

**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION
FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

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May, 2012

NEWSLETTER

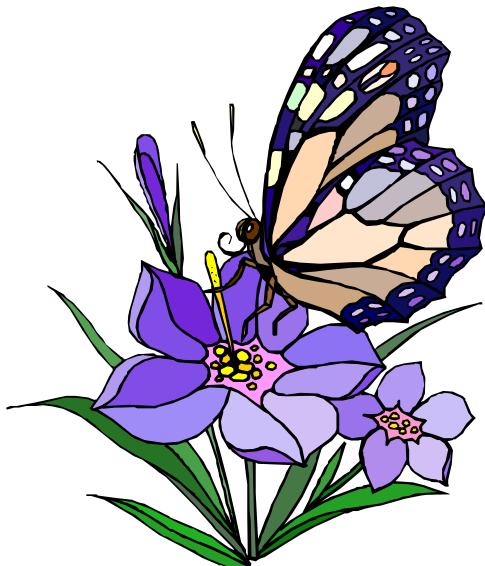
IAHCE'S *GARDEN*

IAHCE WEBSITE

www.iahce.org

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From the Desk of the President

As I write this, I have just returned from another great conference. It is just awesome to visit with your IHCC friends. We learn, we visit, and we eat and shop. What could be better?



Iwant to congratulate our new board members elected: Pat Weitzmann, Lake County as International Director; Marge Wilcox, Jefferson County as Community Outreach Director and Donna Richards, Jasper County as Secretary. Welcome to the IHCC state board. I also was reelected as your state president. I appreciate your support.

Also, it was with much disappointment that we said good bye to Kay Brinkley, Cultural Enrichment Director, as she is moving to Arkansas. She served 2 years of her term. Peggy Long, Knox County, has been appointed to finish the remaining one year of the term.

The HCC membership has dropped to 9,400 members. So to continue to be a strong and great organization, I ask each county to strive to attain new members. Please ask your neighbor, friend, newly retired or newcomer to the community to attend your unit meeting or county event. If you do not ask, they may never learn about HCC.

Once again, I was overwhelmed by the reports presidents sent to me of the service projects being done in your county. Your generosity and dedication to helping others speaks highly of our organization. Thanks again for all that you do.

Instepped out my front door this afternoon and the fragrance of lilacs blooming in the neighborhood was so pleasant. They are so beautiful this spring. So take some time to smell the flowers this spring.

I am praying that you have a great and successful HCC year in 2012. If the state board members can assist you in any way, do not hesitate to contact us. Please contact me if you would like for me to attend a county meeting or event. I look forward to visiting you.

May you have a safe and healthy year during 2012.

Blessings,

Marilyn Daughhetee
IHCC State President



EXECUTIVE BOARD



1st Vice President Treasa Brookman

I hope you enjoyed the 88th Annual Conference as much as I did. Everything went so smooth.

It is great to have a board that works together so well. I loved your interpretation of your favorite garden veggie, fruit or critter. Mayor Gillenwater, Effingham, said he was so happy to see so many ladies with smiles visit Effingham.

During the awards program, we tried to move along and it was only 1 hour long. I'm sure we set a record. I hope your county won in one of the category's. If not, next year you need to fill out an Educational Award form or County of the Year form. The "volunteers" in each county do so many things and they need to be recognized for it. All you have to do is fill out the forms and follow all the guidelines.

The business meeting was short, so you had plenty of time to visit the Trade Show, Silent Auction, Cultural Arts Display and Sales Area. The hotel needed time to set up the lunch area. Thank you for your patience.

This year we had a keynote speaker, Eddy Weiss, from Chasing4ALife.org. I saw him last year and thought he had information pertinent to all of our members. I hope lives will be saved by the information that he shared with us.

Wednesday night was our night to remember Elsie Mies and our founders, install our officers and just enjoy the night.

Thanks to Jane Chapman and Marilyn Schaefer who did an outstanding job with the share shops. They had something for everyone.

I hope you found something to take back to your county to use. We gave you the handout from the Storm Preparedness class; the rest of the handouts will be prepared and given to you at the District Workshop in August. When

Extension gets back to me with the classes they will make into lessons for 2013-14, I will get them to you. I hope to have this by the District Workshop.

You are the best VOLUNTEERS in the world!

Treasa Brookman

2nd Vice President

Sandra Bechtold



Hi IAHCE Ladies,

It was good to see all of you at the Conference. Congratulations on those of you that got new members this year. I know there isn't an easy answer for getting new members except to keep telling everyone about our organization and asking people to come. We are just a "Garden of Volunteers" and you do great work on everything you all do. It was so great to hear all the good things you've been doing across the state. So shout it out for all to hear. Hope to see you all at the District Workshops.

Have a great day and May Good Bless you all especially your loved ones in harms way.

Sandy Bechtold



Retiring Secretary Carolyn Fisher

Thank you for being so helpful and friendly during my three-year term as IAHCE Secretary. I hope that you will extend the same courtesy to Donna Richards. Her information is on the inside cover of this newsletter.

