

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION  
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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# NEWSLETTER

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You are cordially invited to

*"HAVE A  
CUP OF TEA WITH  
IAHCE"*

March 11, 2008

11:15 AM

Thelma Keller Convention  
Center

IAHCE Annual Conference

Effingham, Illinois

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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. Carol Whitcomb**.....**1st Vice President**  
1616 E County Rd. 2300.....217-755-4324  
Burnside, IL 62330.....combwhit@winco.net

**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.....kearney@accunet.net

**CULTURAL ENRICHMENT**

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

**Mrs. Viola 'Vi' Huebner**

205 Crestview.....618-254-0368  
Woodriver, IL 62095.....vi2sam@yahoo.com

**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., Box 65.....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. Marilyn Daughetee**.....**District 5**  
118 S. Ohio.....217-269-2239  
Chrisman, IL 61924..mdaughetee07@insightbb.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

Hi Everyone!

Wow! What a busy time this summer has been. First, in June was the trip to Finland (I loved it very much), then July I was at the NVON meeting in Lexington, Kentucky, in August we were traveling to the District Meetings, September was the CWC meeting in Springfield (which IAHCE hosted) and in October we had our October Board meeting. I have said, when I get though all of these, I am going to take a vacation to relax and recoup—we'll see how that goes!



First of all, I want to thank the members of IAHCE for letting me represent you in Finland at the ACWW meeting. It was so awesome and I learned so much, I hope I can remember some of it. I had never experienced anything like this so everything was so new and exciting for me.

Everything seems to be going quite well. The District meetings were well received and I was proud of the packets the board members gave to their counterparts. When I returned home and went through the packets, they all had a lot of good information and many things your officers could use in their counties during the coming year.

At the NVON meeting in Kentucky, Carol Whitcomb and I served as delegates from Illinois for the business meeting and Nancy Remmers from Illinois serves as secretary for the NVON organization.

For the CWC meeting held in Springfield, Nancy and I were the co-chair and that was a very busy time; all seemed to go well and we had a lot of compliments for the job we did. People who gave us a hand at CWC were: Joan McEachern, Carol Whitcomb, Sandy Bechtold, Karen Zeigler, Alice Groom, Marilyn Daughhetee, Mary Lea Prentice, Jan Edwards, Margaret and Jim Duncan, Pat Rod and Kathryn McNeeley. I want to thank each of these people for coming to Springfield to help IAHCE host this meeting.

I hope all of you are getting a good start on the new year for your organization and that things are going well in your county.

I still have many counties to visit before my term has expired. If there is any way you can get with surrounding counties and plan your meeting so I can do more than one at a time, I would really appreciate it. I love coming to the meetings, but distance is very often an issue. So to save expenses and my time, I hope some of you can do this for me.

I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at the conference in Effingham in March. The plans are exciting and you will have a wonderful few days learning and sharing.

I will leave you this time with this little verse: Friends are like flowers that brighten your day with fragrance and beauty to share on life's way. So treat them like flowers from the garden, weed them with mercy and water them with love.

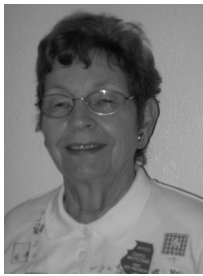
SEE YOU IN MARCH! Your President and Friend in HCE,

*Ellie*



## First Vice President

It is hard to believe that we will soon be sending in our registration forms for the March 2008 Conference! Remember, those who send in forms early get the first choice of hotel rooms as well as their first choice of classes!



We are getting excited about the Trade Show—and hope to provide you with some new shopping experiences! Early Bird letters were sent out last September. These vendors were given first choice at renting a space. We plan to "add a little spice" to our show with some different sales items.

First Vice Presidents – keep in mind that we will be voting at the Annual Conference on which lessons we want the University Specialists to create for us. To avoid the confusion of last years' workshop, we have asked for TWO time periods. The first session we will meet with the Extension Educators and vote for the lesson choices. The second hour will be our regular First Vice Share Shop. BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR BOTH. See you in March.

We will be in Destin, Florida in January/February. Our address there will be: Summer Breeze Condo, 2384 Scenic Gulf Drive #204, Destin, Florida, 32550. Phone in unit: 850-650-8410. We will pick up email at the library:  
[combwhit@winco.net](mailto:combwhit@winco.net)

*Carol Whitcomb*

TAKE A FRIEND TO  
YOUR NEXT  
HCE MEETING!

## 2nd Vice President

Hello Everyone,

I would like to say 'thank you' to those of you who attended the IAHCE August Workshops - and especially my 2nd Vice Presidents' classes. Thank you for bearing with me. I have taught classes before, but this was m first time at trying to tell you all something about being a 2nd Vice President. Well, you found out what I know!

I am working on some ideas about membership. Most of us have 'been there-done that' - but we are still members of IAHCE - so we must be doing something right! It is hard to come up with a 'new idea'. There is an old saying, something about, 'there isn't anything new in the world'. I know I haven't worded it correctly, but you get the jist. I hope that our organization will see a re-vitalization in the near future. Many organizations do not have over 12,000 members throughout the state.

Of course, our members are getting older - that's a given. But most of us have daughters, granddaughters, sisters and friends. Oh, I know-they are all too busy raising kids. Well, didn't we do that too? Many f us worked outside the home, were famers wives and did everything with and for our kids and still took time to become Home Bureau/Homemaker members. Why not sponsor a membership for some of these relatives. Maybe they would be interested in a special unit, be it a day or night unit. Ask me about some more ideas, or better yet, join me at Annual Conference and come into the 2nd Vice President's class.

Hope to see you there!

*Margaret Duncan*



# EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

### NVON Project in Common for 2007



If you have sent any of the "Stitches for Survival" sewing kits to Louisiana, don't forget to fill in the form and send it to NVON.

Any Illinois participants need to be a part of the total count. A printable form can be found on the NVON website under projects.

### NVON Project in Common for 2008-2009

Please work with an orphanage or agency in your county which handles foster children.

The following is Becky Markwell's President's Message of the Illinois Traffic Safety Leaders:

Paris, Lindsay, Nicole - all names very familiar to today's youth and with more in common than just being famous. All have recently been in the national news for driving under the influence. In all the media frenzy, however, what seems to be lacking in the reporting is the seriousness of the crime each of these young women committed. That crime is driving under the influence, but it seems to barely merit a mention in the midst of all the hype. I found myself wanting to applaud the TV one night when the pundit discussing Paris Hilton's incarceration did take the time to point out that: 1) her original arrest had been for something quite serious, driving under the influence; and 2) that she could have hurt or killed herself or an innocent person on the road that night. That same person remarked that the public seemed unconcerned about the original charge and that he fully expects one of these young women to be badly hurt or even killed if we don't start taking impaired driving more seriously.

I hope it doesn't take a tragedy to wake yup the popular culture, but it often seems to be the only thing that does. That's why I am so pleased to see Illinois taking the steps it is to keep our young drivers safer. We need to continue to be proactive, not reactive, about this issue. Too many young people are continuing to die on our highways as we react, rather than work proactively to stop these devastating losses.

To that end, I was privileged to be part of conducting focus groups regarding the topic of

underage drinking and driving at three Illinois colleges during the spring semester of 2007 for IDOT's Division of Traffic Safety.

Some of the findings were expected, but some were very surprising. No one in any of the three groups thought it was difficult for individuals under age 21 to obtain alcohol. Students did not clearly know or understand what the Zero Tolerance and under 21 DUI laws and penalties are in Illinois. Because of this, it appears to most of the 18-20 year old students participating did not take these laws seriously. Some students stated they definitely would not drive after drinking, while others expressed just being more cautious when driving after drinking.

Probably the most surprising (depressing) comments to me concerned the students' definition of a designated driver. To the majority of those in the groups, the designated driver was the "least drunk" person in the group. To them, the designated driver was not necessarily a sober driver, just the person who was not as drunk as the others. For those who work with young people, there is a very clear message that needs to be communicated - the designated driver needs to be completely sober, not just the least impaired.

As traffic safety advocates, we need to renew our pledge to stop underage drinking and driving. We have the alcohol industry and popular culture working against us. It seems our message is being lost in the ads clearly aimed at our youth and the celebrities who seem to glamorize the issue through the media attention their criminal behavior generates. Going to rehab seems to have become as fashionable as going to a spa used to be. We are small in number and our budgets can't compare with those of the alcohol industry and Hollywood, but we can't back down.

I just hope in a future newsletter we are not discussing the death of one of these young celebrities due to a drunk driving crash. I have been in the field for a long time and I am tired of reacting to the latest tragedy. There have been too many.

The above message is indeed sobering. Keep on reaching out.

*Carolyn Fisher*

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Family Issues



Hello fellow members:

I can not believe that it is time for a newsletter. I hope you have talked with your counties about purchasing the state newsletter for your county board and your unit presidents. We in Macoupin County have, and I know our members are looking forward to receiving the newsletter. In December, all members will receive the portion of the newsletter which contains the information about the annual meeting; that is nearly 12,000 people who will have this information for maybe the first time. We hope it will spur interest in the newsletter and the annual meeting. Sharon Middleton, our newsletter editor, has made it so interesting, I look forward to each one.

As we continue our study of poverty and the effect on all of us, I am preparing a letter to the Legislators requesting them to visit the idea of welfare reform. As we discussed in our workshops, everyone was looking for a way we could make a difference.

Since this type of reform begins in Washington then filters down to the state level, the letters will be to both. I also hope to work with the Director of Human Services here in Illinois.

This is a big project which can only succeed with the help of all of you. If welfare reform was changed to help people who are over the 200% of the Poverty level to stay off welfare, rather than fail and eventually give in and return to welfare it would help reduce the number of poor and reduce the cost of supporting those on welfare. This would be a win-win legislation.

Since it is an election year, we could use that to our advantage.

I want to thank all of you who have sent me newspaper clippings.

Looking forward to our class in March!

*Lynn Kearney*, Family Issues Director

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### CULTURAL ENRICHMENT



I made my first trip with the Traveling Board and thoroughly enjoyed myself. I want to thank all of the ladies in my classes for being so patient with my first time as teacher. My thanks to former Director Lucille Michels for help in answering some of your questions. We shared a lot of different ideas and some we'll use for 2008 conference and some may have to wait until 2009.

We will be separating quilts into two categories, hand quilted and machine quilted, and they will be judged as such. A question was asked about wall hangings and a separate category has been made for wall hangings of any kind, painted, quilted, etc.

We will do judging a bit different than in the past. I would like to have one (1) volunteer from each district to be a judge for the show. I need six (6) volunteers to help register, receive the items and help display them. I would appreciate it if they were Cultural Enrichment Directors. Please contact me if you are willing to take these positions.

Several of you were kind enough to give me your addresses. I would like to keep a file of all Cultural Enrichment Directors. I placed an index card in your folder at the Workshop for the purpose.

There can be five (5) entries this year in Cultural Enrichment Best of Show. One can be a quilt. Please get your registrations in to me by March 1, 2008 with a stamped, self-addressed envelope so that I may send you the tags to place on the items you bring for the show. They are due at the conference on Tuesday, March 11 by 10:30AM.

Our focus this year is a literary project. I would like each county to send me one (1) poem by the

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

first of January. These poems will be put into a booklet and each county Cultural Enrichment Director will receive one. If other booklets are desired, check with the sales table or send an order to me. This is not a money making project and the booklet for each County is free, but the others will have a small price to cover printing and mailing.

Don't forget Make-It Take-It! I need some of you to volunteer to teach a class. Make up your project and decide how much you need for each.

I encourage you to keep a journal of your memories, etc., to pass on to your family. As I told those in class, we will try new things and if they don't work, we'll change. Your reports are due to me by January 31. I look forward to seeing what each of your counties has done in Cultural Enrichment. Some of your newsletters have said poems - and one or two said a short story. We're concentrating on the poem. I wish I could accept more than one, but some counties are having a contest to choose which one will be sent to me. Feel free to contact me at any time if you have any questions. My address is: Barbara Spencer, 8031 Mulkeytown Rd., Mulkeytown, IL 62865 618-724-4288

*Barbara Spencer*



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### INTERNATIONAL

It was great to meet my fellow International women at District meetings! I enjoyed instructing and talking with so many talented women. It is an honor to be able to serve as International Director. I hope everyone is enjoying the recipes—I know many counties have not had their lesson on Greece yet. I am including my mother's baklava recipe and a cookie recipe I received from Angie Cushman from Franklin County. I attended their International Luncheon in August. It was so good! I hope to attend a few more International meetings in other counties.

I have selected a new country for next year, and I will announce it and give out that lesson at the Annual Conference meeting in March. I will also announce the new country for 2009. (That lesson

will be given at the 2009 Annual Conference). That will help those of you whose county calendar year runs January through December. Hope you can attend!

