

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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NEWSLETTER

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UNMASKING
the
POSSIBILITIES
with
IAHCE
in
2010

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FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY
EDUCATION
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CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE
www.iahce.org

From the Desk of the President

CONGRATULATIONS! What a great conference! My "mask" is off to Lynn Kearney and Sharon Middleton and all of the state board members for all their hard work. Thank you, members, for without you, it would not have been a success. The bottleneck was the umbrella parade. Wasn't it fantastic? There were so many participating, we ran out of marching room. The many members who decorated their umbrellas were very creative as well as beautiful.



Congratulations to the new board members installed during the Elsie Mies Banquet: Sandra Bechtold, 2nd Vice-President; Kay Brinkley, Cultural Enrichment director; Norma Korte, Family Issues director; Jan Edwards, District 4 director and Jean Pironi, District 2/3 director.

It was so exciting to receive the president's report forms from you this year. You have been very busy with a variety of service projects. I am so proud of the generosity of the members of IAFFC to the many in need in your communities. There was an increase in the number of members reporting their volunteer hours. You have volunteered **378,862** hours in 2009. The extension places a value of \$20.51 per hour, which makes a total of \$7,770,459.62. I do not know what the State of Illinois or the University of Illinois Extension would do without the unselfish giving of your time, your talents and gifts.

As you know from the Interim Director of Extension, Dr. Robert Hogft, there are many changes that must be made to the extension service because of the lack of funding from the state. It will be announced soon how the cutbacks will affect each county in the state. However, I know that we can adapt to these changes. We may have to do things differently, but it is a challenge that we can meet. This is a quote from Sir Winston Churchill "Never, never, never, never give up". **We are IAFFC members, we are women, (and a few men) and we will make IAFFC even stronger by working together through these changes**

By the time you receive this newsletter, many in the state will have attended the ACWW Triennial in Hot Springs, Arkansas. Please ask any of those attending about their experience.

I pray you will have a wonderful and safe summer with your family and friends.

Blessings,

Marilyn Daughherty
IAFFC State President



EXECUTIVE BOARD



1st Vice President NYMPHA WHITE

The 2010 IAHCE Annual Conference is now history but I'm sure most of us have unforgettable memories of this enjoyable and learning event. Our IAHCE Board, and especially the Co-Chairs, Lynn Kearney and Sharon Middleton, worked so hard to make the conference a success and I believe it was.

I would like to thank all the County First Vice Presidents who attended our workshop and participated in choosing our lessons for 2011-2012 IAHCE year. Likewise, I also sincerely thank Robin Bagwell and Amy Griswold of the University of Illinois Extension and appreciated their help explaining to us the possible topics for the Lessons for Living. Of course, I am so grateful to Susan Taylor our Liaison Officer who is always there for us.

The following are the topics that our ladies have chosen:

FAMILY LIFE

1. Joining the Generation with Family Meal times.
2. Maintaining Healthy Family Relationships.

CONSUMER AND FAMILY ECONOMICS

1. Planning for end of life issues, funeral, living will and power of attorney.
2. Cost of managing your money, credit and gift cards (new credit laws), mutual funds and account fees.

NUTRITION AND WELLNESS

1. To Soy or Not to Soy—That is the question.
2. Choosing Reliable Nutrition Information (Packaged Lesson)
3. Grocery Shopping Smarts

No suggestions were submitted for horticulture.

To all the winners of the Education (formerly President) and Membership awards.

CONGRATULATIONS! Keep up the good works. Every year the Board works hard at trying to improve the Award Night but it is still difficult to achieve perfection. You see, even at the Oscar Academy award night event in Hollywood that it doesn't go flawless either. So let us all remember that there is only one

perfect and we know who HE is.....

Has everyone noticed it? Our IAHCE Choral Group is growing!! There were around thirty ladies who offered their angelic voices at this conference. Thanks again ladies for your continued support and devotion to music. I very much appreciated your cooperation.

As I am writing this article, I am also thinking of the forthcoming Associated Country Women of the World or ACWW Triennial Conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas from April 21-28, 2010. Quite a few of us from Illinois will be attending. Hopefully we will bring home some valuable information or knowledge which can be shared here in our state organization. I imagine it will be an exciting and interesting experience to be part of this worldwide conference and meet hundreds of ladies and gentlemen from some seventy six countries.

A few days ago, we had already a taste of summer temperature. Let's hope for a gradual weather change instead of an abrupt one so that our plants and trees won't be stressed out.

Wishing you all a Happy Mother's Day and a lovely summer season.

Nympha White

2nd Vice President SANDRA BECHTOLD



Hi! My name is Sandra Bechtold and I live with my husband Steve of 39 years at Jerseyville, IL in Jersey County. I have a daughter and a son and four grandsons. You've elected me as your 2nd Vice President and I would like to thank you for the honor and promise to do my job to the best of my ability.

Membership, Membership, Membership is our goal. Maintaining is important and spreading the word to everyone about our organization. At the Fall Workshops, we will discuss what everyone is doing about membership. Do you have a brochure made up to hand out or info on a business card? There are great

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

ideas out there so bring them to share. I know everyone says I talk a lot but this is your time to get and give information. If you have something you want answered, then e-mail me or write and we will discuss the topic. Have a good day and I will see all of you at the workshops.

Sandra Bechtold



SECRETARY **CAROLYN FISHER**

Thank you for your questions about archives at Annual Conference. For a refresher, the IAHCCE Secretary has to send corrected and clean copies of the minutes to the IAHCCE archives. Not many of the counties have room for archive space. Many of you just have notebooks containing your minutes. If you would prefer to keep retyped corrected minutes on files in your county, that is up to you and your county officers.

If you have not already added my name and address to you county newsletter mailing list, please do so. I do read them and sometimes pass some information on to others.

Thank you to those of you who sent me an alternate address, when you knew that your President would be away, for the President's Pre-Conference Packet last year. I only had trouble with one county.

Finally, please send me your new officer list as soon after your Annual Meeting elections as possible. It is important to have accurate information.

Carolyn Fisher



TREASURER **JANE CHAPMAN**

HAPPY BELATED EASTER! I hope every one of you had a great Easter and are enjoying the great spring weather we are currently having! It was really great seeing so many of you

at the Annual Conference and wasn't it a great conference? I really enjoyed being part of and attending the conference.

In my workshop I passed out packets that contained a calendar that was made by our past county treasurer and given to our new county treasurer. I want to reiterate that some of the things listed are only intended for my home county, Perry. I suggest you create a calendar that includes items pertinent to your county. One item that comes to mind that is for our county only, is the one on state newsletter subscriptions for units not represented on the county board, which is a Perry county item not a state wide item. Our new treasurer really has used this handy reference list given to her when she took office. I hope that maybe others will find it a benefit. I am preparing a similar calendar to pass on to my replacement. By the way, my term is up come next Annual Conference so if anyone is interested get your application completed and mail to Vi Huebner, Nominating Committee chairman (address inside front cover).

Again, if you have any questions or if I can help any county with something, do call me or e-mail me. I really try to respond quite rapidly and do so normally. This past week (week after Easter) I have been recouping from a visit with the gall bladder bunny that came to visit Easter Sunday morn. I had surgery on Tuesday and today (Saturday) is the first day I have not wanted to sleep all day. So, if you have corresponded with me in the last couple of weeks I apology for not responding in a punctual manner but I am catching up!

Until District meetings in August when I will have a chance to see you all again, have a safe and happy summer. Please keep promoting HCE and growing in membership. Also, since most of us are like that roll of toilet paper that is over half empty (only the ones in my workshop at Annual Conference will understand this) we need to laugh often, live like there is no tomorrow, and thank God for being here!

Jane Chapman

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH VI HUEBNER



The IAHCE Board members returned home Friday, March 26th from conference in Bloomington. What a great conference and what a great theme! The decorations were beautiful. Everyone seemed to really enjoy being there and meeting with old and new friends. I must say, I wasn't feeling well, but enjoyed seeing everyone.

Our NVON Project in Common for 2010 is membership. Let's all invite someone to our unit meetings.

Community Outreach directors....Look through your packets that you received at conference. If there is any questions, call me - 618-254-0368. Leave a message and your phone number and I will get back to you.

Don't forget to get pictures, dates and newspaper clippings of any event you have. Send them to me along with your Education (formerly President's) Award form on page 52, which may still read "President's Award", to me by January 31, 2011.

Vi Huebner

FAMILY ISSUES NORMA KORTE



Thank you to everyone who voted at the IAHCE State Conference and your well wishes. I have been a part of HCE (Home Bureau) all my life, and earned a Bachelor of Science

Degree in Home Economics Education from Murray State University. My mother was a 50 year Charter Member of HCE in Massac County. I attended most of the HCE meetings with my mother and my sister as I was growing up. I was a member of 4-H for 11 years, a Club Congress Home Management winner, and the first National winner from Massac County. I then became a 4-H leader after college and served as

a club leader for 30 years. I also volunteered as the 4-H Federation sponsor for 8 years.

After college graduation, I married my good friend from school, 4-H and church, Steve Korte. We have been married 38 years and have 3 wonderful children: Darryl and his wife Sheila; Daniel and his wife Tiffany; and Debra, who has been an Ag/FFA Advisor and now works with Software Solutions of Shelbyville. Both our sons work with their father and grandfather to farm 2,700 acres of corn and soybeans. Part of the land we farm is registered as a Centennial Farm. Steve and I have 4 loving grandchildren: Jakob, Austin, Logan and Larkin. I do a lot of babysitting because both my daughter-in-laws work outside the home. Keeping up with the grandkids gives me plenty of exercise. I prepare several extra meals along the way because I never know for sure when or how many people will be stopping in for lunch. My mother always taught me that you never turn away anyone and always prepare enough for one more to sit at the table.

My strong interest in my family, and family issues, is the main reason I applied to run for this office. Lynn Kearney has presented some very important issues the last few years like childhood obesity, the effects of a stroke, and poverty. We will continue to learn more about ovarian cancer at the fall workshops. I will focus on increasing awareness of Autism and childhood cancer, as well as providing lessons on the importance of developing reading skills for children.

I am also starting a state-wide aluminum tab collection for the Ronald McDonald House. Ronald McDonald Houses recycle the aluminum tabs and use the money to help fund the general operation of the homes to reduce or eliminate the cost for families to stay at one of their facilities. Please plan to save your aluminum tabs, and talk to local business or individuals to ask them to save their tabs as well. More information will be available soon about the details of the competition. If you want to save and recycle aluminum cans also, please consider donating at least a portion of the money to St. Jude's or another type of childhood cancer facility. There are many opportunities for us to help families who are faced with unexpected major health problems, which

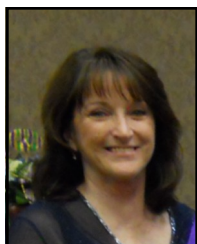
EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

will be a focus of some of our workshops.