I have a few notes in passing.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

When you send your county officer information, whether it be a separate sheet or your Secretary Report Form (page 21 of the Guidebook), remember to include:

- County name (yes, one came over the internet with just name/address/phone)
- Full Board, not just the Executive Officers
- Zip code
- Full telephone number (Illinois has many area codes)

Please send a current list to both IAHCE Secretary and your IAHCE District Director. If you send a copied version, please check your copy to see whether you have copied the sheet properly. More than one county has sent a list with information cut off. We would prefer to have e-mail addresses, but some people do not want to divulge this information. Our IAHCE First Vice President Treasa Brookman sends many e-mail messages across the state.

Some counties have been sending their Board Minutes to me. Thank you, but do not send any more to the IAHCE Board. One county did not title and date their minutes, and if it did not come with their Secretary Report Form, I would not have identified them easily.

Thank you and goodbye,

Carolyn Fisher

Secretary
Donna Richards

Thank you for the privilege to serve as your IAHCE secretary for the next three years. Please let me take this opportunity to introduce myself and give you a quick look into my life.

My name is Donna Richards from Newton in Jasper County. I am a retired grandmother of two grandsons, ages 12 and 9. I have two daughters, one in St. Charles, Missouri and one



in Newton.

I grew up in Brocton, Edgar County. My father was a farm hand and worked for the same family for over 50 years. I have two brothers who still live in and around Brocton.

I moved to Newton, Jasper County in July, 1994. When the factory where I worked closed, I decided to go to Lakeland College in Mattoon. I graduated with an Associate Degree in Accounting and a Management Certificate. After graduation, I accepted a job offer with a company in Newton

I have worked in Accounting/Bookkeeping, Payroll, and Secretarial/Clerical environments for over 45 years. I currently do bookkeeping 6 hours a week for a retired business man in Newton who has a couple rental properties.

Last full time employment, I worked in management as an Operations Area Manager at a retail store (Alco Discount Store) in Newton. The store is part of a chain that the general offices are in Abilene, Kansas. Also, I was the District Operation Trainer for the company traveling to stores within our district training personnel as needed. As District Trainer, I set up the Operations offices, Receiving, and Customer Service in the new stores at Chillicothe, Illinois, Greenville, Illinois, and Herman, Missouri.

Some of the other offices that I have held:
Chairperson Housing Committee - International Thanksgiving Fellowship Board, in Paris, Illinois for 10 years in the 1980's
Lakeland Alumni Board of Directors from 1994 through 2001
Church Treasurer
Deacon Board Secretary

I became a member of HCE in 1997. I have served on the Jasper County HCE Board as International Chairperson, Cultural Enrichment, Secretary, President-Elect, and President.

Currently, also volunteering with the PUSH

EXECUTIVE & EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

(program to help young single mothers) as a mentor and prepare the newsletter.

I look forward to working for and with you over next three years. Feel free to contact me.

Donna Richards



Treasurer

Jane Chapman

THIS IS AN EMERGENCY ALERT!

Who ever reads this, you must check with your county president or treasurer or both to make sure they are filing the federal not-for-profit 990 e-file. Upon my return from conference, and when I had the opportunity to check my e-mail, I had an e-mail from a county that had just been notified by the IRS that they had lost their not-for-profit status. Reason being, they had not filed the 990 forms for three consecutive years.

I really feel like I have failed in some way to convey to all of the counties the importance of filing the 990. I hope that this alert will make you realize the importance of filing all paper work in a timely manner. What that county faces now to be reinstated as a not-for-profit organization is filing a form that is about 20 pages long and a fee of \$850! How many of the counties in the state can afford that fee or doing a form 20 pages long? The little e-file 990 that you do online is very easy, is only one page long and costs nothing!

Help me fellow treasurers; how can I get it across to the correct people that you must do this paper work? Call me immediately if you do not know what I am referring to or the people you tell do not know what you are talking about. You will be doing your county a big favor if you have them avoid what this other county is faced with now. I will even give you my cell phone

number so you can reach me immediately - (618)317-2727.

Oh, by the way, have a great Spring and Summer and hope to see you at the District meetings in August.

Jane Chapman



Retiring COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Vi Huebner

I have just completed my final year as your Community Outreach Director of the IAHCE. I have enjoyed being on the board but have encountered some back and leg issues. I had back surgery on November 30, 2011 and it is doing fine, but now they are talking about knee replacement surgery.

As I leave the board, it is with mixed emotions. I have met many new friends and hope to see them again at future conferences.

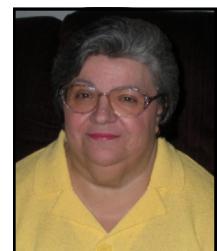
I intend to spend my free time camping and playing with my grandchildren.

Marge Wilcox is replacing me. She will do a great job!

Vi Huebner

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Marge Wilcox



Did you make it to Conference? It was great! Hats off to Treasa Brookman, Sandy Bechtold and the rest of the Ladies who made it so.

I'm proud to say that I am your new IAHCE Community Outreach Director. I'm really looking forward to the coming months. I've already gotten acquainted with the Ladies on the Board and was introduced to many of you at the breakout session (share shop).