Many of you have asked for the DVD, "Where Have All the Pennies Gone?". Here is the address for the lady from whom you order the DVD: Joan McEachern

Riverside Dr.  
Yorkville, IL 60560  
630-553-6407  
e-mail: mcskikat@yahoo.com  
Cost: \$1.00  
Make checks payable: Joan

**At this time, due to the vote from IAHC membership, the Homemaker's Exchange Program will be suspended indefinitely. The money (up to 35%) usually set aside for the Homemaker's Exchange Program, will be sent to the ACWW. Thus, 85% of the Pennies for Friendship monies will be sent to the ACWW.**

I would appreciate any of you sharing your international ideas and any extra recipes you might have. (I know that some of you do other countries than what we pick for the state.) If you have any questions or suggestions for something I can do to help your county, or to make the Annual Conference International Meeting more interesting for you, please let me know. Thanks....

*Debbie Borries*

(note: recipes are located further in the newsletter)

### STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Just a note that I read in Franklin County's newsletter, Barb wants all of the State Board members to have a poem for her project. So heads up, get busy and send her one by January 1st.

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

### PUBLIC RELATIONS



I would like to begin and thank all of the IAHCE Board who "took over" by classes at the Fall Workshops. Due to a previous commitment before I became your Public Relations Director, I was unable to

be with you. I did have a wonderful trip with my husband on our trip to Alaska. I was thinking of you all while I was there but the sights got the better.

I received lots of good information from the Public Relations classes at these District Workshops that were held in three different locations in the state. I had a questionnaire that I asked the attendees to fill out. I had several names that could be used for the newsletter, but the consensus was to leave the name as it is "Illinois Association for Home and Community Education Newsletter". So be it. Several wanted a recipe column, household hints, no recipes but more photos and more from each of the counties. As space permits, we will try some of these ideas. If you have other ideas, please write me. Thanks again to Treasa Brookman—District 7, Marilyn Daughhetee—District 5 and Bernice Livingston—District 1 for helping me with my classes at these Workshops.

As you all know, it was approved at our May Board meeting to send out the conference information to the entire membership of IAHCE. That issue is at the printers as I finish up the complete IAHCE newsletter for the subscribers. Your information for the conference is in this issue along with all of the rest of the state's articles, recipes from the International Director, what happened at NVON, ACWW and all of the counties news on what has been happening in their part of the state. That's a lot of news for just \$2.00 an issue.

As I'm getting ready for the 2008 Conference

and my class, I would like to hear from all of the Public Relations chairmen from each county to see what you would like at to hear in my class. Questions on how to do anything in particular that your position requires, etc.

There are a lot of deadlines to meet before Conference. I will have a "Check Off" list of things to have done before Conference and things not to forget to bring to Conference. I'm looking forward to meeting you all at the "Have a Cup of Tea with IAHCE" on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 in Effingham and in my class on Wednesday, March 11th at 1:30PM.

Have a wonderful upcoming "Holiday Season".

*Sharon Middleton*

### CERTIFIED VOLUNTEER HOURS/SALES



CVU (Certified Volunteer Unit) sheets are due to me by January 31. You may go back three years when recording your hours. The forms are in the grey book. Each individual member needs to fill out this form and hand in to their county Community Outreach director who, in turn, will send them to me. Let's see if we can turn many more hours into the state than last year and have more counties participate.

*Vi Huebner*



## SPECIAL REPORT

### REPORT FROM NVON - LEXINGTON, KY JULY 20, 2007

During this year the ACWW Projects Committee has approved monies for the following projects:

Romania: "Letters for the Street Children of Bucharest" to provide residents with access to literacy and health education to help children who have been abandoned by their families, to lead normal lives and so avoid the feeling of isolation and loneliness. ACWW fund the computers, software and books for the centre. In the women's words "the measure of success will be if at the end of the year 75% of the illiterate children can read and write.

Uganda-Water Supply for Medical Centre for pumps, pipes, etc.

India - 10 boreholes installed providing drinking water for 846 families.

Swaziland bore holes drilled then pumps and tanks installed for a Primary School providing toilets and hand basins.

Sri Lanka received 6 wells in 6 communities and 10 latrines and tanks.

Ghana—Irrigation Development Project

Kenya construction of tanks to lessen time the women needed getting water from Lake Victoria - 4 hours.

Funding for HIV/Aids Prevention and Education Project for a Disabled Women's Association in Uganda, Ghana and Cameroon.

Kenya - Malaria control project produces 30 affordable mosquito nets a day for sale. Project participants are trained in production of nets, animal health care, primary health care and education in prevention of malaria.

A project monitored by Mercy was a Tailoring Project with aims to weave clothes from cotton and to use machines to make garments.

Tanzania Project was Nutrition and Catering to give women the knowledge, skills and equipment to enable them to run their own business successfully.

Romania - Funding for Equipping the Resource and Training Centre in Targu for disadvantaged women.

China - Piggery Project and Cataract Operations

India - Sheep rearing/ Nutrition Education training.

Korea - Vocational Training for Handicapped women.

Uganda - Beekeeping and another to sensitize communities to the dangers of Female Genital Mutilation.

Papua-New Guinea - Adult Literacy Teachers Training plus "Training the Teachers".

Peru - Micro-Credit Revolving Loan Program and Jewelry using Recycled Forest Products.

Bangladesh - Breast Screening

Cameroon - Food Sustainability thru Plantains and Pepper Production.

## MEMORIAL

### Rose Keith 1915-2007

Rose Keith, 92 of Canton died October 17, 2007. She was born July 9, 1915 in Laurium, Mich. She was married to Anthony Helle in 1938. He died in 1965. Rose married George Keith in 1968. Both Rose and George were involved with IHCF. In 1976 they were awarded first place for overall excellence in Public Information for their slide presentation and dialogue "Movin' On". In LaSalle county they started a unit called NEHC Couples Club which was organized to make future meetings attractive to men attending.



Rose was very active in our organization, whether it was IHCF or IHCA or IAHCA. Rose was the State Treasurer from 1975-1978 and was our President during 1982-1985. She attended several ACWW conferences, one in Vancouver, Canada. She served on CWC conference committees. In 1984, she gave the first check of \$11,000 to Dr. O'Reilly, Assistant of the Cooperative Extension service for the Support Fund. She was active in Fulton County and LaSalle County.

## IAHCE RECEIVES PROCLAMATION

We received a proclamation from Governor Rod Blagojevich proclaiming October 14-20, 2007 as Illinois Association for Home and Community Education Week. Due to limited space, I could not have a photo of it for you. It "commended IAHCE members for their dedication and commitment to the welfare of local communities".

## 2008 HOMEMAKERS CRAFT CAMP

Plans are well underway for the 2008 Homemakers Craft Camp. It will be held on Tuesday, May 13, 2008 at the Latin American Social Club, Sterling, IL. Mark your calendars now! Classes will include: basket weaving, oil painting, acrylic painting, applique, crafts using recycled items, holidays ornaments, stamping, scrapbooking, soap making, etc. Plans also include a "Quickie craft" table, a pattern/craft magazine/surplus craft supplies exchange table, stained glass stepping stones, a silent auction, and more. Lunch will be available. Students may attend one class or all day. Everyone is welcome. You do not need to be a member of H.C.E. to attend. Bring a friend! Watch for more class information and registration forms in early 2008. Do you like to craft or have a crafty idea? How about sharing your talents by teaching a project at Craft Camp? The committee is always looking for new class project ideas. Projects can be almost anything. Students are always willing to try something new. Teachers may teach one hour or all day. Teachers may also take classes. If you or someone you know are interested in possibly teaching a project or have ideas for projects, please contact the following committee members as soon as possible: Karen Nelson (815-225-7721 or email: [buck02@frontiernet.net](mailto:buck02@frontiernet.net))

## SOUTHERN ILLINOIS CRAFT CAMP

Southern Illinois Craft Camp Board would like to thank you for your support. We had a very successful camp. Twenty more registered than last year.

Rozanne Wilkins from Metropolis Massac County won the quilt. She used to come to camp as J & R Craft Shop. Yeah! Rozanne!

\*Camp will be held Sept. 9, 10 & 11th 2008.

\*Marietta Dahncke and Treasa Brookman are Co-Chairmen. Shirley Porter, Secretary and Imogene Lamczyk as Treasurer.

\*Theme for 2008 will be "HEARTS". Won't the quilt be pretty. Blocks will be sent out after Camp Board meeting March 24, 2008. So get your design ready. If anyone knows a shop willing to teach a craft please let us know. We will contact them.

\*Schedule for next year is Tuesday Sept. 9th 2008  
Hamilton, Washington, Perry, Jackson, White and Williamson

Wednesday Sept. 10th 2008 - Cumberland, Marion, Monroe, Clinton, Bond, Johnson, Pulaski-Alexander, Massac, Union and St. Clair.

Thursday Sept. 10, 2008 - Madison, Randolph, Jefferson, Gallatin, Saline, Pope-Hardin, Edwards-Wabash, Wayne, Clay, Lawrence, Cole, Effingham, Crawford, Richland, & Franklin.

So mark your calendars! We enjoyed having all of you! The weather was almost perfect this year. So glad you all came.

Treasa and committee

## RECIPES FROM GREECE

### BAKLAVA

from Lee Beals

- 4 Cups finely chopped Walnuts
- 1/2 Cup Sugar
- 1 teaspoon ground Cinnamon
- 1 - 16 Ounce package Phyllo Dough (in freezer section) Thaw by removing from freezer to the refrigerator the day before.

- 1 Cup melted Butter
- 1 Jar Honey



#### Instructions:

1. Grease with butter a 9" X 11" baking dish or pan.
2. In a large bowl, mix nuts, sugar and cinnamon.
3. Cut Phyllo dough to fit baking dish. (May not need to do this.
4. Place a sheet of Phyllo dough in bottom of pan. Brush thoroughly with melted butter. (Do not skimp on butter-it holds the Phyllo dough together) Repeat to make 6 layers of dough and butter. Sprinkle 1/3 of walnut mixture. Add a sheet of Phyllo, brush with butter. Repeat this 4-5 times (Phyllo and butter). Add 1/3 of walnut mixture. Do another 5-6 layers of Phyllo and butter; then a last layer of walnut mixture. Use remaining Phyllo to make the top layers. Each brushed with butter.
5. With a sharp knife, cut just halfway through the layers in a diamond shape. (Cut diagonally one way, then the other way.) Bake in a 300° oven 1 hour and 25 minutes or until golden brown. (Watch it closely-might be less time)
6. In a small saucepan, heat honey until hot, but not boiling. Spoon over hot baklava. Cool thoroughly. Finish cutting through the layers; Store in an airtight container.

### GREEK SESAME COOKIES

from Angie Cushman

- 4 Eggs
- 1 1/2 Cup Sugar
- 1 Cup Oil
- 2 Teaspoon Vanilla, Butter, Almond, Lemon

Flavorings (I used 2 tsp. each of first three and 1 tsp. of lemon)

- 5 Cups All Purpose Flour (maybe more)
- 2 1/2 Teaspoon Baking Powder
- Pinch of Salt
- Sesame Seeds

Beat eggs until light and fluffy. Add sugar and beat 5 minutes. Slowly add oil and flavorings and beat 10 minutes.

Sift all dry ingredients together and start adding to egg mixture and blend thoroughly. Knead if you have to. Let rest in refrigerator about 1/2 hour. The dough will handle better.

Pinch off a small piece of dough and roll pencil thin...about 5 inches long and 1/2 inch wide. Dip into sesame seeds and place 1/2 inch apart in either a greased pan or use parchment paper. That's what I use. Heat your oven to 350°. Bake for 15-17 minutes or as brown as you like. All ovens differ. You should know how your oven works.

If your eggs are huge, you might have to use extra flour. The dough should be stiff enough to roll. You be the judge.

### 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

### NVON CONFERENCE DATE

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

2009 - Belleville, Illinois - July 13-15

2010 - Hot Springs, Arkansas - April

## DISTRICT NEWS

### DISTRICT 1

Bernice Livingston - District Director



### HENDERSON COUNTY.....

Henderson County H.C.E. members were very busy in July volunteering at the 4-H fair, assisting judges at the fair, and hosting project buildings, many members also found time to enter items in the open show. August was mainly a vacation month, many units chose to eat out, tour gardens, or tour local grocery stores. September is our busy month, we have our Big Bake Sale at Weir's Fruit Farm during Heritage Trail Days. H.C.E. members bake delicious goodies for this sale. We also draw for the lucky quilt winner. This year's winner was Joy Baker. Proceeds from these projects will help fund our donations to college scholarships, 4-H, New Year's Baby and books for West Central Schools. We have started on next year's quilt and will be busy making plans for the upcoming Holidays.