Thank you again and I look forward to meeting more of you at the fall workshops.

Norma Korte

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT KAY BRINKLEY



What a wonder IAHCE Conference! I hope everyone had a wonderful time making new friendships. The Hotel was wonderful, the lessons were wonderful and I am already looking forward to next year in Decatur!

I am Kay Brinkley, the new Cultural Enrichment director. I live in Paris, Il with my husband. I have three daughters and 6 grandchildren. I worked in nursing for 40 years, both in hospital and office settings. I enjoyed it tremendously.

I am excited to meet all the wonderful HCE ladies in Illinois and am eager to hear all the suggestions you have to make Cultural Enrichment an exciting asset to HCE, hopefully enticing interest in present members and adding new members!

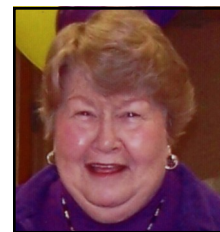
From all the wonderful entries in the Cultural Arts show, I know we have some very gifted, talented HCE members. I would like all the Cultural Enrichment people to bring a craft with written instructions to the Fall Workshop in August to share with the other ladies. I will take suggestions for special projects that interest you.

You can e-mail me at skbrinkley@verizon.com, my address is 109 Beverly Dr., Paris, IL 61944 or you can call me at 217-465-7568.

I am looking forward to seeing you ALL in August.

Kay Brinkley

INTERNATIONAL RITA STEWART



As of March 30, 2010, I have mailed the 2009 President's Award packets for the International to each of you who submitted one. I have mailed these at my expense. Next year I plan to place them on the registration table so you may pick them up after my presentation. Sorry if I upset some of you.

I hope you are starting your planning for what aspect of the Country of Study, Israel, you will be researching and studying. Good Luck!

Call on my cell if you have a question. I now can pick up your messages. (618-713-4066)

Rita Stewart

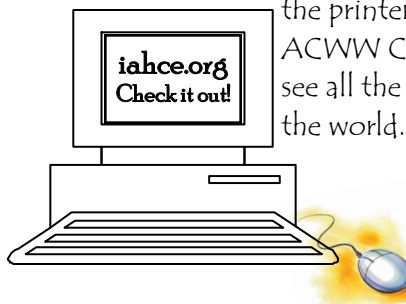
PUBLIC RELATIONS SHARON MIDDLETON



Well, the Conference has come and gone. Lynn and I and the state board, put a lot of hard work into the conference and by everything I have read and heard, it was a giant success. The share shops were terrific, the decorations were wonderful (thanks Jane for all those you brought and shared with us), friends, new and old, the excitement and you couldn't ask for a better staff of people at a hotel than those at DoubleTree! Now to start working for next year. I hope Treasa and I can have another conference that you won't forget.

I took lots of photos for those that weren't able to come. They are on the website under Archives, 2010 Conference. Check out the fun we all had.

As soon as this newsletter is done, I'll be taking it to the printers and then we're off to the ACWW Conference. I'm so excited to see all the sites and people from around the world. See you in August!



Sharon Middleton

EDUCATION REPORTS



SALES/CVH ALICE GROOMS

CONGRATULATIONS to all of the CVH winners and a Great Big Thanks to everyone that participated this year. We had 51 counties with 1,196 members plus 2 units participating for 378,862 hours volunteered! Volunteer hours are now valued at \$20.25, so we all saved everyone \$7,671,955. Now that is a lot of money; where would we all be without volunteering.

Here are a few interesting statistics:

- 392 members received a seal or certificate.
- 58 members had over 1000 hours reported for one year.
- 516 members were new participants.
- 5 new county participants.

Each year we have a few people and counties drop off but then we have a few people and counties start again. Remember, you can go back three years to report your hours if you have dropped off.

Some comparison statistics:

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Participants	842	1,196
New Participants	368	516
Counties	48	51
Hours	310,358	378,862.5
Dollar Value	<u>2007</u> -\$19.51	<u>2008</u> -\$20.25

Thanks to all who supported the IAHCE through the Sales Table. Let me know if there is anything new you would like to see at the sales table. 'Til next time.

Alice Grooms



IAHCE EXTENSION LIAISON

It was great to see over 400 from all over the state in attendance at the IAHCE Annual Conference. As I bring greetings from University of Illinois Extension! I want to commend you as an organization for your CVH hours for the hours of volunteer work that you provide to your communities and counties. The value of your time is \$20.25/hour according to the Independent Sector. That is what your time is worth; unfortunately you can't cash in your hourly amount. On a state level, over 378,862 hours were turned in which is valued over \$7,672,000.00. Your leadership to your community, county, district and state board not only benefits IAHCE but many other organizations in your communities.

Change is ever present and that is true for U of I Extension. This staffing change is motivated by the shortfall from the State of Illinois financial problems. Also we have had flat funding from the Federal since early 1980's. It is my understanding in early April, county units will be asked to match up with other counties. The exception is Cook County. Interim Director of Extension and Outreach – Dr. Robert Hoeff's plan had 35 multi-county planning groups. Currently there are 77 units. Extension Centers will be closed. The local units will identify educational needs for educators. Since education is our mission, Dr. Hoeff's plan calls for more educators, who will be located in the local offices. Because of leadership development of IAHCE, you can help with the transition to the future of U of I Extension.

Remember all of the positive attributes HCE offers you and your community and county. When I was a child, my grandmother Rogers and my mother were very active. My mother is still active. Friends, community projects, trips, crafts, knowledge from money, family, horticulture, health and food, fellowship and community based projects – Linus Blanket and many others. Remember to ask a friend to a meeting and you may have a new member in your mitts.

I recently had an inquiry about who was Juliet Lita Bane who wrote the *Aim to Homemaker* – When she wrote the *Aim*, she was the Program Leader for the University of Illinois in 1918. She later became

the Dean of the Department of Home Economics and her mentor was Isabel Bevier.

I wish you the best as we go through another growing pain – but you are strong.

Susan Taylor

University of Illinois Extension Liaison

RUTH PEVERLY 65 YEAR MEMBER OF IAHCE!

Here is my story....

Bob and I are both long-time 4-H members and leaders. We met at the University of Illinois Rural Youth Club. Our mothers were both charter members of their respective county Home Bureau organizations. I am a 65 year member of IAHCE. My father was a Master Farmer and Bob's mother was a Master Homemaker. She attended ACWW in the 1970's when it was held in Michigan. I wanted to go with her, but I had two young children at home. I am now a life member of ACWW and proudly wear the silver ACWW pin that she purchased at that meeting.

During the past 20 years, Bob has attended state, national and world meetings with me. We have seen the world attending ACWW meetings. The first was British Columbia, Canada in 1983. We have since attended conferences in Ireland, Kansas, USA, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Ontario, Canada and Tasmania. I have been a voting delegate at six of the above meetings. We are registered to attend the meeting in Arkansas and will be sharing it with two of our daughters, one of which is currently active on the IAHCE State Board.

Ruth Peverly
Clinton, Illinois

SPECIAL REPORTS NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Positions that will be open for elections at the 2011 Conference are:

1st Vice President, Public Relations, Sales & CVH and Treasurer.

Anyone interested or have a person that might be interested in one of these positions must have their applications sent to Vi Huebner by **September 25, 2010**. This date has been moved up a week so that the applications will be available when the Board meets in early October. Send to:

Vi Huebner, Nominating Committee Chair
205 Crestview
Wood River, IL 62095
618-254-0368

SUPPORT FUND

JUNE 1, 2010 SUPPORT GRANT DEADLINE!

Are you planning an activity that could possibly be used throughout the state as a learning tool? Will you be reaching a lot of people with your activity? Could you use financial support for this activity? If the answer is yes to any or all of the above you should apply for a grant from the IAHCE Support Fund. The Support Fund was established to help counties with learning activities that reach a lot of people or could be used statewide. Guidelines and a blank application can be found in your gray books which each county should have. Complete the application and mail it to Jane Chapman, 936 Hollyhock Road, Coulterville, Illinois, 62237 and the **postmark date must be June 1** and no later. All applications will be reviewed by the Support Fund committee at the June board meeting and then with the complete committee via telnet later. You will be notified if your application has been accepted after the complete committee review. We hope we have a large number of applications and can give out a lot of grants this year.

Jane Chapman

SERVICE PROJECTS

Many of the service projects completed throughout the state:

- \$2,950.00 to help community programs
- Assorted school supplies for foster parents
- 50 stuffed animals to police departments
- 405 assorted items to many organizations
- 56 containers of food and 900 canned food to food pantries plus cash
- 16 boxes of food given to needy families
- 223 bears for children in crisis
- 84 clothing items and many supplies for pregnancy centers
- 3,500 Easter baskets for children on free lunch program
- 793 Linus blankets
- 194 Cancer caps
- 105 pillowcases
- 1,153 tabs, 105#, & 5 gal jar of pop tabs for Ronald McDonald House
- 10,247 Box tops for Education to schools
- 10 blankets to pediatrics hospital
- 100 first aid kits for farmers
- 35 book bags filled weekly with food for children in need for the weekend
- 85 blankets to organizations to distribute
- 100 coats, hats, gloves and scarves for local clothing ministry
- 48 handmade book bags for pre-school
- 684 items needed at Save a Pet
- 800 stockings for FISH
- 603 items for literacy program
- \$500 worth of hats, gloves, scarves and socks for homeless men's shelter
- 1,200 children's books for illiteracy program bus
- 403 cough pillows to hospital
- 59 walker bags
- 40 cancer underarm pillow
- 123 breast cancer pillows
- 34 blankets
- 200 Christmas favors for nursing home
- 53 catheter bags
- 326 assorted items for clothing ministry

Military:

- 3,858 items sent overseas
- 3,218 neck coolers
- 395 helmet liners
- 353 boxes of assorted items sent overseas
- 66,860 coupons sent to base in Germany
- 2,050 stockings for Operation Santa
- 187 boxes of cookies
- 12,800 items for stockings
- 50 cakes baked in pint jars
- 1,699 assorted items for veterans
- 95 books for veterans
- 1 quilt for veterans home
- 1,459 cards sent to veterans
- 134 lap robes
- 15 boxes of clothing and personal items to veterans



OVERSEAS COUPON PROGRAM

At Conference in the 2nd Vice President Share Shop, I discussed the coupon program my unit in Lake County is working on. This is the address where you can ask for, and they will send you pages of information.



questions@ocpnet.org

Edward W. Allen is the man in the United States to contact. This is an internet based organization so e-mail is the best way to contact.

Edward W. Allen, III
PO Box 7539
Columbia, MO 65206

Elizabeth Wertke, Lake County
wertke1@comcast.net
618-385-4243

YOUR IAHCCE BOARD AT WORK

Board happenings during March, 2010.

