Strange Death of President Harding," sensationally claiming that Florence had poisoned her husband.

Florence's kidney ailment returned and, at the advice of Dr. Sawyer, she took a cottage in the grounds of his sanitarium in Marion. Her last public appearance was at the local Remembrance Day parade, where she stood to salute the veterans. A few days later, she died of renal failure.

Florence and Warren Harding are the only presidential couple to have died within the time of the president's elected term of office.

Source: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florence\\_Harding](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Florence_Harding)