Bev Alecock Public Relations

### JO DAVIESS COUNTY.....

Our first emphasis is on EDUCATION. Some of the "Lessons for Living" were: Massage Therapy, Lessons from the Great Depression, Groundcovers to Know and Use, Body Smart Gardening, Dietary Fat-What's the Flack Over Fat, to name a few.

We finished our study on Nicaragua with a presentation by Rev. David and Mrs. Mann, April 24 at our 72nd Annual Meeting, which was a day event. The business meeting and program was held in the morning, Share-a-Dish lunch was at noon and the Lesson for Living "Forgiveness: An Important Gift to Yourself" was given after lunch. District Director 1, Bernice Livingston, was present to install the Officers and to speak to us about IAHC. We are now learning about Greece and China.

Two \$250 scholarships were presented, one to a graduating Senior and one to an Undergraduate attending St. Ambrose College, Davenport, Iowa. We had 24 applicants.

Three \$50 scholarships were given to 4-Hers who had received the honor to attend National 4-H Congress in November, 2006.

Our Community Outreach projects were making 51 book bags and they were presented with books to the Stockton Pre-School in May. We made 28 Tummy (baby) blankets which were presented to Family T.I.E.S..

Jo Daviess County joined Stephenson and Carroll County's HCE with the 10th Annual Tri-County Heritage Arts Workshop, held March 31 in Carroll County. The Committee met in September to plan for this event to be held in Jo Daviess County in the Spring of 2008.

Betty Messmer, an HCE member and a 31 year 4-H Club leader, was 4-H Alumni Inductee of the 4-H Hall of Fame, August 11th at the Illinois State Fair, Class of 2007. Of the 109 HCE members, 12 are 50 plus year members and 3 have 60 or more years in HCE.

Our money making activities included the Old Market Day-Skills from the Hills, June 9, Old Market Square, Galena. We gained five mail box members through a 'special membership deal' that we offered that day.

We had our Rada Cutlery at Scales Mound Stage Coach Days, June 23-24 and a booth at Stockton at the 4th of July Celebration with the Lions Club Chicken Barbeque and craft fair.

At our Fall Old Market Day, September 22 (52nd Annual) Market House Square, Galena, we offered our 'new member special' again.

Our biggest event was October 6-7, PTO County Fair, River Ridge School, food court selling barbeque & Italian beef sandwiches and 'homemade pies and cakes' by the slice.

Marcella Arnold, Public Relations

## DISTRICT NEWS

### KNOX COUNTY.....

Knox County Association for Home and Community Education has awarded 2 scholarships for Carl Sandburg College to Nichole Thomas and Brian Brown. The money for these scholarships was raised by our annual Class Day. Class Day 2008 will be held February 23, 2008 9AM to 3 PM. This is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Class Day. You may contact Joyce Hagerty [hag@winco.net](mailto:hag@winco.net) for a program booklet.

For HCE month in October, we had lesson on tea, which included sandwiches, cakes, etc. that are usually served at a tea.. Each unit made a Linus Blanket which was displayed at the membership tea and then donated to Illinois Extension for use during disasters. We had 17 blankets made and donated. We are also collecting food for the local food pantries during the month of October and November.

In November we will sponsor a Toys for Tots project. On Nov. 17 we will serve pancakes and sausage, have a cookie and candy walk, have a silent auction and Santa will visit. There will be a toy drop off point. Food for the local food pantries will also be collected. All profits from the pancake feed, and the silent auction will go to Toys for Tots. This will be a community project with the Altona Lions Club (from Altona, Illinois), WAAC Radio 94.9, The Galesburg Archery Club, and 4-H helping.

Joyce Hagerty, Secretary KCAHCE

### ROCK ISLAND COUNTY.....

Our Rock Island County Directors began this busy year at the District I meeting on August 23rd. Inspiration, information, and new ideas were on the agenda. Our County Leadership meeting was held the next week, and we shared the knowledge with our HCE fellowship.

Individual Units pulled themselves out of the hazy days of summer and gathered for their first meetings. The Coal Valley Unit pictured



celebrated the 90th birthday of Evelyn Engstrom at the Lavender Crest Winery. Members of the Unit also include Lucille Michels, Marion Dumer, Claudia Soddler,

Naomi Schlobohm, and Lois Mullen.

Our first project, the Veterans Standdown, rallied members to participate in Comforter tying days and we donated approximately 60 comforters to the Standdown on September 21st. Additionally, we collected hygiene items and placed them in Veteran "bundles" for their use. The weekend after the Standdown, we hosted our annual Awareness Day, which is a display of our Heritage Skills for the public. On the same day we welcomed the community with our New Member Tea. Our guest speaker for the Tea was "The Hat Lady", Avenil Kincaid, who shared her collection of 50 old-fashioned hats, antique jewelry, gloves, And purses. Following a light lunch we invited guests to attend our Fall Lessons for Living. HCE members were busy in October interacting with 4-H groups in the area. Basic sewing classes were requested by 4-H organizers and members scheduled a series of classes over the next year, with the first class accommodating eight eager 4-Hers.

Preparation for our annual Playcrafters' Barn Benefit on November 15th is foremost in our minds as we go to press. We're pushing hard for a sell-out crowd this year. The production is certainly indicative of our mindset as we head into the holidays; "Uh-Oh, Here Comes Christmas!"

Brenda Wells, Director of PR

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE!

[www. IAHCE.org](http://www.IAHCE.org)

## DISTRICT NEWS

### WARREN COUNTY.....

Fall is here! The cooler nights are a delight and once again it's my favorite time of the year.

I've had so much fun visiting all Units, and am hearing many projects/activities starting up again. Everyone seemed to enjoy the "Salsa Lesson". I certainly planned my visits in the right month, and enjoyed so many varieties of salsa. Only one time did I have the same recipe repeated. Doesn't that tell you how diverse we are, so many creative ideas were born out of this one lesson.. Great job, everyone!

I want to share just a brief recap of the Board's recent actions.

1. Cruising Night, August 3 was not as profitable as last year. After all expenses were paid, we only made \$80. Because of this, the board has voted to no longer participate in this activity.
2. The Mississippi Valley Blood Drive, August 7 was very successful with 27 donors giving blood. I found so many donors give through Blood Drives coordinated by their church, work place or organization. This is GREAT! Because of this though, I have decided no longer coordinate this event in 2008, which the board supported and voted in agreement.
3. We have nine Board members attend the Fall Workshop/District Meeting in Rock Falls.
4. The Board has approved an increase in annual dues up to \$10 per member (same cost for both active and mailbox members). This is due to increased costs for paper, postage and expenses for District and State Conferences. This increase will be presented at our Annual Meeting and voted for/against by the entire membership.

New Directors on the State Board. Yes, we met two new directors at the District Workshop,

Lynn Kearny, Family Issues; and Debbie Borries, International Director. These gals bring a fresh face and fresh ideas to us in a motivating, creative manner. We embrace change and look forward to valuable support and ideas being shared by them.

We have coming up our Annual Meeting, October 10 and the Craft Show & Sale, November 17. The Craft Show & Sale is our big money maker for the year featuring pies, cookies, breads, cupcakes, candies, jellies, jams. We will have a great deal of fun and make money too!

Peg Chambers, President

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### DISTRICT 2 / 3

Lorraine Wildman, District Director



### KENDALL COUNTY.....

Seward HCE Unit in southern Kendall County made colorful "Activity Aprons" for Morris Health Care and Rehab Center in Morris, as a Community Service project.

The aprons help residents with skills such as buttoning, using zippers, snaps, eyelets, Velcro closures and pockets with nesting measuring cups, spoons, squeeze ball and plush toys.



L to R:  
Lois Hansen,  
Seward Unit  
Nevada Wietting,  
2nd VP Kendall  
Phyllis Johnson,  
Resident of Morris  
Rose Buhle, Sew-  
ard Unit and Barb Hoffman, Activity Director.

The Unit also made its annual donation to help a 4-H member to summer camp and supported "Teachers for Tanzania" to help with expenses for three science teachers from Minooka High

## DISTRICT NEWS

School to travel to meet with teachers in Tanzania to discuss science teaching methods.

Joan McEachern

### LAKE COUNTY.....

At the 93rd Annual Meeting of the Lake County Farm Bureau, they inducted The Lake County Association for Home and Community Education into their "Hall of Fame". HCE was acknowledged for their long partnership with the Lake County Farm Bureau. President Angela Hicks; Secretary Bernadette Schembari and First Vice President Mary J. Lester received the plaque from Director Dave De Young. Other HCE Board members present were Second Vice President, Betty Wertke; Treasurer, Florence Burton; Cultural Enrichment Director, Gerry Henningfield and Public Relations and Editor, Mary Ellen Keegan. Many members of HCE also attended. The evening events Manager of Lake County Farm Bureau, Gregory Koeppen, read a list of the many programs HCE is, and will be, involved in during 2007-2008.



Dave DeYoung, Angela Hicks, Bernadette Schembari, Mary J. Lester

Mary J. Lester, 1st Vice President

### LaSALLE COUNTY.....

The 89th annual meeting of the LaSalle County Association for Home and Community Education met for a luncheon meeting with over 65 members and guests in attendance. Fred and Sharon Moore presented a program on Tumbleweed Tunes, music, stories and cowboy poetry of the Old West.

President, Judy Waldron, called the meeting to order. Pennies for Friendship were collected, which benefits international projects.

Margaret Grober, last years'



recipient, presented the major honor of *Homemaker of the Year to Joyce Burright of Mendota*. Joyce has been an active member of HCE for forty years. She is active in her community with her involvement in Women's Club, counselor for the Women's Clinic, docent at the Railroad Museum, Election Judge and many other activities. She is a lifetime member of the Presbyterian Church and supporter of all its activities.

She has lived her life on the family farm, is a widow with four children and nine grandchildren and a member of the Mendota Unit. She is very deserving of this honor.

After a great meal, the minutes of the last annual meeting and the 2007-2008 budget was approved.



Carol Elmore, Second Vice, announced attendance. Judy Waldron awarded *Unit of the Year*. This year the honor went to the *Handy Homemaker Unit*. They accumulated the most points for activities and community service of all the county units. Unit members present, accepted the plaque.

*Eleanor Thomas* of the Marseilles Morning Unit was awarded a pin and certificate for being a member of LaSalle County Homemakers for 50 years. Handy Homemakers Unit and Seneca Morning Unit each won an award for most new members. Seneca Morning Unit won an award for the best scrapbook pages.

Vertie Carlson conducted a Memorial service. She paid tribute to the two deceased members of this past year.

The officers for the coming year are Gail Hayward as President; Judy Rosengren, 2nd Vice; Judy Waldron, Secretary; Pat Workman,

## DISTRICT NEWS

Treasurer; and Kathleen Jonan, Assistant Treasurer. Serving as Directors for the next year are the following: Karen Mattes, Community Outreach and Family Issues; Paula Freepartner, Cultural Enrichment and International; and Carol Link as Public Relations. Newsletter will be done by Gail Hayward.

The meeting was closed with Darlene Hettel announcing details of the upcoming 4-H Fair. The floral arrangement was given to Judy Waldron for her four years serving as President.

We are getting ready for another busy year. Some of our community service projects are: blanket day, with blankets being donated to the Red Cross and the County Sheriff's Department, playing bingo at the LaSalle County Nursing Home with the residents, working the food booth at the 4-H Fair and hosting Cabin Fever Reliever Day.

We are also looking forward to learning more about the Country of Greece and sampling some Greek dishes.

Carol Link, Public Relations

### WILL COUNTY.....

Will County's annual picnic held in July consisted of crafts, a delicious potluck luncheon, loads of fun and plenty of fellowship.

The membership studied Greece this year and at our October Annual International, Cultural Enrichment, and Membership Day, Christo Dragatses spoke on his trips to Greece and his Greek heritage.

Marilyn McManimen, County International Chairperson, has done an outstanding job of informing our organization on International happenings, especially the country of Greece.



She is also spearheading a drive to collect "Disaster Sewing Kits" that will be sent to Baldwin, Louisiana, to help those who lost their homes because of flooding.

Our October Craft Day provided members the opportunity to learn a variety of crafts. Joan Fleckenstein, County Cultural Enrichment chairperson, organized the day and did an excellent job in finding crafts that would be fun to make as well as teach us something new. Beginning knitting and crocheting, a tie angel, a quilted runner and the recycling of old boots (into a floral arrangement) were just some of the crafts taught.

We are looking forward to the upcoming holidays and a blessed New Year.