- Conference committees reported what they had planned and worked through any problems.
- Board voted to match donations to Haiti up to \$1000 and send to AmeriCares.
- Had training for the newly elected officers and directors.
- Leadership Training for the entire board led by Susan Taylor.
- Read evaluations.
- Suggested district workshop committee applies for Support Fund to have a speaker at district workshops.
- Selected a nominating committee for the coming year. Moved date forward to **September 25, 2010** for receiving state applications.
- Discussed board meeting dates in June and October.
- Will "tweak" County of the Year application at the June Board meeting; form will be ready for the gray guidebook at district workshop.
- Discussed putting gray guidebook on website.



UPCOMING DATES

June 1, 2010 - Support Fund Application Deadline
 September 25, 2010 - State Board Application Deadline

2010 IAHCCE Workshops

District 1 & 2/3..... August 17
 TBA
 District 4 & 5..... August 18
 Decatur Club, Decatur
 District 6 & 7 August 19
 Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon

2011 IAHCCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 22-24, 2011 at the Decatur Hotel & Conference Center in Decatur. Registration forms will be online at www.iahce.org later this fall.

NVON (National Volunteers Outreach Network)
 April 20, 2010 - Hot Springs, Ark.

ACWW
 April 21-28, 2010 - Hot Springs, Ark.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - July 1, 2010

Words of Wisdom from My Grandma

My Grandma Campbell told me this pre-wedding advice: "Never go to bed angry after an argument with your husband. Neither of you will get any sleep. Make up first, then go to bed!" She was right. She always told me that I was not fat-I was just a little "chuffy." Chuffy, I think, was a cross between "chubby and fluffy". I always like that term.

Debbie Borries
 District 6 Director

DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT 1 MARILYN DE VRIES



Spring is here and we've had some rough weather and lots of rain. Conference is over and it was great; it was nice seeing many of you. The President Awards have been renamed to Education Awards. If anyone wants me to come to your county meeting, let me know and I will try. Keep trying to get new members. I'll be see you.

Marilyn De Vries

HENDERSON.....

Spring finally is here!! Winter seemed longer than usual. Henderson County H.C.E. members enjoyed their individual units Christmas parties. The board members held their Christmas party at the home of Diana Foster, it was a pot luck and very enjoyable. H.C.E. entered a float in the Oquawka Lighted Christmas parade to promote H.C.E.

We are still collecting small suitcases, bags, afghans, small blankets and stuffed toys for foster care children.

Each month an individual H.C.E. unit sends a care package to our scholarship winner.

We delivered a basket full of "goodies" to Henderson County's first New Years baby of 2010, Shawn Craig daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Craig of Oquawka, IL.

We are very busy planning our annual meeting to be held April 24, at the Rozetta Baptist Church.

Beverly Alecock
Public Relations



ROCK ISLAND.....

Rock Island County welcomed the spring season with a Souper Luncheon followed by three Super Lessons to be given at local units later this spring. Since many of our ladies have long drives and some have daytime jobs, we have been combining events to save gas money as well as making it convenient for working women by meeting on Saturdays. This makes event-packed days. A bake sale was also included.

We have been assigning the leadership of the "Ways and Means" to a local unit and it seems to work well. The unit to lead next year has been helping and finding out what needs to be accomplished. The rotation will continue until all the units have taken their turns.

Our most successful fund raiser comes from selling geraniums in January and February to be delivered in early May. The 4-H clubs also join in this and are given some of the profits. The HCE profits help fund our donation to the 4-H Trust Fund. The 4-Hers and HCE ladies have been good salespeople and are helping beautify Rock Island County with these lovely geraniums.

Betty Carss, our Youth Promotion Director, has been successfully leading a 4-H Club for handicapped people of all ages and is called "Handy Buds". The club meets monthly and the local units take turns helping Betty by providing an appropriate craft. The activities vary and a short nutritional program is included with treats to follow.

We continue to be grateful to Lucille Michels with her leadership in Cultural Arts. In addition to the comforter tying days, a new project involving teaching the ladies different types of painting has been started. For example, they are painting a sunset in oranges and browns on a 9" x 12" canvas.

Pat Morthland and Brenda Wells
Public Relations Co-Directors

DISTRICT NEWS

WARREN.....

Warren County HCE is so proud to share that we've had **6 new HCE members** join since our last State Newsletter. That's wonderful, and we're so happy to welcome them to our organization. They'll bring many new ideas and energy to our units!

Our County membership is very concerned and supportive of our **University of Illinois Extension** financial situation. We've been attending area meetings and e-mailing/writing of our specific concerns and hopes for the future of our Educators and 4-H programs.

We are participating in the "**Women's Lifestyle Fair**" at Monmouth College again this year. This event allows us to introduce HCE to our whole community, enroll new members, and explain our programs/activities to all. Last year we gained 10 new members at this event.

On April 21, 2010, we enjoyed an outing to the **George L. Luthy Memorial Botanical Garden** in Peoria. After a wonderful tour and gift shopping, we headed to **Kickapoo Creek Winery** for lunch. A tour of the winery was also included.

Our 4-H Director is organizing a **new 4-H club for "Gardening"**. This is exciting! We have a Master Gardener within Warren County HCE, Jean Nelson, assisting with the new program. Awesome effort gals! We're very proud of your vision and efforts!

Our county has embraced the **Prairie Hills R.E.A.D.Y. Bus** (Reaching Educating And Developing Youth). So many members and families have joined in the effort to reduce illiteracy within its 6 county area by encouraging children to read. The bus provides pre-school through 8th grade with educational presentations on conservation, wildlife habitat and the environment. We are collecting new or slightly used children's books to donate. Thus far over 2,000 books have been donated. Wonderful support from ALL!!!

Peg Chambers
Public Relations



DISTRICT 2/3

JEAN PIERONI

Well, conference has come and gone. Today it even seems that spring has come and gone, too. After being bright and sunny for a week or so, it's back to the

30's. I hope those of you who were able to be at conference in Bloomington had a good time and were able to learn a few things while seeing old and making new friends. I thought I'd be able to sneak in to a few share shops but that didn't happen, maybe next time!

A couple of dates to remember and put on your calendars:

1. District 1 & 2/3 Workshop will be August 17, 2010 - will let you know soon where it will be.
2. IAHCE Annual Conference will be March 22-24, 2011 at the Decatur Conference Center in Decatur, Illinois.

I've been invited to make some county visits and I look forward to being with you. (Now, if this weather would only cooperate, I could get my garden cleaned up!)

Jean Pieroni

Du PAGE.....

The units are busy planning for our Annual Luncheon. Celebrating our 80th Anniversary. Wish we can be more growing in the coming years.

We are learning about the culture, farming, cities and foods of other countries each year.

Our group attends the Fall Workshops each August to pick up new ideas and to help our units get updated information from the University of Illinois.

We have been making cards of all kinds to be taken to the Veterans in the hospital to cheer them up and make their days a little brighter.

DISTRICT NEWS

Du Page, con't.....

We have been collecting different kinds of stamps for the Audubon Society, not the ordinary ones we use daily. Other items are collected to donate to the soldiers overseas, we make pillows for the nursing home and for children in the hospital plus stuffed animals for needy children.

We are starting a quilting group at this time to help others to learn this form of the Arts.

Once a month we have a meeting of friends and members to get together to finish projects. You can work on your items had have a good conversation with others. We call it our UFO Day!

Miriam Ferguson
Public Relations

GRUNDY.....

Did you think Winter would ever end and Spring would ever arrive? Even though the winter wasn't very nice to be out in, Grundy County AHCE members still kept on doing for the community and its unit members. December was filled with Christmas cheer and holiday parties. January, February and March were busy months too. We headed out to the local assisted living / developmentally disabled adults facility, and local nursing homes to play Bingo and supply some prizes and snacks.

February 9th was U of I Extensions annual Government Day Event. Approximately 100 students, 4th - 8th graders participated by submitting essays telling why they would like to serve in a particular county government office. The students chosen had a chance to spend the day with that government official. It was great to see young people so interested in our government. Grundy County AHCE members participated by cooking and serving lunch at one of our local churches. As we all know, kids can always eat.

March 13th the HCE ladies set up a booth at the Grundy County Environmental Fair. This event is put together by the U of I Extension at a local high school every year. We handed out information on GCAHCE, showed visitors how to make trellis necklaces, gift boxes from old greeting cards and wall paper samples and made rings out of pipe cleaners. In addition to the craft projects, we set up a nice display explaining our foster children goodie bags project. This project is on-going and funded by recycling ink cartridges, tin cans and some grant monies that we received. All and all, we had a lot of people pass through our booth.

March 23rd - 25th was the IAHCE State Conference held in Bloomington IL. Grundy County had 8 members attend, which was great. We hope they came back with some exciting information to share.

April 22nd will be our annual meeting once again. This year's theme is Going Green. Lisa Kneller, a solid waste technician from Grundy County Solid Waste Management, will be speaking on awareness of reusing, reducing and recycling what we have to extend and better the life of the planet we live on.

Book club continues to meet the 3rd Friday of the month and continue meeting with our units for informal lessons on many different topics, all to strength our family units, provide practical skills in everyday life and promote international. These meetings are always open to the public and our members. I am sure the upcoming spring and summer will be full of both new and old events.

Happy Spring!

Brenda Acker
Public Relations

KANE.....

April 21 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kane County University of Illinois Extension marks our second annual Spring Fling, and it is proving very popular with members and guests/potential members. Other than an advance head count, there are no fees or

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registration. There is, however, plenty of laughter and fun as we try out old and new games and regroup for each new session at a different game table.

Attendees bring bag lunches, graze on treats and beverages, and perhaps win one of the small prizes. Board members in white blouses, black pants and visors are posted at the tables to explain the rules.

Upon threat of bad weather, our annual Fun Day was moved to February 24. The 66 in attendance enthusiastically joined in by blowing paper "elephant whistles" at the world premier of a new board skit titled *There are Elephants Everywhere!* Many attended in clown attire, and members who participated in the clown act of an entertaining duo from Merry Heart Clowns, led by Debbie George, were ever ready with quips of their own. Helium balloons, peanuts and popcorn reinforced our Circus Circus theme; a White Elephant silent auction and Fine Arts and Crafts voting kept us circulating. It was a truly lighthearted, fun day, during which we also collected for Hines VA Hospital and Kids Count basket materials.



We are proud of Joan Ziethen, our new Managing Secretary, who is working diligently with our Secretary, Nancy Haire, and President, Elaine Bond, to update our files going back many decades and to provide information to members in a timely fashion. Our units' *Know and Grow* forms provide information for state reports and county awards; members may now open it up on their computer in pdf format, type their information into the input fields on the form, save it, and send the completed form by email attachment—keeping up with technology is not the easiest thing in the world, but once mastered, these skills may simplify such tasks.