Marianne Eisenbrandt,  
Public Relations Director

### DISTRICT 4

Mary Lea Prentice - District Director



By the time this is printed, trees and flora will be bare of flowers and leaves, but the memories of the beautiful fall drives I have made while visiting my counties in Central Illinois will live on. Memories of the counties I have visited and the effort members have put into their special projects will also live on.

Impressive was the presentation of Pike County's International Speaker, Synthia Miller, a published international photojournalist. Synthia's power point on Swaziland, Africa as she worked there with disabled children moved many of us to tears. Many of the children were living out of garbage dumps behind elaborate homes of the well to do. As Mrs. Miller and co-workers were preparing again to go back to Swaziland they had collected several dozen pairs of shoes for these under privileged children. I checked a pamphlet of countries where are Pennies for Friendship money goes and was happy to see that monies had been sent



## DISTRICT NEWS

to Swaziland.

Hancock County has started a unit for working members. These women will meet at the extension office for a noon sack lunch for one hour only. Hancock County please let me know how this is working. I attended their county planning meeting in September.

Adams County invited Pike County members to a special quilt luncheon and presentation October 6. While there we learned how to make a lovely pieced table runner. Beautiful quilts, both old and new were on display and stories were told of each. I showed my quilt blocks and told the story of how quilts were used before the Civil War to help slaves find their way to freedom in Canada.

Sangamon County celebrated its 60th Anniversary and International Day October 19. Edna Carnahan from the Northernaires Unit entertained us by dressing in period costume and telling stories of how it was back in 1947. Many of us could identify with her hilarious stories! Peggy Ostermeier and Liz Muench showed a power-point presentation in the afternoon on their journey to Finland. County women have been busy making neck coolers for our service men and women in Iraq. I encourage these women and all others to keep track of their donated time and send these hours to Viola Huebner.

Mason County also marked a special anniversary day October 22. These women were celebrating their 78th year. No doubt there were three generations of family members at the same time throughout those 78 years. Both President Ellie Maroon and I had the privilege of celebrating this day with Mason County at the Cup and Saucer Restaurant in Havana.

*Mary Lea Prentice*

## ADAMS COUNTY.....

Florence Dietrich attended the annual conference of NVON at Lexington, KY. She will be on the committee helping arrange the 2009 conference in Belleville, IL.

We took part in the locally grown food fest at Washington Park in Quincy, IL. The purpose of the festival was to increase awareness of and celebrate local food. At our member's table, we hosted an activity where patron's reached into paper bags and tried to identify the fruits and vegetables contained inside.

Seven members of the Adams county board attended the district 4 and 5 meeting in Urbana. Each board member attended a session according to their respective office. Sally Dedert and Joyce Hoskins made our centerpiece. Maxine McAllister was a winner of the centerpiece door prize and she chose Adam's county's. District 4 held a meeting; it was interesting to hear different ideas from other counties.

2nd Vice President Camie Hempelman and HCE members had a booth at an event called Riverfest—it took place at the Mississippi River front in Quincy, IL. Children prepared letters to be sent to our men and women in uniform serving our country. Lessons from previous months were shared with anyone interested.

Mayor Spring of Quincy, IL. proclaimed October as HCE month and an October HCE month display was placed in a Quincy library window. The display will showcase activities happening during HCE month and other events.

Acorn editor, Mary Voorhis was a guest on the Mary Griffith and Sunrise radio talk radio show's discussing HCE month and our annual Kiddie Bazaar.

Cultural Arts October event was Country Angel Craft. The lesson for the month of October was on care for home landscape. HCE book club is still growing and going strong.

## DISTRICT NEWS

Sally Dedert and Joyce Hoskins (Cultural Arts) presented their special HCE month of October event entitled "A Bit of Quilts and a Bit of Salads". Board members prepared a meal and a cook book went on sale featuring the recipes used. All proceeds from cook book sales went into the HCE scholarship fund.

Mary Lea Prentice, IAHCCE District 4 Director, presented quilt squares and spoke about what each different square depicted to the slave using the Underground Railroad—it was very interesting and informative.

Several ladies attending brought quilts, placed them on display and gave a brief history about each.

Pike county was represented by several members. One of those members, Jan Edwards from Pittsfield, IL, won the raffle basket full of lovely items.

Quilt instructor, Joyce Riggs from John Wood Community College, gave a lecture on piecing fabric in quilt form to make a mystery runner. During the lecture, two women demonstrated the steps needed to form the design. During this event on the 6th, board member, Marcia Schutte was challenged by Judy Milfs to compete a runner and bring it to the next board meeting on October 9th—she completed the challenge. Sally and Joyce did a marvelous job with their event.

The Quincy Tumbleweed Unit and Quinsippi 4-H group together made items to be sold at the upcoming Kiddie Bazaar on December 1, 2007.

A challenge has been made to HCE members to walk the 120 miles around the border of Adams County. Members can walk, bike (moving or stationary) to complete the challenge. See, I told you, Adams County has been busy!

Bonnie Smith, Public Relations

## HANCOCK COUNTY.....

Things are buzzing for Hancock County HCE! A new noon lunch and learn unit started in Carthage in September and the plans are in the works for two new specialty units that will be starting in the near future.

We were honored in September to have our new District Director participate in our Kick-Off Night. As usual, the evening was filled with lively conversation and great food!

HCE Week was filled with several activities to promote the organization including holding our annual International Night featuring Mr. Arlyn Musselman, a local educator, speaking on his experiences in Panama. HCE members also purchased the book "L is for Lincoln – An Illinois Alphabet" and presented the book to the first grade classes in the county with several members going into the classroom to read. To continue the week, members of the organization were featured on a radio talk show and our local county paper did a nice job promoting the organization. Rounding out the week was a Craft & Coffee where members and guests had an opportunity to make a paper a punch greeting card, a stuffed fabric pumpkin, a quilt-lined basket and a seasonal wall hanging.

On Friday, October 26<sup>th</sup> over 40 members and guests traveled to Van Buren County, Iowa for a very enjoyable day. Van Buren County has been voted the top tourism county six times and is filled with quaint villages, interesting history and plenty of great shopping. Our day ended in Cantril, IA at the Dutchman's Store filled with bulk goods and over 1,000 bolts of fabric. What fun! Our tentative plans are to go back to Van Buren County next June for their historic barn tour.

Susan Sewell, Public Relations

## DISTRICT NEWS

### MORGAN COUNTY.....

Morgan County Homemakers celebrated the 70th Annual meeting, June 14, 2007 at the Extension Office with members of Alexander, Berea, Cheerful, Ebenezer, Mound, Quilting Friends and South Inn Morganettes units all receiving Perfect Attendance of a satchet made by Betty Strawn.

Registration was at 9:30AM by Alexander Unit, with 32 members attending. Coffee and cookies were served by the Board. Table decorations were plants to be used for prizes. Betty Clayton called the meeting to order with the pledge to the flag led by Nata King. The program on Stained Glass was given by Martin and Jane Jones of Meredosia. That was followed by the regular meeting reports. The 2007 officers were installed by Gene Van Scyoc, HEA President of Springfield, giving each a box of goodies (the year of the box). New members and 50 year members were recognized. Eda Johnson read the Memorials of five members. After which Eda gave the invocation. Lunch was catered and an update was given by Arron Duffelmeier, Extension Advisor of Morgan County. We enjoyed music from Martin and Jane Jones and then door prizes were awarded. Meeting adjourned at 1:30PM.

Morgan County HEA members, Edna Anderson, Eda Johnson, Betty Surratt, Betty Clayton and Betty Strawn attended the District 4 Workshops in Urbana in August.

International Day was October 18; noon lunch of recipes from Greece was served. We have a Greek family in Jacksonville who talked about his country. Nick Xanis and his family visit Greece several times a year. He likes to cook and has a cooking program.

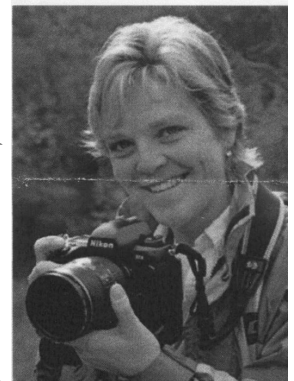
Eda Johnson, Public Relations

### PIKE COUNTY.....

The Pike County HCE had a very successful International Dinner and Program. Our country was Swaziland and we were fortunate to have one of our members, Sally Humphrey's daughter as the guest speaker. Synthia Miller, photojournalist and freelance photographer. Her partnership with the Mission of Mercy and Children's Cup Mission took her to Swaziland and her photos of the children were outstanding. She spoke on supplying food, medical care and love to these needy children. One meal a day is all they usually have. Her mission will take her back to Africa again this year. We applaud her mission and her work with the children.

About the Speaker...

Synthia Miller is a published international photojournalist and freelance photographer with over 20 years of experience photographing everything from scenic landscapes to children with AIDS.



With travels through Africa, Asia, Europe and North America, Syndy always loves to return to her home in Martinsburg for the peace and quiet that nature here in Pike County offers.

Syndy's specialty is in working with disable children and in 2001, she incorporated a non-profit charity called Heartworks Photography, Inc. ([www.heartworksphoto.org](http://www.heartworksphoto.org))

Our units in the Pike County HCE have been collecting pennies for friendship and decided this year to assist our local needy by contributing to the Unmet Needs of Pike County.

We had eight members and Mary Lea Prentice attend the District meeting on August 22.

Ann Ferguson, Public Relations

## DISTRICT NEWS

### SANGAMON COUNTY.....

Our 60th Anniversary Celebration was held in Springfield, October 19th with over 100 members present. The day started with coffee and muffins and a trip around the room to see the tables set up by the county and the units with their memorabilia of years past.

Gene Van Scyoc, President of Sangamon County Home and Community Education, welcomed every one and introduced Carolyn Gerberding, 2nd Vice President, to take charge and take charge she did with the history of our organization.



The Sangamon County Chapter of Home Bureau was started on October 20, 1947. There were 909 members and 33 units. The first Newsletter was published in 1948. Units took turns folding, addressing and writing editorials, a thought or poem. "Hattie the Homemaker" had a household hint every month.

They formed a Chorus with 35 original members and practiced twice a month. In 1948, they began doing a radio show entitled, "Home Bureau Speaks". The units took turns planning and presenting the lessons. Their theme song was "Beautiful Lady".

From there many things took place; serving meals at the Illinois State Fair in August, 1948 and each worker had to have a chest x-ray, a hair net and clean towels; by 1950 Home Bureau was sponsoring 4-H with 455 girls exhibiting wintertime projects; 1955 the Extension Bowling league was formed and it is still going today; this year was the beginning of a TV program hosted by Home Extension; the first Craft and Hobby Show in 1957; first cookbook in 1960; first Homemaker of the Year in 1975; and one of the Lessons for Living in 1957 was "Ironing Made Easy".

The following 60 year members were honored with a corsage, pin and certificate - Phyllis Summers, Auburn Chatham; Mary Carswell, Pawnee; Eva Young, Rochester; Helen Duffy, Rochester; and Elaine Sunley, Northernaires.

Menard County was honored with 70 years, which includes two charter units, East Petersburg and Talulla. Menard County merged with Sangamon County in 1996.

The 50 thru 59 year members were also recognized - Bernadean Renschler, Dorothy Rutherford, Evelyn Thomas all from Lincoln Trail; Helen Poffenberger, Rochester; Helen Rilling, Auburn-Mail Box; Virginia Westerhold, Jerome; Lice Arnett, Springfield-Mail Box; Eunie Krone, Buffalo.

Now the fun began with Edna Carnahan, Northernaires Unit, dressed as she did 60 years ago with her boa and pill box hat. She gave us a complete run down on her travels and all the people she met - like Clark Cable and all the guys that liked to dance. In fact, she danced the heels right off her shoes.

Our guest speaker was Mary Lea Prentice, District IV Director, who inspired us to continue to move forward.

After a delicious lunch, we continued the meeting in a different light. Mary Lou Brownell, International, introduced Liz Muench and Peggy Ostermeier who recently returned from a month in Finland. They gave us some interesting information about the country we have been studying, including a slide presentation showing the places where they stayed, the food they ate and the country in general. The meeting was the Highlight of the Year!

Martha Lawson, Public Relations

### TAZEWELL COUNTY.....

In September, TCAHCE held an officers workshop where officers and board shared ideas and gained information.

## DISTRICT NEWS

### TAZEWELL COUNTY cont'.....

Plans continue to develop for Tazewell's 90th anniversary gala which will be celebrated in May, 2008. It is to be held in Morton at the Ashland House.

CVU forms have been sent to each member via the newsletter, "The Tattler". Hopefully more and more people will participate each year with the form being so handy.

Tazewell County is pairing up with neighboring Peoria County in February for an international event on Greece.