Decades of Dresses, 1905 to 1921 by vintage clothing collector Ruth Thomas will entertain members at our Annual Meeting May 19 at the Lincoln Inn in Batavia. Collections will include books for the Little City Used Book Sale, held in the first half of June in Skokie to benefit children and adults with disabilities. This gathering of Homemakers provides an opportunity to review the accomplishments of the past association year and to thank those responsible. It may also revitalize the alliance between our newly elected board and our members in defining and promoting the worthy objectives of Homemakers. Go, Homemakers!

Beth Engbrecht
Public Relations

LAKE.....

Each of the units comprising Lake County Association for Home and Community Education get together to celebrate Christmas. Often the units include guests in the festivities. Our Town and Country Unit was pleased to have a special guest, Meryl Perlstrom, this past Christmas. The Unit wanted to honor her for all her contributions to HCE. Although she is not a member, she crochets the beautiful hats the unit sends to the *Headstart Program* of Lake County--she collects yarn donated from different sources and fashions it into the pretty little hats for kids. Merl lives in Cedar Lake Village in Lake Villa. She was a nurse in Chicago before moving to Lake County. She also worked in the office of *Habitat for Humanity* for quite some time.

The Lake County HCE held its annual International Day on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at the University of Illinois Extension Office auditorium in Grayslake, IL. An awesome slide and lecture presentation on *Wild Patagonia and Beyond* by local resident, Sonia Lawrence, was followed by a lively discussion with a native Argentinean, Maria Anderson, and then a complimentary buffet sampling of Argentine dishes including: empanadas, dulce de leche and more. The International Co-Chairs, Sherri Stahl and Pat Weitzmann have provided our members with extensive background on Argentina starting with

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monthly articles in our newsletter, the *Lake County Close-Ups*, and leading up to the International Day festivities. Who knew that Wild Patagonia once had a race of people who were seven feet tall or that Argentinean food would be absolutely delicious? We learned that and much more.

Betty Jean Thompson
Public Relations

Department. The officers discussed tips on personal and home safety with an emphasis in preventing identity theft and avoiding too good to be true, "get rich quick", scams.

In May we are taking a bus trip to Taste of Home in Greendale WI.

Florence Spesard
Public Relations

Mc HENRY.....

We had 10 members, Dorothy Conley, Patty Sautter, Debbie William, Leona Rinn, Marlene Rader, Carol Giammattei Carol Kruse, Jeanette Broughton, Jean Pieroni and Florence Spesard, who attended this year annual IAHCe Convention in Bloomington. For four of us this was our first annual conference that we had ever attended. We had a wonderful time, and if you get the chance to attend – **go for it.**



Some of the service projects that we participated in were providing healthy snacks for 4-H "Project Day" at the McHenry County Fair Ground March 6th. We made up twenty hygiene kits for the Youth Service Bureau. These kits are given to the youth who have run away from home and have no place to stay. At the 4-H Green Tie Dinner and Auction, the auction item we donated was one dessert per month from the McHenry County HCE Cookbook. This money is used to help fund the 4-H Clubs in our county.

We had some interesting presentations. "Artifact Preservation" was presented by Nancy Fike, Curator McHenry County Historical Museum, who discussed various methods of preserving your family photos, documents and clothing. In February we had "Personal Safety" presented by the Woodstock Police



DISTRICT 4 JAN EDWARDS

I am writing as your new District IV Director. I have been an HCE member since 1976. Many of those years were spent in McLean County and since 1996 I have enjoyed membership in Pike County. I had the privilege to serve on the County Board in each county.

I appreciate and admire the organization because of the educational programs provided to members. I began my professional career as a high school science teacher in 1965 and finished as a substitute teacher in 2003. I look forward to working with and assisting District IV members. If you have questions, please call 217-285-1987 or write to 806 E. Washington St. Pittsfield, IL 62363.

Jan Edwards

ADAMS.....

Six members of the Adams County HCE Board were in attendance at the IAHCe Conference in Bloomington, March 23-25, 2010. A fun time was had by all with lots to learn not only about IAHCe upcoming changes, but with a variety of lessons and crafts offered.

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Back Row L-R – Camie Hempelman, Mary Twaddle, Marcia Schultte
 Front L-R – Sally Dedert, Linda Duncan, Pat Vaughn

They also had fun decorating umbrellas for the “Parade of Umbrellas” not realizing just how MANY would be doing the decorating of umbrellas and marching.

There were lots to do not only with the classes but with the dinners, silent auction, vendors and meetings and just having FUN with friends.

Adams County members are now planning their annual meeting, April 27th and also a salad luncheon in May for the Cultural Arts program.

Again, the conference was a lot of fun and learning as the many who attended found out.

Mary Twaddle
 Public Relations

PEORIA.....

Peoria County sends a great big thank-you for another outstanding state conference to the state board and to McLean County for hosting. Also welcome to Jan Edwards as our new district director and a heartfelt thank-you to Mary Lea Prentice and the rest of the retiring state board.

Peoria County was represented by nine members at the annual conference as well as five items in the cultural arts display. What a great place to visit with familiar faces, meet new friends, learn and share our wisdom as an organization across the state.

Past events include our annual SO (Special Occasion) Day. As the first day of spring arrived with snow, Master Gardener Norm Meyn gave a slide presentation of spring flowers, discussed new hybrids and answered questions. Seven hostesses decorated tables and provided desserts along with lunch prepared by Ways & Means director, Carolyn Alaksiewicz.

Upcoming events in Peoria include our own county annual meeting in May. We will be following through with the Mardi Gras theme and have a mystery guest speaker. In June, we have officer’s training for the unit officers to learn and be motivated. The end of July is our county 4-H Show where HEA/HCE provides a lunchroom for the 4-Hers and families. BBQ sandwiches, hot dogs, nachos and member baked pies and cakes serves two purposes. It gives our 4-H families affordable meals and also is a fundraiser for us.

The annual bazaar, our major fundraiser for the year is Saturday, October 16th at First Baptist Church on Lake Street in Peoria. Each unit hosts a booth of crafts, baked goods, raffle items and more. Lunch is also provided along with a used book sale. In addition, local vendors rent tables to boost our income.

Mark your calendars for October 19th, 1:00 to 3:00 and plan to attend an out of the ordinary Lesson for Living given by Lee Murdock of Kaneville. He will be presenting ‘The Underground Railroad, Waterways and History of Illinois. This special session will be at our University of Illinois Extension auditorium in Peoria. Reservations are a must. Please call Julie Courtt at (309)674-8554 for more information.

Julie Courtt
 Public Relations

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

DISTRICT NEWS

PIKE.....

Hello from Pike County,
Four of our HCE Board members attended the State Convention, "Unmasking the Possibilities". Linda Patton, Chair; Sherry Wendorff, Secretary; Betty Orr, Treasurer; and Ona Day Johnston, Cultural Enrichment chair were those in attendance. They had a wonderful time, good accommodations and great food.

We were represented at the Cultural Arts exhibit by Linda Belford, wedding attire for twins; Syndy Miller, photography; Shirley Gill, machine embroidery wall hanging; and Susan Cox's unique lamp made of tea cup and saucers.

Our International team of Jan Gwartney and Rayola Daniel received the President's International Award for the "Trip around the World, presented by Marge Irick. We also received the President's Award for outstanding programming in cultural enrichment for our biannual tea party.

We are very pleased that Jan Edwards was installed as our District 4 representative, taking the place of Mary Lea Prentice. Mary Lea had challenged the District to increase membership and District 4 was awarded for the highest percentage of gain in membership.
GOOD JOB DISTRICT IV.

Our annual meeting will be on April 22 and we will have a guest, Gary Vitale, presenting the history of Nellie Grant's connection with Pike County. We encourage our surrounding counties to come be our guest for this very informative program. There will also be dinner, at \$8.50 per person. Call Betty Orr for reservations.

Mary Eustace will be replacing me as the Public Relations and Volunteer Hours person for next year. It has been fun seeing our news in the State Newsletter. Keep up the Good Work.

Ann Ferguson, Signing Off
Public Relations

WOODFORD.....

Greetings from Woodford County. The first annual Heart House Quilt and Textile Show was held October 2 and October 3, 2009, at the Eureka Farm Bureau Park. Proceeds from admission fees and raffle items were used for Heart House and Heartline programs. Heart House is a homeless shelter in Eureka that serves women and families of Woodford County and the city of Washington. Connie Knoblauch of Metamora and Gwen Buchanan of Mackinaw won first place ribbons for their quilt and textile entries. One hundred ten quilted items and twenty-three textile items were on display. Voting was completed by all visitors who came to the show, each voting for their top three favorites in both categories.

Also in October, those in attendance at the Woodford County Local Lesson "Fondue and You" enjoyed sampling three different varieties of fondue. Cheese fondue was sampled with pieces of different breads. The chocolate fondue was sampled with fruit, marshmallows, and angel food cake. Hot oil fondue was used to cook samples of beef. Food lessons are always enjoyed by the units, and the unit members were given some great ideas on how to present the lesson to their units.

Yankeetown Home Extension met at the home of Rosemary Oldenburg in November. The group enjoyed a Victorian Tea. After the tea, the ladies of the David Davis Mansion presented a program on the 1893 Chicago World Fair with Victorian costumes, music, props, and informational books.

Special Events Director Mary Schultz is preparing for our Annual Meeting on April 14, 2010. The theme is "Here Comes the Bride" and will feature wedding dresses and wedding articles donated by HEA members. The program will be held at Maple Lawn Homes in Eureka and will include a catered lunch.

New HEA Board Members have been selected to fill expired term positions on the County Board, and these new members will be installed at our Annual

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Meeting April 14, 2010. These new members include Elaine Hodel, 1st Vice President; Linda Keys, Secretary; Wanda Bean and Janet Kavelman, Co-Finance; and Betty Bekermeier, Public Relations.

Julie Zoss
Public Relations



DISTRICT 5 JANE WOOD

The Annual Conference was a huge success with many positive comments. I would like to thank all those who worked so hard planning and also all those who

attended. For those of you who attended, I hope you found your time well spent. Be sure to share your officers' packets and information with those who were not in attendance.

What a thrill it was to have so many awards going to District 5 Counties. I am delighted that you took the time to turn in reports and let all know what your county is doing. Keep up the good work and save news articles, attendance sheets, etc for 2010 reports.

Congratulations to those who were able to increase their membership; those who maintained their numbers, and all counties who got new members! You are doing a good job working on membership but it is something we must constantly strive toward.

My term as District 5 Director is up in March, 2011. A nominating committee has been appointed. They are seeking someone who would like to take the District Director position. Please consider this wonderful opportunity to serve on the state board. If you are interested or know someone who would be an asset in this position fill out pages 54 and 55 from the grey book. Mail applications to one of the nominating committee. Feel free to contact them or me with any questions. Those nominated will be introduced and voted on at the District Workshop, August 18, 2010. On the nominating committee for District 5 are: Elizabeth

Michael, 1209 Jeffrey, Mahomet, IL 61853, 217-586-4256; Judie Knoth, 1015 E Main, Clinton, IL 61727, 217-935-5326; Jean Barrington, 2031 Midway, Normal, IL 61761, 309-262-5173.