HCE Week was celebrated in each unit in its own special way. Yard signs were available for members who would use them advertising Home and Community Education—Learn, Grow, Care plus the Extension office phone number for information.

Here's an idea on gaining membership. Invite husbands of members to join. Some of the lessons can be pertinent to men as well as women. Also, the husbands sometime help out—at the 4-H fair, Red Cross blood drives, fund-raisers, etc.

Shirley Kelly, Public Relations

### WOODFORD COUNTY.....

Greetings from Woodford County. The weather for the 4-H Fair was wonderful and the HEA Food Stand was a resounding success. On opening day, we started by serving 30 members of the Eureka Rotary Club and their program was presented by members of 4-H.

In an effort to attract new members to HEA, the Board came up with several ideas. A decision was made to purchase jar openers with the HEA logo and Jeanette Malcome, 2nd Vice President, distributed these along with a HEA brochure during the 4-H Fair and again at Eureka Fest in August. In the August 8th edition of the Woodford Courier, an article featuring Rosemary Hartter, a lifelong HEA member, and her mother's influence in bringing

HEA to Woodford County in the 1930's was published. Rosemary has also decided to sponsor members of her family as At Large members. Also, we have printed a coupon in the October issue of our newsletter that would entitle a prospective member to a free year of membership with the hope that by the end of the year they would see the benefit of staying a member.

With the holidays fast approaching, our Board is planning our annual lunch out and we will be bringing gifts of toiletry items to be distributed by Heart House and are also encouraging members of all the units to do the same at their meetings.

Wishing all of you around the State a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Gerry Meares, Public Relations

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## DISTRICT 5

### Marilyn Daughhete, District Director

I certainly enjoy the change of season--summer to fall. Some of the foliage is really pretty I noticed as my cousin and I drove back from Texas visiting my sister. Of course, this time also makes you think of the holiday to come—Christmas. My family is trying to plan when we can all get together for Christmas. They will be coming from Arizona, Colorado, Ohio, Missouri and some in Illinois, so it takes planning. My family is beginning to grow again as my oldest granddaughter is getting married next summer and the next oldest granddaughter is having a boy in December. I will be a great-grandmother!. Exciting times are ahead for us.



I want to say thank you for the past almost 3 years as your District Director. It has been a wonderful position on the board because I was able to visit all of District 5 counties. I have enjoyed meeting everyone in each county. Thank you so much for the warm welcome I always received each time I visited you. I

## DISTRICT NEWS

know you will enjoy your next district director, Mary Jane Wood, from McLean County. She will be installed at the conference in March, 2008.

Congratulations to the many activities counties are working. I certainly enjoy reading your newsletters and the wonderful projects you all are doing. Many are working on membership drives, collecting school supplies, providing backpacks of food for needy children, sending boxes to our soldiers in Iraq and studying Greece as the International project.

I hope many of you will attend the IAHCE conference March 11-13, 2008 in Effingham. The theme is "Have a Cup of Tea with IAHCE". The board is busy planning the share shops, entertainment and meals for you. So we look forward to greeting you at the opening luncheon and tea party. Don't forget to wear a hat to the party.

Have a blessed holiday season this year. Thank you again for allowing me to be your district director. I have certainly loved it.

*Marilyn Daughetee*

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### CHAMPAIGN COUNTY.....

Champaign Count continues to make neck coolers for our service personnel serving in Iraq. July 15, we had seven volunteers making 64 neck coolers and on August 15, seventeen volunteers came to make another 202. This has been a project for several years so we have made a few hundred. Materials as well as time have been volunteered. This is one small way we can convey to military they are appreciated. On August 15, TV channel 15 came to take pictures and show people working so it could be seen on the evening news that same day.

August 22, 2007 District IV and V held their District Meeting at the Holiday Inn, Urbana. Champaign County helped with the

registration.

We had a very nice attendance at our Officer Information Meeting on August 30 at the Farm Bureau Auditorium. After registering and picking up their packets, members were instructed to pick up refreshments of dishes of ice cream. Several different topping, nuts and whipped cream were available to make their own sundaes. This dessert seemed to be a big hit with everyone. After refreshments, each of the officers and directors then offered comments as to what each office entails and what had been accomplished this year.

The project for *Make a Difference Day* was collecting food for the Estern Illinois Food Bank.

Heritage Skills Day was in October at the Farm Bureau Auditorium with 49 in attendance. We had a nice amount of articles to be judged for state competition as well as one table of articles for just showing. Ten of our members brought craft items they had made for show and tell. Part of them also gave instructions on how to make their item. Refreshments of homemade coffee cake, coffee and tea were served. This was a fast moving, enjoyable morning. Our Cultural Enrichment Director, Linda Holzhausen, has done a great job!

Millie Houch, Public Relations

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### CLARK COUTY.....

The Clark County HCE units held their Fall Meeting with the International lesson given by the units. The lesson started with Clarksville unit giving the Greek Alphabet and then showing the early use of the toga. Mary Lou Taylor was the model for this. They also told about the types of jobs in the country. Marshall Night discussed the background history and chief products of Greece. Westfield unit presented the weather, natural resources such as the lakes, rivers and mountains. Zion unit talked about the money units in comparison to

## DISTRICT NEWS

the United States and mentioned the food varieties. Friendly Neighbors concluded the program with a young, newly-wed that had been to Greece very recently. She discussed the people and arts of the areas that they had visited. Also, many lovely items were passed for all to see that she had returned with from the couples' visit.

Our noon meal was with Marshall Night serving a soup; Zion had meat balls and breads; Westfield served a delicious green bean dish and breads. Friendly Neighbors presented potato salad and this was topped off with cookies and apple cake for the Clarksville unit. Yum! Yum!

The ladies are working with the Linus Project to make coverlets for the preemies. Inez O'Rourke, Community Outreach chairman presented all of the information at the meeting. Kay Williams, treasurer of HCE, explained the uses of Pennies for Friendship to the group and had a container passed to collect change from the ladies. This is extra beyond what each unit had previously done.

The units are still working on adding membership for the year. We have been, will be and still are very active with the County-wide HCE.

Delores Maurer, Public Relations

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### DeWITT COUNTY.....

Ruth and Bob Peveryly were honored on June 28, 2007 by a visit to their home of three very important people. They were: Val Tarrant, New Zealand, retiring Chairman of the ACWW Project committee; Judy Bender, Wisconsin, President of County Women's



Counsel; and Louise Nichols, Indiana, retiring Treasurer of ACWW, present USA Area President for ACWW.

Val is on the left in back with Judy. Bob and Louise is sitting. Ruth took the photo.

Individual HCE members and units have been busy making bookmarks. Many bookmarks have been delivered to our four DeWitt County Libraries— Clinton , Farmer City , Weldon and Waynesville. Also, some have been delivered to our schools. All this interest and work has been appreciated. The response from the libraries has been enthusiastic. The libraries have had nice book displays with our bookmarks in, on and around the books. We plan to deliver bookmarks through 2007. With our HCE label on the back, each bookmark states we are active in the community.

Our next project will be to save coupons with brand names from newspaper supplements and fliers. These will be sent to military in Germany and Middle East that can be used in their PX. Especially needed are coupons for baby items. We are still working with neck coolers.

Our annual day was held June 15<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker was the "The Apron Lady". She had approximately 700 aprons and spoke about embroidery aprons. Everyone was encouraged to wear an apron to the meeting. We remembered our deceased members and honored our long time members. A buffet lunch was served. The day was enjoyed by all.

On October 19<sup>th</sup> our annual county meeting was held. Melinda Evans, former librarian, presented a book review and book suggestions for some good reading. The chief of local police department spoke on scams and frauds. It was a very informative meeting—A GOOD DAY!

Emily Colbert, PR

## DISTRICT NEWS

### EDGAR COUNTY.....

HCE week in Edgar County is a "BIG DEAL". Our International Night and Craft Day are always very well attended.



This year, each unit was asked to put up a display promoting HCE in their community. I wish I could share pictures of

all of them—but that is not possible. I am sharing with you a photo of our summer parade float, our Edgar County HCE Board display and our County Cultural Arts Chairperson, Kay Brinkley, showing off our Craft Day offerings.



We have fun in Edgar County HCE. Go HCE!

Betty Porter, Public Information

### MACON COUNTY.....

Our Macon County HCE has had a busy summer. We provided snacks for the band concerts in the park for two evenings and then held an International Event with each Unit choosing a county and making a display of that county. Display included food to taste, pictures, articles of clothing, historical facts, flags, articles made in the specific county and souvenirs. Everyone enjoyed this event, all who came and all who set up the display.

Macon County made name tags for the District IV and V workshop and provided entertainment with the skit, *Henny Finny Joins HCE*.



We joined in on Women's Day at the Civic Center on August 25th with a table set up handing out HCE information on membership and a drawing for a basket full of gifts.

The Mayor of Decatur made a proclamation that the week of Oct 13-20 would be HCE Week. To start the week, we had a candy-making day on Saturday.. Our members made various candies, offering taste samples, and recipes. On Monday, our members were able to sign up for massages, pedicures and manicures during the "Treat Yourself Day" at the Villa Mall. On Thursday we spent a day tying Linus blankets.

The fall Annual Meeting was on Oct 31, and the theme was *Remembering the Past*. Our speaker, Mitch Lowe who is an antique appraiser spoke on determining true antiques, their markings and items which are popular at the present time. He also appraised items that the members brought. We had some most unusual items. One being a religious item gypsies had left with a family because they had allowed the gypsies to stay in the home on a cold night; a curtain used in a horse drawn hearse; a ring brought back for an engagement ring during WW I with a snake on it and the intended bride refused to wear it. There were many other interesting and unusual items.



At the Fall Meeting we voted to have name for our Macon County Newsletter. Of the 12 names suggested, *Homemaker Connections* was chosen by a vote of hands. Jolene Wiegard had submitted this name. We elected County Board Members and District 5 Director, Marilyn Daughetee installed the



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new officers and gave them a small box to aid in their duties. We had many prizes given out at the meeting; a door prize, 3 prizes of \$5 off membership dues, and yellow roses was given to each of our guests, a drawing for members who remembered to wear their box of stars. A 50/50 drawing which was won by Diane Reed and the tickets sold for \$1 or 6 tickets for \$5. A collection was taken for the Northeast Community Food Pantry to purchase food. The Pennies for Friendship can was also passed.

In our County Newsletter, we are honoring our "50 year members" with a personal interview each month. As we have twelve "50 year members", it will take us 2 years to have a special article on each one.

As the year 2008 approaches, we will be starting with some new county officers, making plans for 2008 lessons, printing the programs books and getting the new year off to a great start.

Dorothy Albert, Public Relations

### McLEAN COUNTY.....

Late summer found our HCE members involved at the McLean County Fair in the HCE Booth where our activities and information were displayed so that fair goers would know who we are and what we do. We also helped with the Young At Heart (Senior Citizens) morning-out where they were entertained with special music, refreshments, free give away and information about Senior Services.

On Wednesday, the 26th of September, 32 people left the Extension parking lot on Hershey at 6:30AM. We were taken by Peoria Charter to historic St. Charles, Missouri. While there, we learned a lot about Lewis and Clark and about the Missouri Rivers oldest city and first State capital.

We arrived at St. Charles around 10:00AM and a guide joined us on our bus to take a tour of historical St. Charles. Among other things the guide pointed out was St. Charles' oldest building built in 1790; told us at one time owners paid taxes on the number of windows and doors; pointed out some iron snow birds on the roof of one house that caused the snow to melt faster as the iron heated; as well as many other things. Especially interesting was the Mother-in-Law House. A bride was homesick for her mother so the house was built so she could be brought over to live with the newly-weds. The husband had the house built so there was a solid wall lengthwise through the middle of the house. Of course the bride wasn't very happy about that. This house has been made into the Mother-in-Law Restaurant and that is where we ate lunch. (We saw no sign of a solid wall through the middle of the house.)

After a delicious lunch, we were taken to the Lewis and Clark Boat House and Nature Center built just three years ago. The museum exhibits and movie told us a lot about our US history and Lewis and Clark. Two replicas of boats used in the expeditions were there and a volunteer who had traveled on these boats told us about them.

Shopping was an attraction for most of the people attending. We had approximately two hours to shop and many took advantage of the great variety of stores available.

We left St. Charles around 4:00PM; ate at a fast food stop and arrived back in Bloomington around 7:45PM.