Mark your calendars for August 18, 2010. This is the date of the District 4 and 5 Workshop. It will be held at the Decatur Club, Decatur, IL. Details will be mailed out in July. Valuable information is available on this day for each county officer. You won't want to miss this opportunity to learn.

Be sure to let me know when your county's annual meeting or special event will be held. I would like to attend if I am available.

Let's glow and grow,

Jane Wood

CHRISTIAN.....

Here we are into the Spring of 2010 already and looking forward to a productive year.

March 4, 2010 was the 74th Annual Christian County meeting and installation of new officers for the board. We had the good fortune to have two honored guests from the IAHCCE Board. The President, Marilyn Daughhettee and our District 5 Director, Jane Wood who was kind enough to install our new Board Directors.



Our program was "Adventures in Africa", A Trip to Botswana given by Mike McClure who so graciously filled in for his bride, Janet McClure. It was exciting, interesting and at times, intimidating because the slides were so clear you thought the animals were very close.

DISTRICT NEWS

Christian, con't....



We had a delightful dinner catered by "Catering by Cinda" of Moweaqua, IL.

April 24, 2010 is our annual fund raiser "Table Setting Luncheon and Plant Sale". The luncheon theme this year is "Memories". We are always amazed at how the imaginative units are in setting the tables accordingly.

Thanks to the board and all the units for making this event a success. Extra Special Thanks to our board President, Roberta Gordon, who without her signing on again as President, we would have been in quite a pickle.

Jean Wattlett
Public Information

CLARK.....

The Clark County HCE units have been very busy the past few months getting ready for our Spring events. All of our units donate cookies for the P.A.R.T.Y. group (POSITIVE ACTION RECOGNIZING YOUTH) in Clark County. All of the county seventh graders from the three community schools meet for an esteem building day. We help with the refreshments.

Also, we are having our Spring HCE meeting, April 15th with a program, Women's Health and Safety. People have been contacted for this event to let women know about the advantages that we have in our county about health issues and where help can be found.

Other activities that we have completed are doing eleven lessons for the nursing homes in our areas. Many of the ladies have been members of the HCE in the past. Our lessons are centered on topics that they would enjoy and participate in during the time we are there. Seroba Mascher, our Community Outreach person, is working on recycling of many objects. She is writing an article each publication that encourages recycling for all families. Virginia Allen and the Zion unit have given a lunch buffet for the Burnside's Care Center ladies. They prepared a meal for the ladies to enjoy. Also, a picnic is planned for a later date.

We had several ladies attend the Mardi Gras titled State IAHCCE meeting in Bloomington recently. Some new ideas were brought back by the ladies to try for our county.

We were able to retain our membership for another year by replacing the four lost by gaining four new members. We are trying new ideas on gaining more members for 2010.

We are happy with the past year and looking forward towards another good year.

EDGAR.....

Nine Edgar County HCE officers and members attended the state IAHCCE conference in March and celebrated the theme of Mardi Gras. Edgar County member Kay Brinkley, is the new state Cultural Arts Director. Everyone learned a lot and had a great experience sharing ideas with other state members.

The Annual Meeting will be held April 15th. The entertainment will be during the meal since we will have a lengthy business meeting. The Bylaws have been rewritten with many changes that will need to be voted on at that time. Seven officers will be elected and installed by the State IAHCCE president, Marilyn Daughhettee. Everyone is invited to attend.

April 29th, both the old and new officers will meet to pass information and start planning the new year.

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I'm sure lots of ideas will be shared and will have a great year.



MACON.....

The end of 2009 brought three fun events for Macon County HCE. In November several of our members visited the Festival of Trees in Springfield after lunch at the Chesapeake Seafood House. The trees were beautiful and inspired us to be more creative with our own holiday decorating. Some of the most inspiring were miniature trees decorated by elementary school students.

Fabulous Friday offered multiple benefits for those attending. Two topics for unit lessons were presented and those attending had an opportunity to be a part of a service project.

At the morning session, about 20 HCE members and guests cut out Christmas print fabric and sewed stockings, which were later filled with grooming products, books, clothing and other items which had been donated by individuals and units throughout Macon County. More than 40 stockings were delivered to military veterans in Danville.

Session Two of the day, title FIT WITS, featured Cammy Seguin, a family life educator from the University of Illinois Cooperative Extension Service. FIT WITS is an acronym for *Fostering Improved Thinking While Incorporating Training Strategies*. Some of those attending were from Piatt County HCE and from Macon County social service agencies.

Following lunch, Cheryl Brown, a member of the Macon County Master Gardener program staff,

presented a workshop on making terrariums using small glass containers.

In early December a holiday craft and food workshop was presented by Macon County Extension staffers, Mindy Peterson and Jennifer Schultz-Nelson. Their ideas for updating holiday entertaining and decorating put us all in the mood. And everyone sampled foods and took home craft projects to brighten their holiday.

Food continues to be important in our fund-raising efforts. During March and April HCE members prepared and served lunch for five sessions of training for the Master Gardener program. We also served breakfast and lunch for the Gardening Insights Day in March and will handle meals and snacks for the Master Gardeners plant sale in May. We will continue to serve snacks and drinks for programs by the Decatur Municipal Band in the summer.

Five of our board members, plus IAHCE Conference Co-chair, Sharon Middleton, represented Macon County at the 86th Annual Conference of IAHCE in Bloomington. Three additional members attended the Wednesday session. Our congratulations to the IAHCE board on an outstanding conference.

A Dairy Good Time Was had by All.....

Fair Oaks Dairy Adventure was the destination when the bus left the Macon County Extension office parking lot on Tuesday, April 7. HCE members from Macon, Piatt and Prairie Association were joined by Master Gardeners and spouses and friends for the trip.

The Dairy, in Fair Oaks, Indiana, is the home of more than 3000 dairy cows and all the buildings and equipment required to feed the Holstein cows who produce thousands of gallons of milk every day.

In addition to a bus trip through the barns, visitors can enjoy an interactive presentation in the theater, tour many exhibits including the Birthing Barn and have lunch in the gift shop and purchase cheses to take home. A great time was had by all!

Nancy Muirheid
Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

Mc LEAN.....

We continue to offer many opportunities for members and non-members in 2010. There have been interesting Lessons & Fact Finds. Lessons on Alzheimer's, Memory Fitness, Easy Meals, and Container Vegetable Gardening and Fact Finds of Let's Take Off (NVON Project), Diabetes Preventive Diet, Baking Soda Magic, and Recipes & History of Rhubarb have benefited all.

We have had a variety of Cultural Enrichments Workshops for members and non-members. In January, women made Folk Art Door Stops, and the following month was Candy Making, and then Basket Weaving, and then Jewelry Making. The Read & Share Group meets every other month and has interesting discussions on the chosen book.

The Spring Bus Trip to the Flower Show at Navy Pier in Chicago was another popular trip. Plans are being made for the Fall Trip. Non-members can go on these trips and some have joined HCE as they learn more about the organization and the advantages as well as good fun and fellowship.

We continue to make fleece blankets and flannel quilts for the local hospitals. Work is being finalized on the County booklet about "Apron Stories". Many stories and pictures have been turned in and will soon be available to the public. The booklet offered by our County, "HINTS, ETC" is now available.

McLean County Association for Home & Community Education was pleased to have the 86th Illinois Association for Home & Community Education Annual Conference in Bloomington at the Double Tree Conference Center March 23-25. Approximately 400 women throughout the state were in attendance, of those, 36 were registered from our County.

McLean County has a very active Home & Community Education and was awarded "County of the Year" at the Conference. Two of our members

won with their entries in the Cultural Enrichment Contest. Jean Barrington won in Crocheting and Eileen Norin won in Basket Weaving.

Ray & Carol Ropp, nominee's from McLean County were chosen as "Illinois Great America Family". They, with several members of the family were present Tuesday Evening at the Awards Banquet to accept the award.

Thanks to Eileen Norin, Karen Hill, and Edna Chancellor who created the beautiful new banner for McLean County HCE. Eileen & Karen displayed it for the first time during the "Parade of Banners" Tuesday evening.



We had displays at the Conference showing the things we do for the troops, and a display of the Ropp Family and their achievements. There was a booth selling the booklet "HINTS ETC" that our County has put together and selling for \$7.00.

We have many more activities scheduled in the months ahead. Our website www.mcleanhce.org has the information listed.

Sheila Wells
Public Information

PIATT.....

The ladies of the Piatt County H.C.E. started the year off preparing for the upcoming Cultural Arts Day held January 27, 2010 at the Extension Office in Monticello, Illinois. The guest speaker was a storyteller who talked about the life of an Oklahoma farm wife during the Dust Bowl.

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The menu consisted of soup and desserts made by the members who are all experienced purveyors of culinary delights and all the tasty contributions were enjoyed by all attendees!

The crafts presented by the members were varied in all mediums. The categories included were crochet, wearable art, photography, crafts, jewelry and miscellaneous.

The IAHCE Annual Meeting was attended by our President Nancy Remmers and voting delegates Nancy Born and Janet Crandall. They all enjoyed the different seminars they attended and especially enjoyed the music from the banquet. At our March Board Meeting, they shared information they had learned at the conference and the board members will take that information back to their units.

H.C.E. continues to provide cookies to the local Bloodmobile blood drive.

Craft Club continues to be creative with crafting note cards and looking toward a project of knitted and/or crocheted slippers and helmet liners for our soldiers.

Karen Neumann

VERMILION.....

In our village of Georgetown, IL, we have a Christmas Basket Committee composed of persons from our churches, local organizations (including Georgetown HCEA). This year we delivered 141 Christmas baskets with each family getting at least 2 nice sized boxes full of a variety of food.

On the morning of delivery we have townspeople coming with their pick-up trucks to help with the delivery (about 15 trucks arrive and help). This year I asked my 14 year old grandson, Brody, to help me deliver as the boxes are heavy. He and I delivered to 6 families and it was quite an eye opener for him. Lots of our young ones have no idea how some of our needier people live. Next year we will recruit more young people and Brody has already volunteered to help Grandma again. It gives you an

insight on how blessed we are and believe me it really touched Brody.

“Rosie” Rosella Newton is a member of the Catlin HCEA and member of the First Presbyterian Church in Danville. Rosie is a mother of three daughters and one son. She is an asset to her family and grandchildren.

Rosie is active at her church having made tablecloths for the communion table, vests for the Chancel Guild and cushions. She volunteers in the church office, ushers and prepares communion.

She alters sweatshirts and clothing for chemo patients through Faith in Action. I alter and put in zippers... sewing is relaxing. Rosie says she is not afraid to tackle anything.

Recently she and her daughter Janice, sewed a nativity scene that included 630,000 stitches. She donated it to her church for a raffle for the Deacon fund for Christmas baskets. It raised more than \$900.

Rosie said family is important to her, and everyone can be a part of her family.

JoAnne Gerard

DISTRICT 6 DEBBIE BORRIES



I am starting my second year as District Director and am happy to get to visit each of my counties again soon. I am always welcomed so warmly! Thank you all! My counties make me proud because they are doing so many wonderful things! They volunteer in their communities and make a big difference in the lives of people in the county. Be sure to write to Sharon about your county activities so others may learn about them.

I have learned of many membership ideas. One county has sponsored a tea and meeting to introduce possible new members to HCE. Another county has members who mentor younger women who want to

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start HCE groups of their own. Ask former 4-H members if they would like to join HCE. We need this young blood to keep our organization going.

I have sent out informational letters to the Presidents, First Vice and Second Vice Presidents, Secretaries, and Public Relations Directors of each county. If you did not get these letters, please contact me.

Our District 6 & 7 Meeting will be held on August 19, 2010 at the Holiday Inn in Mt. Vernon. More news will come about this later.

A big THANK YOU to all who helped make this year's annual conference a big success. It was great seeing you! I was in charge of the Silent Auction and I know it was a big success due to the great workers I had, especially my co-chair, Jane Chapman. We had such wonderful items from each county and I would like to thank all the counties who donated items.

We made approximately \$2500! Thank you, thank you! I heard several women say that they didn't need more in their own homes and that they were buying gifts for others. What a great idea! Our silent auction definitely rivaled any gift boutique!

Keep in touch with me if you have any difficulties or questions arise in your county. I hope to see you soon!

Debbie Borries

BOND.....

The Bond County Homemaker's Extension Association hosted an American Red Cross blood drive on February 4, 2010. Twenty-seven persons registered with 26 units being collected. The goal was 22.

Extension members donating were Georgianne Tompkins, 135 units; Carla Mollet, 106 ; Shirley Volentine, 92 ; and Carole Bohle, 87.

Carol Herrin, the Association's Family Living Committee Chairman, coordinated the drive with

assistance from Frances Fansler, Esther Henry, Pat Sutton, Carla Mollet and Norma Marcoat.



The Bond County HEA held its International Dinner on March 1, 2010 at the First Christian Church in Greenville, IL with approximately 40 persons present. They enjoyed the many dishes that represented the Argentinean cuisine. The tables were beautifully decorated with gold and blue...featuring their flag. Several souvenirs and Argentina pamphlets were on display.

The quilt showing the Illinois state cardinal, violets and other Illinois symbols was on display. This will be raffled off during the Bond County Fair. It was shown at the IAHCE Conference in Bloomington.

Mr. & Mrs. Al Moore of Greenville, IL showed slides of their trip to Argentina with commentary of incidents during their journey.

Shirley Volentine
Public Relations

EFFINGAHM.....

Viet Nam was selected as our international country of study this year as Bev Elving, International Director, along with her husband, who served there during the Viet Nam conflict, was able to travel there last year. Their first hand experiences with the culture and food and their willingness to share this experience, gave us a unique opportunity to learn about this country. The Elvings trained unit representatives for the January lesson by offering an interactive food preparation session and sharing many interesting facts about Viet Nam. The

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program for our annual meeting in June will be a presentation from the Elvings about Viet Nam.

Quilting is on the minds of Effingham County HCE members! On February 25, 35 people attended a basic quilting workshop. Karen Raber, County Cultural Arts Director and Bev Elving, County International Director, both experienced quilters, led the workshop. Karen talked about quilting basics and presented a fun "show and tell" about quilting tools and gadgets. Bev shared information about selecting and preparing fabrics, showing many beautiful pieces to demonstrate the idea and inspire participants.

On March 20, National Day of Quilting, we held the 18th Annual Quilt Show and luncheon. Quilts were accepted in 9 categories with monetary prizes given for Best of Show and Peoples Choice awards. A soup and salad luncheon was available the day of the show.

The first quilting workshop was so popular; a second session is planned for April 8. Quilting Workshop II will offer hands on opportunities to learn strip piecing, techniques for flying geese pattern, half square triangle, appliqué, foundation piecing and snowball pattern. Karen & Bev will be assisted in this workshop by Sharon Davis, County 1st Vice President, and Marilyn Schaefer, County President. We are fortunate to have so many talented board members who are willing to share their love of quilting!

Six Effingham County members attended the State Conference March 23-25. We attended many interesting share shops, enjoyed networking and spending time together. We came back inspired and ready to share new ideas in our county.

Linda White
Public Relations

month. Pat's long time friend, Donna Little, volunteered to be our secretary. We appreciate this very much.

We have not had a Public Information director for a couple of years. Hopefully, we will have one soon.

We raffled a Grandmother's Flower Garden quilt at our only fund raiser for this year. Over \$1,000 was raised which will be used to pay for some of our special programs that are being planned. The winner of the quilt was Chris Cavins of Benld, IL.

Terry Jameson,
President with
quilt.



Robin Woodside presented an interesting program on the Sears barn that is located on the Lake Williamson Assembly of God Headquarters property at our County Meeting in March, 2010.

Four of our board members attended the IAHCE Conference in Bloomington. We each enjoyed seeing the wonderful exhibits, decorations, entertainment, food, etc. If you were not able to attend this year...try to attend next year in Decatur, IL.

We hold our 80th Annual Meeting on May 20, 2010.

Terry Jameson

MACOUPIN.....

At our Founder's Day meeting last October, our incoming slate of officers was elected and installed. The installation service was done by Debbie Borries, District 6 Director. Our newly elected secretary, Pat Duncan passed away unexpectedly after only one



DISTRICT NEWS

MADISON.....

It's springtime in Madison County and we sure do welcome it. With spring comes activity and we are gearing up for it. On April 29th at 6:00 p.m. we are having our 2010 Annual Meeting with the theme "Unmasking the Possibilities". We are looking forward to our own Wally Fisher (International Director) to give a presentation on handkerchiefs. She has well over a hundred handkerchiefs from WWI to more current years in her collection. Wally is funny and so informative that we look forward to her presentation.

In May we have our Victory Tea for our new members and their sponsors. Joyce Cornwell is planning a "high tea" which should be fun. This year we are taking a tour for our county event to Waddington, IL to visit the Artisan Museum. It is our first trip for a few years and we are hoping for a good turn out for this event.

We just returned from the State Conference in Bloomington and want to thank the state board for a wonderful, fun and informative 3 days. As always, they have done an outstanding job. I did not know that umbrellas could be decorated so creatively for Mardi Gras--the membership had a wonderful time with their creations! I have to say cooking at home was not near as tasty as the hotel's wonderful food. Thanks, again!

Our Community Director, Pat Hinton and Anita Cain, her replacement, made a delivery of clothes, soldier helmet liners, toiletry items, etc. to Women's Oasis Center, Hope Community Center and other agencies in Madison County. Thanks to all of our units who support these projects.

Enjoy the upcoming spring and summer as we all think of ways of "unmasking the possibilities" in our own counties.

Mark your calendars for November 4th, 6:00 p.m.--

Christmas in November at the Moose Lodge, Edwardsville. Details to follow in next issue of newsletter.

Gloria Hartmann
Public Relations

MONROE.....

Members of the Monroe County HCE attended the 86th Annual IAHCE Conference March 23-25, 2010 in Bloomington, IL with the theme of "Unmasking the Possibilities with IAHCE".

The members took share shops with the topics of Recycling in the Home, Arthritis, Mardi Gras, Digital Cameras and Cons, Frauds & Scams, as well as many more. These share shops will be taken back to the county and given to the different units as lessons.

Everyone who attended had a great time and got to visit with many members from other counties.



Front l to r: Judy Wild, Freda Woodrome, Virginia Mueller, Doris Matzenbacher
Back l to r: Judy Eschmann, Marie Schroeder, Marcia Weber, Fay Stamm, Janese Mehrrens, Bernadette Gregson, Toni Blanford, Virginia Sweet, Ericha Sondag

Ericha Sondag
Public Relations



DISTRICT NEWS

RICHLAND.....

In March of 2001, the Richland County Home Extension Association members decided to do a Community Outreach Project. With a lot of interest in quilting, several HEA members met and organized Blanket Brigade. Their objective was to make quilts and blankets for newborns in need, and to give extra comfort to children in time of sickness or trauma, admitted to the Richland Memorial Hospital in Olney, IL.

Nine years later Blanket Brigade is still going strong. Workshops are held at the extension meeting room almost every second Monday of the month. The blankets are made of donated, bright cotton print fabric, with non-allergenic batting. Polar Fleece is also an easy popular blanket that is warm and cuddly. Monetary donations are used to buy thread, binding, batting etc. Wonderful volunteers cut, sew, quilt, tie and sew on labels with our name. Other volunteers launder the blankets and quilts before they are delivered to the hospital. The blankets are given by the hospital to needy newborns and children who are experiencing the uncertainties of being hospitalized. Donated material not suitable for infants is sometimes made into lap robes for the Long Term Care Department at the hospital.

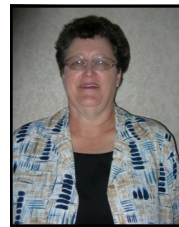
Since March 2001, many volunteers (members and non members) have shared their time and talents making quilts and blankets. At the March workshop we had eighteen volunteers working. As of March 2010, Blanket Brigade has made and donated 2050 blankets and quilts to the Richland Memorial Hospital. With a lot of flu, sickness, and surgery, blankets have been in great demand this past year. Forty blankets/quilts were donated in February. The blankets are well received by the patients, and the support of the community has been great. There is a blessing to those giving and a blessing for those receiving the blankets.

Another Blanket Brigade project is making water absorbing neck ties for the Richland County service men and women. These are made by cutting a strip of cotton fabric four inches wide and the width of the

fabric which is 45-60 inches long, fold and stitch the sides together, then turn inside out. Then a granular crystal, called polymer, is sewed in the center. When the tie gets wet the polymer expands and stays cool for 2-3 hours. The ties are sent in the Richland County Home-Front boxes to our overseas troops.

We have been blessed by the support of members, local citizens and churches with the Richland County HEA Outreach Projects.

Charlotte Lynn
Public Relations



DISTRICT 7 TREASA BROOKMAN

Spring has arrived in Southern Illinois, from Red Bud, Dogwood, lilac, star magnolia, daffodils, tulips, forsythia and much, much more. It is lovely, I'm sure winter is past.

I've been out visiting counties and installing officers. It has been a challenge this year as four counties had their annual meetings on April 22nd and four more on April 27th. Thanks to Barbara Spencer and Rita Stewart, we covered most of them. I know I am big enough for two, but I couldn't be three places on one night. I tried.