October was designated as HCE Month. Our President, Kathryn McNeely, created a calendar for the month that was given to each member with suggested activities for each day. Units put displays in libraries and craft events. HCE was promoted on local McDonald's October tray liners. Members were encouraged to hand out small HCE Business Cards with telephone numbers to call for information, and hand out the McLean HCE Pamphlet that gives information about HCE

## DISTRICT NEWS

with Unit and meeting times listed. Lessons and fact finds and events are listed and telephone numbers of contact people

The second Trip Around McLean County traveled to Gridley to visit the Telephone Museum. In El Paso, we enjoyed touring Furrows Winery, having lunch and visiting the Antique and Craft Malls. These County trips have been well received and more are being planned.

HCE hosted an international program about Greece presented by 4 women of Greek heritage. Members and guests were entertained and enlightened as these women shared their stories and foods. One woman told about, and shared foods that are Greek Orthodox foods with connections to the Greek Orthodox Church.

In December, we host the program "Brighten Your Holidays" to be given by Extension Educators; Donna Falconnier, Cammy Seguin, & Kathy Sweedler. It is another opportunity for members and guests to benefit from HCE.

Cultural Enrichment has been busy this fall with workshops on decorating gourds and making a reversible Monkey Wrench Table Runner. Members are encouraged to make items for the Cultural Enrichment Contest that will be held in January.

We have continued to reach out to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan and this year have sent 32,950 items in 183 boxes to over 70 soldiers who are from or have family in McLean County. The postage is paid from McLean County Association Home and Community Education board. And we have mailed over 51,300 coupons to Germany for the U.S. Soldiers families. These items and coupons have been collected by residents of McLean County.

Congratulations to Mary Jane Wood of Heyworth, who is the McLean County Family Issues Chairperson and a member of the Night

Owls Unit. She has been elected as Director of District 5. We look forward to seeing her installed at the Annual Conference in March.

Sheila Wells, Public Information  
& Mary Lou Schuler

## PIATT COUNTY.....

We had our usual summer fund raiser at Farmer's Market in Monticello. It was one of the hottest summers on record, but sales were good and meeting new people and the other vendors was good. With our banner on display and HCE information for hand out, we kept our organization publicized. Our units are receiving funds from the fund raiser to use as they wish for local charities, as last year. Members are checking their volunteer hours as we near the end of another year. Our volunteers are so generous with their time for Faith in Action, sewing, reading visiting at nursing homes, medical appointments, Meals on Wheels, Low Vision, Food Pantry, etc.



October 24, 2007 Craft Day - Making Fall Decorations  
L-R - Nancy Born, Vivian Faulkner-King, Janet Crandall, Norma Sievers, Rosemary Brandenburg, Miriam Seevers  
Seated - Elaine Dresback, Lori Hintz

We had two craft days that we made neck coolers to send to troops in Iraq. Over 100 of these were sent in June. Word was received that they were really appreciated. Now we are supporting Operation Support Our

# DISTRICT NEWS

Troops-Illinois. We will be collecting items from their "Wish List" to send.

We studied Greece for our International lesson. It was a very interesting country with so much history. The Greek foods prepared for training school were great.

A very special program "Brighten Your Holidays" was presented by Piatt County Extension for the public and for our unit training school. Three educators from U of I Extension presented an excellent program with helpful hints on: Reduce Stress, Money Tips, Family Traditions, Credit Card Smarts, Gift Ideas, Holiday, Holiday Recipes and of course, great food to taste.

We have many good programs for the new year; sch as Finding Your Get Up and Go, Finding Sanity in Today's World, What's the Flack Over Fat?, HEALTHY Desserts, Seasonal Care for the Home Landscape and Meals for the Homebound. A good year to look forward to.

Happy Holidays to Everyone and we are almost there!

Libby Glasgo, Public Relations

orientated and conference classes with topics including fashion review, foods, sports nutrition.

PAHCE member plan to increase the local achievement programs into other areas of counties in 2007-2008 year.

*4-H Hall of Fame 2007 Includes Ruby Christy*  
Ruby Christy allows one who knew her to stand proud as she was dedicated to 4-H work. She was a 4-H member, 4-H parent and 15 year leader. Many hours were spent annually to prepare for her trip as 4-H staff member at the State Fair in the Junior Home Economics Building. She gave 54 years to that position.

2006 found that Ruby Christy passed away. However, she was one of 44 named to the 4-H Hall of Fame in 2007. Her daughter, Rosie Christy, accepted the Commemorative Hall of Fame medallion on Ruby's behalf.

One must not neglect to note, she was past PAHCE member and member of bi-county board who always had a new craft idea or some special trip the members would attend. She is truly missed.

*Moultrie-Douglas Counties*

Third graders attending several schools in Douglas and Moultrie counties continue to very interested in competing quilt blocks for the 2007-2008 school year. The theme for this year relates to holidays throughout the year. Once the blocks are completed, PAHCE members will complete the quilts which are displayed throughout the local communities.

During 2006-2007 school year, 200 quilts were completed. Then tickets were sold with winners announced. It's truly amazing to note the beautiful designs created. Money generated by the quilt raffle is shared with the schools and to purchase supplies for the future.

Winona Saathoff, Public Relations

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## PRAIRIE.....

*PAHCE Units Support 4-H*

4-H members attend local achievement programs sponsored by Atwood and Bowebon PAHCE unit members display projects, gave talks and demonstrations prior to the County Fair.

4-H in Moultrie and Douglas counties just completed another year with 24 members attending the State in General Show. Sampling of projects included microwave magic, tractor operations, soy beans, metal, breads and cereals, animal science and wood working. Equally important, six members gave action

## DISTRICT NEWS

### SHELBY COUNTY.....

Shelby County had a busy summer, helping with the 4-H BBQ in June and running the 4-H Cook Shack at the Shelby Co. 4-H Fair in July. Luckily, it was not as hot as some summers and the new insulated ceiling helped. We had good workers, as usual, and we sold more food the first 2 days than we had all 3 last year!

International Night was held on September 27th and about 23 people were present. (This was just for the International Chairpersons in each unit and food was prepared by them.



The table was groaning with Greek foods at the Shelby County International training.

These people will return with the recipes to their units and the groups will make the foods in their units in the November meetings.) The attendees seemed to like the Greek foods.

Our speakers for the evening were Martha Hoene, a former IFYE delegate to Greece who showed slides from about 20 years ago; and Katie Zuber, from the Effingham Extension Office, who was in Greece last summer for 2 weeks and who talked along with Martha about things that had changed and things that had not. (Most had not changed!)

Shelby County ladies and guests from Effingham HEA enjoy the Greek food. Speaker Martha Hoene is on the near right.



We all enjoyed their talks and the slide show as well as a scrapbook and articles from their travels.

Debbie Borries, Public Relations

### DISTRICT 6



Sandra Bechtold, District Director

Time has just flown by and especially if you are having fun. My term for District 6 Director will end March,

2009 so I'm busy looking for my replacement. I've told everyone that the District Director job is the best one on the Board, and I'm not kidding. It's an honor to represent 17 counties on the Board and so interesting to visit them. I learn something each time I go.

Please contact me if you or someone you know are interested and willing to be the District Director. I will answer any questions you have and begin your training early. We vote on this at the fall Workshop in August, 2008 so we can't fool around. Please keep this in mind and give me a call.

Happy Holidays to you all and may God Bless you all, especially your loved ones in harms way. Hope to see you all at the 2008 Conference in Effingham.

Sandy Bechtold, District Director

### BOND COUNTY.....,

*63rd Annual Meeting of Bond County HEA  
"Lazy Days of Summer"*

July 16, 2007 at the Bond County Homemakers food stand located on the Bond County Fairgrounds, in Greenville, IL, the Bond County Home Extension Association held their 63rd annual HEA meeting. The theme was "Lazy Days of Summer". The program was on women's self defense techniques. The business meeting was held after lunch was served. It was noted that Bond County HEA has seven charter members. This represents 441 years of combined membership in the Bond County HEA. The seven charter members are Nellie Cripe, Frances Ganzer, Helen Upton, Harriet

## DISTRICT NEWS

Siebert, Helen Strotheide, Learh Hiller and Pernecy Young. Congratulations to these members on 63 years of membership in Bond County HEA!

### *Bond County HEA Craft Day October 2, 2007*

The Bond County HEA held a craft camp at their food stand building located on the Bond County Fairgrounds, in Greenville, IL from 9am to 2:30 pm. Lunch was served from 11am until 1 pm. A variety of crafts were available for a nominal fee to the members and guests to make that day. Some of the items included placemats, Cabochon jewelry, painted jack-o-lantern jar, pumpkin boy, a scarecrow which was constructed using old jeans, old flannel shirt, a ball and a NEW toilet bowl plunger, he was 6 ft tall and displayed on a double shepherd's hook; silk ribbon embroidery poinsettia gift bag, holiday wreath, pot holders, photo transfer bag, machine appliqué, child's apron and holiday pins. It was a fun day of fellowship, crafting and eating! We are already looking forward to next year's craft camp!

Bond County HEA in conjunction with the Dudleyville 4-H Club, will be sending care packages to American Soldiers Stationed in Harm's Way in November. This is an ongoing project. We are continually accepting donations at the Bond County 4-H office in Greenville, IL. At the regular monthly meeting of the Dudleyville 4-H Club on Sunday, November 18, 2007, care packages will be assembled and they will then be mailed on Monday, November 19, 2007. The American Soldier Stationed in Harm's Way Care Package Project was started on Sunday, December 7, 2003 and has continued on a regular basis since that time. We have BBQ fund raisers throughout the year in addition to a great support of the residents of Bond County to help gather the items and the finances needed to continue this project. We use flat rate postal boxes, which cost \$9.15 per box for

postage. The care packages in November will contain Christmas candies and other Christmas items in addition to the usual snack foods! A significant number of these soldiers are graduates of Bond County Community Unit #2 High School in Greenville, IL and several of them are past Bond County 4-H members.

Brenda Sue Thiems, Public Relations

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## CLAY COUNTY.....

Since reporting in the last issue, the Clay County HEA members have been busy. The units furnished pies for the Clay County Fair in July. Some members attended the craft workshop at Du Bois.

Eight county Board members attended the District Workshop in Mt. Vernon. A delicious meal was enjoyed. The meetings each attended gave us useful information to take back to our county to pass along to all of the units.

Our Country Store was held on October 6th. Each unit furnished a 'theme basket' and one Board member also furnished one and then we sold raffle tickets. All units brought items (crafts, clothes, baked items, jewelry, etc.) to sell. The theme baskets were taken to Louisville Fall Festival on October 27th, where more tickets were sold. Winners will be drawn at our County Board meeting.

At different times, members have gotten together and made crafts, some members went to care homes to have demonstrations on personal care, worked at food pantry's and other various things.

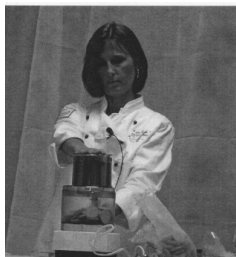
Soon, plans will be made for Christmas. Several will be attending the 2008 Conference.

Eula Lewis, Public Relations

## DISTRICT NEWS

### CLINTON COUNTY.....

Greetings from Clinton County in southern Illinois. It may not look or feel like Christmas yet, but we have just completed our annual Christmas in October. We had another successful evening with over 300 participants. Our main speaker was Lynn "Thilman "The Food Fare-e". Lynn is a certified personal chef and is a member of the U.S. Personal Chef Association. She had quite a few helpful hints for us and lots of suggestions.



Lynn Thilman

Christmas in October is our major fundraiser for the year. This year as in the past, we had over 50 beautiful donated



Florence Pingsterhaus

items for the raffle. Many of the items were hand-made. This past year we used some of the profits from Christmas in October to make donations to our local hospital, St. Joseph's, to benefit the Senior

Renewal Program and also some for the Diabetes Program. The Diabetes Program was going to use some of the monies to purchase a DVD player and a talking glucose meter. The DVD player and DVD's will benefit all that participate in the diabetes education program and the talking glucose meter will benefit the visually impaired.

This past summer we had a wonderful trip to St. Charles, MO. Everyone enjoyed the old-time shops and craft stores. Coming up we will be having a Christmas shopping trip to the St. Louis Mills. It should be very enjoyable for anyone who has never been able to go over there.

In addition to our trips, we also have programs coming up on Dining with Diabetes and Food and Fitness, as well as a quilt workshops coming soon. It should be a very busy fall and

before we know it will be Christmas, and then 2008!

From Clinton County, we hope you all have a safe and wonderful Holiday Season!

Betty Bruns, Public Relations

### EFFINGHAM COUNTY.....

On September 17, HEA Board members met with Carolyn Willenburg, chairperson of the Effingham County Board to sign a proclamation stating HEA Week in Effingham County will be observed October 7 thru October 13.