I hope the Annual Conference classes please most of you this year. Rita Stewart will be finding interesting classes for you next year and I will join Sharon as Conference Co-Chair. We will review the evaluation sheets and try to find classes that interest you.

The Conference this year was very good and the umbrella parade was just great! The theme made the conference fun.

The County of Year form will be tweaked by the board and given to you at August Workshops. You turned in some good reports this year, but you must give us documentation for what you do. I am glad to see the President's awards changed to Education Awards. It better describes the award.

DISTRICT NEWS

District Seven is going to do their best to win some of the awards, so the rest of the state had better get to work. We are all great, but we must get the word out about what we do. We need to let our light shine. So many do not know what or who we are. Let's tell everyone who we are, why they should join us and what we have to offer.

Treasa Brookman

FRANKLIN.....

Spring is here finally. The forsythia is gorgeous. Winter is over when you see all the early blooming flowers - but the grass is growing too. The farmers are getting ready to go into the fields - if the rain is finally over. We managed to stay busy here in Franklin County starting with a membership luncheon for Valentines Day. We had a room full of ladies (and gentlemen) plenty of good food, and fun was had by all.

While the two of us were on our way to the Annual Conference, the rest of the board and some of the members were preparing and serving refreshments at the Arthritis Telethon. We haven't heard the final figure, but people are always so generous with their donations for this worthy cause.

We all enjoyed the Annual conference this year and it's colorful theme. One of our unit members came for the first time and definitely plans to go again next year. It was sad that the two of us were finishing our time on the board, but we know we left our positions in good hands.

We immediately went to work getting ready for our annual Home & Garden and Craft Show. It always brings in a lot of new ideas for the spring gardens, landscaping and home decorating ideas. Our annual meeting will be April 27th and we are using the theme of the Conference - what a better one could we find? With our Lessons for Living and other activities, we look forward to a busy year.

Margaret Duncan & Barb Spencer
Public Relations

HAMILTON.....

Hamilton County HEA members are making "oodles" of noodles for their annual chicken noodle luncheon and bake sale. This year we held a noodle making works day with five noodle machines cranking out delicious egg noodles. The luncheon/bake sale is one of two fund raisers we conduct each year.

Look at the noodles drying behind them!
Yummy!



Back l to r: Lucille Auten, Susan Johnson, Geraldine Barker, Gloria Reel-Sloan, Carla Malottke, Pennie Anselment
Front l to r: Tillie Miller and Phyllis Parr

These ladies are know as the "noodle gals". They made over \$600 for this fund raiser.

Our lessons have been very well attended this year. Thanks to the great diversity of the topics, we have gained many new members in our community. Our latest program was a lunch meeting with our Amish neighbors. It was a friendly exchange of facts about Amish culture. Of course, exchanging good cooking tips and recipes was a part of our meeting. Our next gathering will be Annual Day. The day will be filled with fun, a cheesecake lesson, business meeting, fashion parade, and a time to honor the many community members that have helped to make our great programming possible. We will wrap up our year by preparing our picnic baskets and heading for the lake. The HEA county wide picnic at Dolan Lake will feature a program on native plants.

Hamilton County HEA is alive, growing, and looking forward to celebrating another great year!

Susan Johnson
Publicity/Newsletter Editor

DISTRICT NEWS

JACKSON.....

Our 2009 plans got off to a "stormy" beginning. In May, our annual meeting was canceled until the following week due to a "derecho" (a very dangerous windstorm). It left our area without electricity and with massive damage to homes and destruction of thousands of trees. Repairs continue to the present time.

At our July kick-off meeting, our treasurer, Jane McLaughlin, in step with our honoring Abraham Lincoln, gave a lesson and quiz on the life of Lincoln. Our energizing bunny, Ms. Eng, also known as Carrie Alley, the meeting with her empty membership basket. She demonstrated what can be accomplished with all our "can't do very much napkins".

On September 12, Miss America, Katie Stam, visited with the 4-H at a dinner. The HEA volunteers helped prepare the desserts, baking cakes, pies, cookies and brownies and serving them at the dinner. Miss Stam participated in three events. After school program, an Afternoon with Miss America and an Evening with Miss America. Miss Stam was a delight to 4-H and to everyone who attended one of her programs.

In September, the Jackson County HEA had a booth at the Murphysboro Apple Festival. It was attended by several ladies. Information regarding our organization, units, meeting dates, lesson information and what HEA stands for, was available. The invitation to join our organization was presented to all visitors.

Jackson County started a "stitchers" unit this past summer. The unit was well received and has been meeting with interesting projects. A beautiful quilt top has been donated by Marj Lampe and will be completed soon.

In October, we celebrated HEA week. Dr. Lyn Stevson, who had written and preformed the life story of Mary Todd Lincoln, was our special guest. What a story—her program was well received and enjoyed. Members were invited to "dress in the style

of that period". Included was a potluck luncheon, workshop and drawing for an afghan.

On February 4, 2010, we had our International lesson on Argentina. The lesson, presented by Claudia Harju, our International Chairman, was well attended and enjoyed by our members and guests. Recipes were prepared by the board members and served during the program. Our International lessons are always well attended and enjoyed according to comments following the programs.

We welcomed Julie Mumbower as the Jackson County Interim Director with the University of Illinois.

Mary Reynolds
Public Relations

JEFFERSON.....

All the Units in Jefferson County enjoyed their Christmas meetings, some meeting in homes and some in restaurants. Everyone started to fill in their new program books. Some held gift exchanges, some collected for Angel Tree recipients and some played games. The County Board Christmas Party/Meeting was held at the Waltonville Café (a county restaurant that has catered many meetings for us). The Board decided to take up a collection in lieu of a gift exchange. That money (\$100) was donated to Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.

In December, Sara Tanner, from Perry County, came to present her 'Biggest Loser Program' which was used for our January Lesson for Living and a base for future Lessons this coming year.

In January we continued to collect quarters for the men and women at the Marion VA Nursing Home. Quilt blocks were passed out to be embroidered and returned. We also started making plans to attend the IAHCE State Conference in Bloomington. We also spent time getting our reports ready to send in for conference and made the decision to sell bedding flowers (petunias & geraniums) to help raise funds.

Our February Lesson was on Osteoporosis. A

DISTRICT NEWS

nominating committee was formed for 2010/2011 officers. We completed our plans to attend State Conference.

Our Book Club is continuing to meet. We discussed "Scarpetta" by Patricia Cornwell. Our next book, in April, will be famous author, Dashiell Hammett's, 'The Maltese Falcon'.

March was a real happening month! In keeping with the 'Biggest Loser Program' our March Lesson was "Amount of Sugar & Fat in Common Foods". This was a great 'Lesson'! We had test tubes showing how much sugar, fat and salt are in some common foods we eat. A 'Grand Slam' from Denney's has 3½ test tubes of fat – ouch! This was a real eye opener!

Then the time changed! As usual we had a few days of adjusting but we had to hurry that up because it was time for Annual Conference. The experts have said that when the time changes in the spring and people lose that hour of sleep there are more heart attacks due to lack of sleep. I really don't believe it's lack of sleep – it's just that when we wake up and realize we're late we have a heart attack!!

Conference was great!! Learned a lot, met many very nice people and the staff at the Hotel was super!! Would I do it again? You betch ya! The Monday after Conference, we held our Spring President's Advisory meeting passing on information we learned.

In April the Units will all come to the Don Lee Extension Center where the Master Gardeners will give us a Lesson on 'Square Foot Gardening'. April 12th will be the 'Craft Camp Board' meeting. This year's Southern Illinois Craft Camp at DuBois in Ashley, IL will be held September 14th, 15th & 16th. For more information you may contact Tina Trotter by e-mail at ttrotter1946@yahoo.com or call Imogene Lamczyk @ 618-485-6108.

On April 23rd we will be making Lap Robes to be taken to area nursing homes at a later date.

We decided that we'd have another 'Flea Market & Lunch' on Saturday, May 1st. This allows the Units

time to get together and also earn some money while at the same time the County makes some money. This will also create a great time for people to pick up the flowers they ordered. May 3rd will be Jefferson County's Annual Meeting where we will follow the state's theme of "Unmasking the Possibilities" and will have a presentation on the history of Mardi Gras. Our Lesson for May will be about making Pasta (I've taken this Lesson before and I can eat pasta, but it has never been a big favorite, but let me tell you **fresh** pasta is wonderful!!!).

Marge Wilcox
Public Relations

JOHNSON.....

Johnson County Home and Community Education Executive Board met February 1, 2010 at the Johnson County Extension Office for a leadership training breakfast. Two breakfast casseroles and a fruit bouquet were served along with coffee. New members were welcomed to the board. Topics covered were the IAHCE organization, the history and goals, individual leadership roles, team work and positive attitude. Executive Board members in attendance were Phyllis Webb – Chairperson, Patsy Bishop – 1st Vice Pres., Mary Yandell – 2nd Vice-Pres, Irene Webb – Secretary, Maxine Ellet – Treasurer, Faye Mize – Family Issues, Pat Sweica – Community Outreach, Ann Stachowiak – International, and Dixie Terry – Publicity and Newsletter.



Activities discussed at the regular monthly meeting included the "What's It Worth?" event and luncheon scheduled for April 29th and the Garden Tour and luncheon scheduled for June 12th. Four members will be attending the IAHCE State Conference in March.

Faye Mize

DISTRICT NEWS

PERRY.....

Christmas cards and Valentines Day cards were sent to Anna Veterans Home. Each card contained a quarter for vending machine treats. Food pantry collections continue each month for such staples as toilet paper, soap, one box meals, and shelf supplies.

The quilt was completed in February for the raffle. A quilting class will be held April 19 for those wanting to learn how to quilt. HCE members helped the 4-H members learn to hand quilt one day in January.

Sara Tanner is leading a 4th HCE Biggest Loser event. Sixty-eight people signed up to commit to a healthier life style. April 15 will be the annual Passport Party to study the country of Argentina and the state of Montana. Displays and speakers plus a tasting bee will be held.

Earth Day April 22 will be the bus trip to the Paducah Quilt Show. A meal will be enjoyed at Martin Fierro Grill, an Argentinian restaurant.

We had four delegates to IAHCCE Annual Conference. All reported a great time was had.



Georgia Fagerland, Jane Chapman, Rita Stewart, Alberta Woodside

May 6 will be Perry County Annual Meeting at Sunfield, IL. Two scholarship winners will be announced at the meeting. Members continue to live healthier and "go green" as much as possible.

Carolyn Bathon
Public Relations

UNION.....

Union County HCE members quilted two consignment quilts as moneymaking projects again this year.

The first consignment quilt, with a Modified Nine-patch design, was completed in January. This lovely quilt was hand-crafted 30 to 40 years ago using fabric from that time.



HCE members hand-quilted a quilt with a Dresden Plate design in February. Debbie Heinrichs constructed the quilt top using fabrics replicating those used in the 1930's. The Dresden Plate quilt pattern was one of the most popular quilts made during the 1920s and 30s.



Suzie Kessler, HCE member, designed a beautiful quilt top using the Carpet of Flowers pattern. The fabrics used on quilt are pastel shades of pink, blue and green. Suzie precision cut and machine stitched the fabric to make this beautiful quilt design. She donated her work for this year's 4-H quilt. This quilt was quilted and bound by HCE members and completed the end of March. Raffle tickets will be sold and profits used for Union County 4-H Scholarships.

Union County HCE members met every Thursday for the past three months in spite of winter weather, personal illness and other distractions. Kudos to a very dedicated bunch!! Thank you to each unit for furnishing delicious lunches during this time. Everyone enjoyed the fellowship, fun and recipe exchanges. It was a united effort.

Jane Bauer
Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

WASHINGTON.....

Washington County HCE Members and Friends quilted a beautiful quilt which will be raffled off at our annual "Christmas Special" in November. The Christmas Special is held early in November and gets everyone started with ideas and recipes for the holidays.

Several of our HCE members attended a Public meeting in regard to the budget of the Extension Program throughout the State.

Washington County's 63rd annual HCE meeting will be held Tuesday April 26th at Hoyleton Community Club Building. There will be dinner, business meeting, silent auction and installation of officers. The theme for this year's annual meeting is "Unmasking the Possibilities with HCE."

HCE members and other volunteers meet each month to make blankets for "Project Linus." The annual "Relay For Life" will be held in Nashville, Illinois on May 7, 2010. HCE members have been requested to manage the Cake wheel on that day.

Four members from Washington County attended the HCE Annual Conference at Bloomington. They were Ann Schnitker, County board President, Sue Mueller, Marietta Dahncke and Winona Huckold. At the conference the representatives attended many share shops, enjoyed good food and great entertainment. The State HCE Board is to be praised for the great conference and a "JOB WELL DONE."



Marietta Dahncke, Winona Huckshold, Ann Schnitker, Sue Mueller

Sue Mueller
Public Relations

COUNTY OF THE YEAR!

Mc LEAN COUNTY



Using the new form for County of the Year, Mc Lean County was the top county with 7,110 points. They earned points for a variety of activities.

The new form, beginning this year, had questions that all counties, small or large, could earn points for. Such things as 100 points for every educational lesson given in the county, each article submitted to the State Newsletter earned 50 points, worked with 4-H members on a special project or activity received 100 points, turned CVH form, etc. The treasurer, CVH and Newsletter Editor will verify items that pertain to them. It has well rounded criteria that lets all counties, large or small, have the chance to become "County of the Year" and this first year using this new form, Mc Lean County edged out Champaign County with Macon County coming in close behind Champaign.

If you didn't participate this year, now is the time to start. Save newspaper clippings, photos of events, have articles submitted to the newsletter along with promoting the subscription of same, copies of your lessons and sign in sheets at those lessons, etc. You need to have a copy of the County of the Year Award form and work on it monthly and you too, may be next years' "County of the Year".

Congratulations to a wonderful county and host of this years' "Unmasking the Possibilities with IAHCE" Conference.

PRESIDENT AWARD WINNERS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

District 1

Special Activities - Lee County
 Citizenship - Bureau County

District 2/3

Special Activities - Kankakee County
 Citizenship - Lake County

District 4

Citizenship - Peoria County

District 5

Special Activities - McLean County
 Citizenship - Christian County
 Environment - Cumberland County

District 6

Special Activities - Effingham County

District 7

Special Activities - Saline County
 Citizenship - Jefferson County
 Environment - Pulaski/Alexander County

GRAND AWARD - MACON COUNTY

Environment - "Going Green"

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

District 1

Heritage Skills - Rock Island County
 Special Activity - Stephenson County

District 4

Special Activity - Pike County

District 5

Textiles & Clothing - Christian County
 Heritage - McLean County
 Special Activity - Edgar County

District 6

Heritage - Jersey County
 Special Activities - Monroe County

District 7

Textiles & Clothing - Wayne County
 Heritage - White County
 Special Activities - Pulaski/Alexander County
GRAND AWARD - WINNEBAGO COUNTY
 Heritage Skills - Christmas in Colonial Williamsburg

FAMILY ISSUES

District 1

Family Living - Lee County

District 7

Health, Food, Nutrition - McLean County

District 6

Health, Food, Nutrition - Marion County

District 7

Family Living - Franklin County
 Special Activity - Hamilton County

GRAND AWARD - MADISON COUNTY

Special Activity - "Patriotic Awareness Day"

INTERNATIONAL

District 1

Country of Study - Stephenson County

District 2/3

Country of Study - Lake County
 Special International Event - McHenry County

District 4

Other International Country of Study - Tazewell County
 Special International Event - Pike County

District 5

Country of Study - Champaign County
 Other International Country of Study - Macon County

Special International Event - DeWitt County

District 6

Country of Study - Monroe County

District 7

Country of Study - Washington County
 Special International Event - Perry County

GRAND AWARD - WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Country of Study - Argentina

HIGHEST % MEMBERSHIP GAIN

1. Randolph County with 36.17%
2. Cumberland County with 24.66%
3. Vermilion County with 20.22%



As you may have seen in several of the Directors letters, the President's Awards have been renamed to Education Awards which better describes these awards.

PRESIDENT AWARDS

PUBLIC RELATIONS

District 1

Special Activity - Stephenson County

District 5

HCE Week - McLean County

Public Relations - Edgar County

Special Activity - Macon County

District 6

Public Relations - Effingham County

District 7

HCE Week - Jefferson County

Public Relations - Saline County

GRAND AWARD - MADISON COUNTY

Special Activity - Patriotic Awareness Day

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION AWARD

(highest percentage of subscriptions)

1. Macon County with 17%
2. Williamson County with 13%
3. Jefferson County with 9%

CHALLENGE FOR DISTRICT DIRECTORS

(for highest % of Counties Participation)

District 2/3 - 76%

District 7 - 72.2%

District 5 - 64.2%

District 1 - 60%

District 6 - 58.8%

District 4 - 33.3%

GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY

The Great American Family was named by the Family Issues Director, Lynn Kearney. They were Ray and Carol Ropp of Mc Lean County.



They operate a family farm and business and have the Ropp Jersey Cheese in Normal. Carol had a share shop for us telling how the cheese is processed.

CERTIFIED VOLUNTEER HOURS

Member Reporting the Most CVH for 1 Year

1. Mary Noble/Kankakee Cty. with 3844 hrs.
2. Shirley Kampmeier/Stephenson with 3580 hrs.
3. Noreen Reeves/Wayne Cty. with 3500 hrs.
4. Mary Barrett/Washington Cty. With 3347 hrs.
5. Marge Heindle/Boone Ct. with 2594 hrs.

County Reporting Most CVH for 1 Year

1. Champaign County
2. Mc Lean County
3. Jefferson County
4. Warren County
5. Edgar County

County with Most New Participants

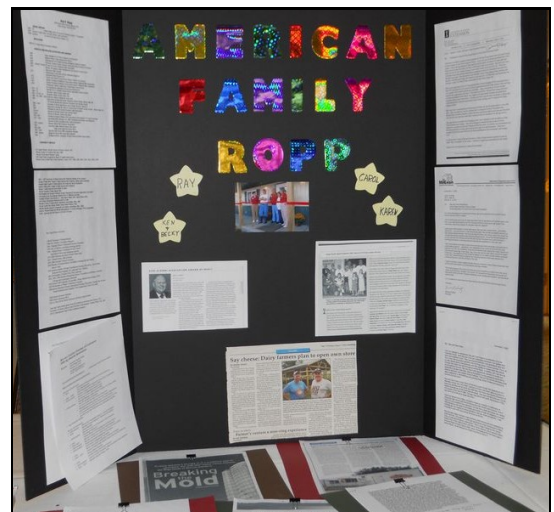
1. Mc Lean County - 70
2. Randolph County - 28
3. Champaign County - 26
4. Jefferson County - 25
5. Pike County - 21

County with Highest % of Members Participation

1. Warren County - 50.45%
2. Macon County - 40.7%
3. Clay County - 37.5%
4. Randolph County - 37.0%
5. Fayette County - 33.3%



020-747-7470



SPECIAL NEWS ITEMS

70 YEAR PLUS MEMBER ATTENDS CONFERENCE

HCE member, Mildred Siedenburg attended our 86th Annual Conference in Bloomington. When President Marilyn Daughhete asked how many years members had been in HCE, the countdown began. First 50 years, then 60 years.....then 70! Only one lady still stood, Mildred.



WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

We want to welcome our new board members and one returning member. From the left to right: Sandra Bechtold is our new 2nd Vice President who is from Jersey County. She was the District 6 Director in 2008. New to the Board is Kay Brinkley our new Cultural Enrichment director who is from Edgar County. She is joined by Norma Korte of Massac County our new Family Issues director. Jean Pieroni, District 2/3 director from Mc Henry County was installed for another three years after being appointed to fill the last year of the previous directors term and Jan Edwards is the new District 4 director from Pike County. Welcome ladies!

These ladies addresses and the rest of their information is inside the front cover of this issue of the State Newsletter. I'm sure if you have any questions concerning their position, you can get hold of them either by phone or e-mail.

We also would like to thank Carol Whitcomb, Past State President, for a wonderful installation.



HCE MEMBER CELEBRATES 90TH BIRTHDAY



Members from Mc Henry County made sure that we knew that one of their members was celebrating her 90th birthday at our Conference. Dorothy Conley stood waving her tatted hankie while we sang Happy Birthday to her. She had a party all week with the Mardi Gras party.

Happy Birthday, Dorothy!



50/50 DRAWING WINNER!

District 5 Director, Jane Wood and her crew from Mc Lean County sold tickets while members were in line waiting to get into Tuesday Evening Awards Banquet and after they were seated. Such a good job selling tickets, they collected \$ and the lucky winner of the drawing was **Virginia Stewart** of Vermilion County. The IAHCe share will go to offset costs of the Conference.

Congratulations Virginia!



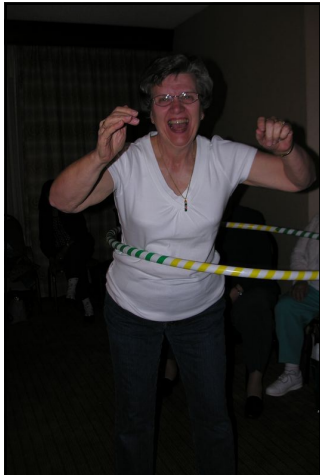
UNMASKING THE POSSIBILITIES WITH IAHCCE CONFERENCE



CONFERENCE, MARCH 23-25, 2010 IN BLOOMINGTON, IL



UNMASKING THE POSSIBILITIES WITH IAHCCE CONFERENCE



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