Carolyn Willenburg, seated

September 26 was International Night for Shelby County HEA. Effingham Board members, Mary Beth Hoene, President and Bev Elving, International Director, were guests of Shelby County. International Directors from each unit prepared a recipe from the lesson on Greece. After the meal, each Director told about her dish and any problems or changes she made. Guest speaker, Martha Hoene of Sigel, gave a slide presentation and told about her experiences as an IFEYE exchange student several years ago.

Bev is planning an International Night for the persons who will be giving the lesson on Greece in January.

Effingham County HEA Week was observed October 7-13. On Monday, October 8, Board members held their monthly meeting. During the week, walker caddies were given to veterans in area nursing homes. A book on quilting and bookmarks, made by HEA members, were given to local libraries. School supplies were given to various schools in the county and will be given to the students as

## DISTRICT NEWS

they are4 needed.

On Thursday, October 11, a tea/craft day was held at the Extension Center. Participants could paint a wooden snowman or a pumpkin gourd; or cut and layer a picture in a papier tole project. Various displays included products from Hodgkins Mills and a display of different kinds of pumpkins and gourds. Master Gardeners had a display of magnified seeds and edible seeds. Refreshments and a wide variety of teas were available for everyone to enjoy.

On Saturday, October 13, a Christmas stocking workshop for area youth was held. Girl scouts, 4-H members and other youth were invited to come and make stockings which will be donated to FISH. HEA members volunteered to help cut, pin and sew the stockings. This has been a community project for the last several years.

On November 26, Extension Educators, Bev Combs and Pat Hildebrand, will be presenting "ABC's of Holiday Kitchen". The program is from 7-9 PM with a \$3.00 charge which will cover the cost of the recipe booklet and samples which will be prepared by HEA Board members.

Mary Beth Hoene, President

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### FAYETTE COUNTY.....

Fayette County HCE has been busy the past few months. Last week a Christmas workshop was held at the office for any member and guests wanting to attend. That will be the November lesson in the units.

**Homemaker of the Year**

Lucille Fisher  
Sefton Unit



Our county money making project this fall is selling the Rada Cutlery products. It is going quite well, so it should be a good deal for

our club.

The International night was held October 25th in St. Elmo. Shirley Klitzing always does a fine job putting this together. The speaker was Donna Stumeyer.

The different units are doing several projects. We always take items to Marion VIA Hospital, our local pregnancy center, each town's food banks, caring and sharing project in Vandalia and many more. This year Rea Evans in Vandalia is coordinating a family for a special Christmas. We look forward to that.

Myself, I would appreciate cooperation of all HCE ladies in the following endeavor. Please send Christmas cards with notes, photos, stamps or whatever you can think of to a wounded soldier at:

Walter Reed Medical Center  
Attn: Any Wounded Soldier  
6900 Georgia Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20307

Let's show these fine women and men in the military that all of the ladies in this state are grateful and caring.

We would personally like to invite all of you to visit any of our meetings anytime you are in our area. Vandalia has a lovely tradition of open house with the old statehouse. The candles are all lit. A large tree is full of homemade traditional ornaments. Punch and cookies are served with beautiful Christmas music. Call ahead for the dates. Happy Holidays to all of you.

Janet Lusch, Public Relations



## DISTRICT NEWS

### JASPER COUNTY.....

Freda Weddell, 2nd Vice Chairman holding banner.



Five members of the Jasper County IAHCE attended the Annual Conference held at the Thelma Keller Convention Center, Effingham, Illinois March 21-22, 2007. Freda Weddell carried the Jasper County banner in the Banner Parade on March 21. She was also a voting delegate for our county and attended the business meeting voting on various issues.

Vera Hetger worked at the registration table on Tuesday.

Those attending on Wednesday and the Elsie Meis Banquet were Vera Hetger (50+ member), Marge Thompson, Nancy Ochs, Norma Swisher and Freda Weddell.

The Jasper County HEA Annual Banquet was held Monday, April 23, 2007 at the Sunrise Community Center. A memorial service was given by Freda Weddell: "We pause this evening to remember those courageous women who became members of Jasper County Home Bureau, which was organized on April 14, 1945. After 62 years, we recognize the contribution by the volunteer members, who united to make members home and community a better place to live." A white candle was lighted to signify they are no longer walking among us, but may be in a garden of beautiful memories--always to fill our hearts with happiness!

Ms. Waddell also gave the invocation before the bountiful meal catered by Deb's Catering, Altamont, Illinois.

A scholarship was given to Bridget L. Kistner, Jasper County. She plans to attend St. Louis University to major in chemistry and pre-medicine. She would like to get into medical school to become a pediatrician.

Sandra Bechtold, District VI Director installed the new officers fro 2007-2008 year. She

also gave an interesting presentation about "Quilts in her life".

"50" year members were recognized and given a certificate: May Jean Fear, Eloise Fritschle, Mary Hartrich and Dorothy Woods.

Jasper County HEA Quilt Showcase held March 15, 2007 at the Sunrise Community Center which was an opportunity for members and residents to display their treasured quilts. About sixty quilts were shown and admired! The show was from 3:00PM to 6:00PM; at the 6:30PM "Quilts Painting the Way", a program explaining how quilts were important to the Underground Railroad. Refreshments were served after the program, compliments of the Jasper County HEA units and Board. We had a free membership drawing and gained four new members!

At a recent HEA Board meeting of the new officers, plans were made for the new year: A trip to the Covered Bridge Festival at Bridgeton, Ind.; Pat an Bev will present "ABC's of Christmas". This will be a county presentation at the Sunrise Center. Toys for Tots project-giving new toys to needy children of Jasper County; a fish fry 4-7PM at K of C Hall; having a basket raffle.

The September lesson is on Hawaiian cooking.

Freda Weddell, 2nd Vice President

### MADISON COUNTY.....

H.C.E. week was celebrated October 14-20 in Madison county. Rox-ann Unit displayed a window display at the Alton Square Mall. One of the charter members, Kay Losch, is still an active member now. She remembers the meetings at the members homes. The Home Adviser would come to the meetings to give the lessons and one of the lessons was "How to iron a shirt".

Also, during H.C.E. week, we celebrated



## DISTRICT NEWS

International Night featuring "Greece". Bernice Johnson, teacher at Edwardsville High School, was the speaker for the evening. The menu was Pita Bread and Tzatziti dip, Greek Salad, Noursaku, Stuffed Grape leaves-Dolhas, Beans with onions and tomatoes and dill, Pita Salad, Fresh Plate and Baklava for dessert. In the program book was the history of Greece and the Greek alphabet. With 16 guests attending, there was a drawing and three guests received a free 1 year membership. Those in attendance really enjoyed learning more about Greece.

By the time you receive this newsletter, our county fundraiser, "Christmas in November" will be a thing of the past. November 1st was a special evening in Madison county with the theme "Bells and Bows". The county board provided a light supper consisting of a croissant sandwich, chips, pickle, jello salad and a cookie. Entertainment was provided by "Bells and a Beau". There was also raffle prizes with some beautiful theme baskets, door prizes and a Pot of Gold drawing. Also a silent auction and the drawing for H.I.S. K.I.D.S. Quilt raffle. There were over 200 people in attendance for the fun evening.

Charlene Bandy, Public Relations

## MONTGOMERY COUNTY.....

The Montgomery County Association for Home and Community Education held their 71st annual meeting on June 28, at the Montgomery Extension Building Hillsboro. The Montgomery county Home Bureau was formed on August 14, 1936, with 337 members. The name was later changed to Home Extension Association and then to the present name of Montgomery Association for Home and Community Education. The biggest goal of the 1936 membership was to raise enough money so the adviser, Mabel Albrecht, could have a car, enabling her to visit the various units around the county. When she traveled, she'd take along the latest information from the storehouse of the

University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service. Among the charter units were Harvel, Butler Grove and College Hill. Butler Grove and College Hill are still active units. Today Montgomery County has seven units and seventy members.

There were thirty six members and two guests in attendance. The theme was "Thinking Outside the Box". The Pledge of Allegiance led by Deloris Hennings and a blessing was said by Shirley Plunkett before the meal. Malanos Catering served the meal. The Fillmore Unit was in charge of registration, Happy Homemakers Unit made table favors and the Live Wives Unit cleaned up. The College Hill unit had seven of their eight member in attendance and the Live Wives, the unit with the most members, had ten of their twenty-one members in attendance. Plans for the 2008-2009 were discussed.

Officers for the 2007-2008 year are Chairman, Delores Hennings; 2nd Vice Chairman, Shirley Plunkett; Secretary, Janice Galer; Treasurer, Connie Miller; Cultural Enrichment, Wilda Pfeifer; and Public Relations, Mary Reynolds.

Jerold Dowding of Wind Valley Instruments presented the program. Mr. Dowding played several songs on the flute, displayed several of his instrument and had CD's for sale.

Fifty year plus members are fifty three years, Leona Doehler, a mail box member; fifty five years, Eileen Kiefer, College Hill; and Laura Huber, Coffeen; fifty nine years, Anita Rundqui8st and Lorene Sammons, Butler Grove; and sixty year member Beulah Whitten, Fillmore. Anyone interested in becoming a member of MCHCE may contact Shirley Plunkett at 533-4417.

Mary Reynolds, Publicity Director



## DISTRICT NEWS

### ST. CLAIR COUNTY.....

What a wonderful day, September 25, for 48 St. Clair County HCE members and guests. They shared many wonderful dishes at a salad luncheon, "You're the Apple of My Eye". To follow this theme, Mr. Kurt Range, from Braetigam Orchards and horticulture coordinator at Southwestern Illinois College, spoke to us about the history of a number of locally grown apples. First, he asked us to taste the apples and rank the apples as to our favorites. He made the program so interesting, talking about the orchards and the opportunity he has to help people develop their interest in growing things. Second, he shared with us some delicious orchard squeezed cider.

Many laughs were shared with, story teller, Ms. Liz Klingler. Not only did she share many funny stories, she talked about the importance of laughter for your physical and mental health.

This program is just a small sample of some things that your unit could do to invite guests to showcase your unit.

*Things that a unit could do to let people know about your unit in the community.*

1. Have a discussion about ladies to ask to join at a meeting or appoint a committee to do this.
2. Have a guest meeting or a special meeting to showcase your unit activities. (A sample lesson, county and state service projects, quilts, bears, servicemen items we collect, Christmas needy, etc.)
3. Make sure that special project information is sent to the local newspaper and to the county public relations chairman.

Julie Heberer, 2nd Vice President

### DISTRICT 7

Treasa Brookman, District Director



### FRANKLIN COUNTY.....

We thought we would have some time off from HEA activities in Franklin County after we finished helping cook for the 4-H Fair. But - I guess, as the old saying goes - 'no rest for the wicked!' Well, I know we aren't wicked, but we certainly have kept busy!

We finished the Car Cruises nights in August and sat back to take stock. Well, it wasn't long until we began our meetings with Williamson County HCE and made plans for our Annual Family Issues Update Date. We co-host with Williamson County HCE and take turns each year hosting. This is a full day of classes and entertainment.

Saturday, November 1st, was our 31st Annual Christmas Ideas Day and Health Fair. Our attendance was up this year. We registered over a thousand guests. We charge no admission to this event. All we ask is that everyone bring something for the local food pantry, Marion VA Hospital or our new children's center. We are outgrowing the civic center. We have had to limit vendor space. We have many professional craft vendors and our units sell their handmade crafts as well. Good food - entertainment and friendship - all rolled into one day!

Our board became acquainted with an Elder Law attorney. We invited him to bring his presentation to our membership. He and his program was so well received that we scheduled him again. He was forthright and quickly answered questions and gave answers that could be understood. We recommend his kind of program to every county as this is a 'hot topic'.

We are busy helping the civic center. Several years ago, after attending a board meeting, we found that our civic center was 'broke'. What does that say to women. If it's broke we try to

## DISTRICT NEWS

fix it. Well, after helping out, what did we do? The first thing we did was suggest holding a concert; they had done this in the past. Our HEA unit ended up baking about 200 pies and the civic center sold them the evening of the concert at outrageously high prices and we were on the way! Never looking back. Now, several concerts, featuring 50's, 60's and 70's groups, are scheduled throughout the year. And I am happy to say that our civic center is now in the black! Volunteers can do most anything.

Our board members attended the August Workshop and were well pleased with the information that was given and that could be brought home to our county. We are looking forward to attending the 2008 Annual Conference in Effingham in March.

Happy Holidays to all and see you in the spring!

Margaret Duncan, President and Co-Public Relations Director

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## JEFFERSON COUNTY.....

The long VERY DRY summer of '07 is in the history books, as are the many events that kept the Jefferson County Home and Community Education busy.

In late July many JCHCE members helped judge exhibits at the Jefferson County Fair. In early August HCE members helped at the annual 4-H Bar-B-Q held at the city park. Each unit donated cakes, cookies and pies. At the Bar-B-Q we sold quilt raffle tickets - the quilt will be raffled at our Annual Fund Raiser in November. Mid-August, during Mt. Vernon's Annual Sweet Corn & Watermelon Festival and Parade, we sold new and 'slightly used' purses, costume jewelry and bottled water. We also sold Quilt Raffle tickets and handed out newly revised JCHCE pamphlets, explaining who we are and what HCE is.

We attended the Fall District Workshop held in Mt. Vernon in August (this was personally my first such meeting and it was great! So many new things to think about - so much new information).

Those attending the Presidents' Fall Advisory meeting at the end of August also attended a 'Premier Jewelry Party'. Half of all profit was being donated back to us (1/4 of total sales). We also sold jewelry to our units and to any interested family members and friends.

Craft Camp was held at the Dubois Center with Jefferson County day being September 11th (Still NO rain).

October brought HCE week. On the 15th we all were to do a good deed (I treated a friend to lunch).

The 16th was International Night. JCHCE Board members each prepared one or more recipes from the Greek cookbook printed by International Chair, Ann Ganieany who decorated the tables in blue and white with Greek flags. Fifty five people attended, including our State International Director, Debbie Borries from Effingham. All ten County Units were represented.

At the County Board meeting on the 17th, we heard from a representative from the newly forming Jefferson County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates). As they have no funding except donation at this time we decided to give them a donation of crayons and coloring books to be given to their clients.

October 18th we were to call an old friend or visit a shut-in (I called a friend who lives out of the area who recently had breast cancer surgery and now awaits treatment.)

October 19th snacks and small stuffed toys were taken to the Amy Schulz Child Advocacy Center for children coming into the office.

## DISTRICT NEWS

October 20th - First Baby born in Jefferson County this week was given a gift and her mother was given an HCE membership for one year. (Then it RAINED and RAINED and RAINED!)

Quilt Chair, Barbara Shurtz, visited each Unit with our raffle quilt to promote raffle ticket sales.

November 5th we'll have a fun night playing Bunco.

We're all busy preparing for our Annual Fund Raiser, a Fish Fry to be held on November 10th, at which time we'll hold the Quilt Raffle and a cake walk. Each unit will supply cookies for the Fish Fry and cakes for the cake walk. Each Unit has been given the opportunity to have a table where they can raffle baskets or sell any other items they like.

Marge Wilcox, Public Relations

## PERRY COUNTY.....

Perry County Homemakers Education Association had a productive year which began in the fall. Several members attended Southern Illinois Craft Camp. Pennies for Friendship came next. The members collected over \$112 to support the effort. Using Friday, October the 13<sup>th</sup> as a good day, a group of ladies got together to sew for the Ovarian Cancer Block-a-thon. Forty quilt blocks were created and will be set and machine-quilted to donate to this worthwhile cause. Raffle tickets were sold at the Pinckneyville Mardi Gras. "Dolls and a Tea Party" was the theme of the annual Holiday Ideas Day held November 2. Joan Kufshie of Southwestern Illinois College gave the presentation on "Dolls Then and Now." Members displayed their well-cared for collections. The evening concluded with the awarding of the raffle prizes. Ruth Heiderscheit of DuQuoin won the quilt. The money raised was \$1845 which helped to

fund our new scholarships for Perry County students of any age studying agriculture and/or consumer science.

Lessons for Learning lessons were well attended this year. Our members "stepped up to the plate" to take the lessons and pass them on to their units. The Christmas party was held in Du Quoin at Alongi's Restaurant. In lieu of gifts, the money collected from board members was sent to Five Star Industries for Christmas gifts. Units gave to food to local food pantries during the Christmas season. Next on the agenda was HEA Quilting Days, the Passport Party, Donations to the Marion Veterans' Hospital and Annual Conference in Effingham. In April, Mary Ruggles of Nashville held an oil painting class in Du Quoin. Several members tried their hand at the class. The annual meeting was held at Winkle with a luau theme. New officers were installed by Treasa Brookman, our new District Seven Director.

A salad luncheon for old and new officers and directors was held May 14 in Pinckneyville. The committee met to review the scholarship applicants. Two \$500 scholarships from HEA were awarded for the first time this year.

The recipients were Angela Epplin and Adam Epplin. Jane Chapman, HEA President, gave out the awards.



Our members answered the call to help with the Perry County 4-H Shows by acting as judges and superintendents. Our officers attended the meeting in Benton in June. HEA members helped with local youth cooking schools during June and July. Ten people journeyed to St. Louis on July 5 to see the wonderful stage presentation of "The Lion King" at the Fabulous Fox Theater.

## DISTRICT NEWS

The final chapter of our HEA year ends in August with members selling raffle tickets at The American Thresherman Show. Our new county president, Jane Chapman, won honorary mention in the Great American Family contest. She has issued at S.O.S. to gain membership for our county. Our membership is down, but definitely not out. Jane will put some wind in our sails and then - full speed ahead.

Carolyn Bathon, Public Information Director

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## SALINE COUNTY.....

Saline County had a Perfect Week-End of weather for the *Past and Present Festival* September 29th and 30th. The Festival is sponsored by the county Homemakers Education Association. Saline County chairman, Wanda Raley and *Past to Present* chairman, Elizabeth Woodworth were very pleased with the large crowd that attended the Festival. Admission was only \$1.00 per car and a can of non-perishable food. The 4-H clubs parked the cars and collected the money and food. The food, which weighed almost twelve hundred pound, will be distributed among the food pantries in the county. At 4-H achievement night, Homemakers Education will present the Club with a monetary gift for their hard work and time.



Booth reservations were made in advance but with the warm weather, some vendors just came hoping to get a spot.

The pork rind, pop corn, funnel cakes and all the food was real tasty.

There were a lot of free things to look at

besides some demonstrations. You could make some items for a small fee and a lot of games and wagon rides were free with several other games for a small charge.

This is a wonderful two days of family fun for the community. There was something for everyone - washer pitching for adults and sack races or wheel barrow for the youth plus much more. We certainly need more of this in our area for the family. You will want to plan to attend next year...The Festival is always the last weekend in September at the Saline County Fairgrounds.

Georgia Murphy, Public Information

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## UNION COUNTY.....

### *HCE International Event*

The International Day was held February 22, 2007 at HCE office at 11:30AM. The event was well attended by HCE members. The room was brightly decorated with banners, fans, butterflies, pictures and other items from China provided by club member and Mrs. Blakely. A buffet meal of Chinese and American was enjoyed by all.

County HCE International chairperson, Betty Hickam, welcomed Joanne Blakely, who has visited China. She shared pictures and oriental items from her trip to mainland China. Blakely encouraged her audience to become informed about the needs of people in other cultures and to reach out to them. Betty Hickam painted a Chinese symbol for happiness which was won as a door prize by Betty Lingle.

### *Membership Report*

Our Union County HCE organization is delighted to show an increase in membership during the last nine months! We are happy to have as new members: Bunny Head, Doris

## DISTRICT NEWS

Simms, Linda Poston, Melody Keller, Beth Fultz, Susan Kessler, Lois Benson, Bonnie Hileman, Shirley Whitaker, Donna Mosby, Carol Berger and Marilyn Russell.

HCE has so much to offer everyone. It is truly continuing education. Not only do we offer lessons on a variety of subjects at our monthly meetings, but we can enlarge our circle of good friends. Debbie Heinrichs has organized a most successful once-a month craft day. The ladies attending have crafted and quilted and made a number of items that have been put to good use by nursing homes in the area and had a good time while working on the projects. Our members have enjoyed quilting together. Some lucky winner will treasure the quilt the members created and the proceeds of that project will go to provide scholarships for our 4-H students. Our units continue to work together to benefit 4-H and the community. In doing so, we benefit and grow personally.

We look forward to expanding our membership during the coming months. The first year of membership is free of charge. We offer education fellowship and or member are also really good cooks.

### *Union County Annual Meeting*

The Union County held their 48th annual meeting on April 19, 2007 at 5:00PM at the new University of Illinois Extension office. There were 32 members and 3 guests present. A potluck was enjoyed by all.

The Illinois Association for Home and Community Education, District Direct #7, Treasa Brookman, conducted the installation of our new board members. She challenged HCE members to step out of the box to move forward in our organization.

Memorial service for deceased member, Ophia Thomas and Blanche Mosby, were given by Janet Brumitt and Jane Bauer. Also, a moment of silence was observed for the Virginia Tech college students.

Lois Clutt read the story "Grandma's Apron", and she also modeled an apron that she made like what her grandmother used to wear. Her apron included straight pins and safety pins, attached for convenience, just as her Grandmother did in the old days.

Because the theme of the meeting was "Aprons", several members wore their aprons. The program was "Show and Tell" with each person telling their stories about their aprons.

Janet Brumitt won the prize for the oldest apron. It was hand embroidered and made by her Grandmother. The prize for the most unique apron was awarded to Maxine Ellis. Her apron had snap on pockets to attach different holiday emblems. Susan Sherwin received an award for the prettiest apron that was crocheted and woven with blue ribbons. The funniest apron was given to Barbara Bauer for her apron from Japan that looked like a kitten and had a tail in the back. Many aprons were on display including those with unique designs, bright colors, work aprons and aprons from other countries.

Jane Bauer, Public Relations

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## WASHINGTON COUNTY.....

Washington County Home and Community Education Association held several activities during HCE week, October 7-13th. A display showing the craft program and quilts was in the window at the radio station WNSV Nashville. Announcements were made by the radio station. Bulletins were sent to all churches in the county. Members attended church Sunday and flowers were placed in churches.

Monday, October 7th was the date for the presentation of the International program on the country of Greece, at St. Paul's Parish Hall, Nashville, TN. Jan Endris gave a slide presentation on Greece and a tasting bee was held.

## DISTRICT NEWS

Tuesday, October 8th, was the day that we remembered our senior citizens with a visit, card or phone call.

Wednesday, October 9th, was a special day for our children as we helped with their reading programs and cards.

Thursday, October 10th, veterans were remembered with cards, visit or phone calls.

Friday, October 11th, was our appreciation day for our office staff at Nashville as we served lunch and gave them flowers to thank them for their cooperation with our programs.

We enjoyed our families on Saturday and thanked them for their support.

Ten officers attended the District Workshop at the Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon, Il. The members provided the name tags and a centerpiece.

"Sixty Years and Still Going" was the theme for the county workshop held September 24th at Hoyleton Community Club Hall. The officers prepared a meal of casseroles, salad and desserts. The Master Gardener, Wanda Bright, talked and gave ideas for garden and flower bed care.

Twenty six members and guests attended Southern Illinois Craft Camp at Du Bois, Il. September 12th. The theme was "Baskets" and so Treasa Brookman displayed her collection of baskets and the ladies made several crafts.

A Christmas Special program is being held November 5th at the American Legion Home, Okawville, Il. with registration at 6:30PM. Amanda Tongate will demonstrate different ideas for gift wrapping and Carol Schlett will demonstrate Healthy Brunch casseroles. There will be a quilt raffle and exchange of gifts in Christmas containers.

"Crafts for Kids" will be held November 24th at Nashville Middle School. There will be crafts, games, stories and snacks for children three to nine years of age.

Adeline Blumhorst, Public Relations

Late arrival:

## District 2/3

### KANE COUNTY.....

Kane County HEA held Greek festivities at our International Day/New Member Luncheon Wednesday, October 17, 2007 at St. Call Church in Elburn. White roses were presented to the three new members (of nine) who attended. Everyday Greek items were on view, on loan from a local Greek Orthodox church, as we listened to the Greek travel tales of member Joan Ziethen. Francis Mills Family Catering of Hampshire provided a delicious Greek buffet.

This is our first year of offering a free year's membership to the first chairman of a new unit of eight or more members new to HEA, as our latest new unit of those still in existence was started in 1981 (Country Cousins). HEA continues to be the best kept secret in Kane County, so perhaps new units may be the best way to jumpstart membership. (A Women's Health Fair held in Elgin November 10 found viewers of our display unfamiliar with HEA.) Are there counties willing to share their supportive procedures for creating new units? At a future public event would it be productive to offer a prize of one year's free membership to an adult Kane County resident who provides the nearest estimate of the number of, say, conversational candy hearts in a large jar?

Fun Day is February 20 at St. Call Church in Elburn, with voting on Fine Arts and Craft Show entries. We had many outstanding entries last year, indicating our membership has a flair for expert craft skills. (They have not been interested in informal, casual crafts, however, so this is our first year without a Craft Day.)

Beth Engbrecht, Public Relations

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Mail to:

Sharon Middleton  
1190 Chelsea Way  
Decatur, IL 62526

Telephone:  
217-877-7229

E-mail:  
itole2@sbcglobal.net

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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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