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

Forgive me if I don't know any of your names yet but I'll work on that when I see you at District Workshop in August.

I would encourage everyone to continue with any projects you are currently involved with. Two other projects that are needed everywhere throughout the state are:

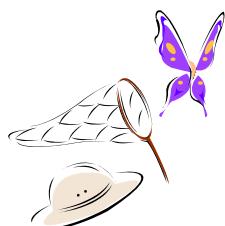
Blood Drives – someone always needs blood – you can organize your own drive or partner with another organization that already does drives. You may personally give blood and encourage others to do so. Also, if you can't, then maybe you can help organize the drive or volunteer to help at a drive.

The second project I'm looking at is: contribute to food pantries, but in a special way – donate or try to collect donations that they don't get as often, paper goods, toiletries and household cleaners. When a family or individual is on food stamps they can't purchase these items but they are still needed. Items include toilet paper, Kleenex, paper towels, napkins, foil wrap, plastic wrap and plastic bags... lotions, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, bar soap, liquid soap, laundry soap, and dish soap. Maybe you're a pet lover, collect dog food, cat food or cat litter for a local shelter.

I'm looking forward to August when I will be able to meet everyone throughout the state and get your ideas. Perhaps you have special needs in your area that we can work on.

If you have any questions or if I can be of any assistance before August, feel free to call me at 618-732-8226 or 618-214-4323.

Marge Wilcox



Retiring CULTURAL ENRICHMENT Kay Brinkley

What a wonderful conference!!!

It is a sad time in my life for many reasons! I want to thank all of you special ladies for the kindness shown to me the past two years. Especially for being so kind when the "BEST OF SHOW" entries were not ready for display or announcement at the proper time. Viewers Choice was a good idea, but I had not planned on the magnitude of votes and counting them.

After three hours of counting votes, I knew I had gotten in over my head. I cannot tell the ladies who came to my rescue how much I appreciate their help in finishing the vote count. We were up until 1 AM putting the Grand Award ribbons on the "Best of Show Winners!"

I apologize to you ladies who entered by not getting the information out in the conference sooner.

I am positive next year this problem will be corrected!! Thank you all for understanding. We had a Great showing in our Cultural Enrichment Best of Show entries. Some commented it was smaller than last year, but we actually had more entries with a larger display area! **The winners of "Best of Show"** are on page 42 and 43.

As I leave you in good hands with Peggy Long of Knox Co., I encourage you to contact her with offers of support and help. Keep the Cultural Enrichment excitement alive!!!! It can only survive with your support of our projects and your county projects. Stay active and involved in your local units.

Blessings,

Kay Brinkley

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

Peggy Long



Hello everyone. I am the new kid on the block and will be following in Kay's footsteps on the board. I know I will have a rough job ahead of me, trying to live up to the job that Kay has done, but with all the nice ladies that I will be working with, I am sure we can do this together.

Just to tell you a little about myself, I was born in Kentucky, moved to Gallatin County when I was 6 years old, moved to Rock Island County when I graduated high school, then moved to Knox County almost 15 years ago now. I have been married to John for 42 years, we have 2 girls and a boy, 7 grandkids, and 2 great grandkids. I am the current President of our county, and acting vice president. I have been the first vice for years and years until I inherited the duties of President, so have never held the Cultural Arts position, but I used to have a store for crafts and taught lessons. But I guess most important, I was recommended by Lucille Michaels, so that is a big thing to live up to, not disappointing her. As this is only a one year job, I won't be making any major changes; Kay has the year all mapped out for me. Thanks Kay.

So, hopefully we can all work together and wish Kay well on her next leg on her journey of life. We will miss her, but we have her phone number. Speaking of phone numbers, mine is 309-483-6594 and my email is pjlong@winco.net. My cell is a trac phone, because I can't get much of a signal where I live, so you will just have to call my home number. I will see you ladies at District Workshop, with a big case of nerves, so help me please, and above all, be nice.

Peggy Long



FAMILY ISSUES

Norma Korte



We have just returned home from the IAHCE State Conference. I wanted to thank all of you for your help with the Family Issues Share Shop, either by helping to schedule the speakers, sending in a news article that I could use in my packet, or providing encouraging words of support.

I would like to extend a special thank you to each of the counties who participated in the tab collection this year. The Grand Award for the Tab Collection project this year was Hamilton County with a collection of 167 pounds of tabs that were delivered to the Evansville, IN, Ronald McDonald House. We will be continuing the Tab Collection project for one more year, so keep collecting those tabs! My goal is for more counties to participate next year in hopes of collecting more than 796 pounds of tabs for the 2013 IAHCE Conference. Several counties had excellent reports, including: Madison, Champaign, La Salle, Sangamon, and Macon. A very special report was turned in from Randolph County about Tara and her fight against cancer. I would also like to thank all the counties who held fundraisers for the Chemo Duck Foundation. Your efforts will help several children as they go through treatments by providing them with a Chemo Duck. Thank you!!

The Family Issues Grand Award for 2011 went to Macon County. Their focus was on Childhood Health. They held an ice cream fundraiser to raise funds for Chemo Ducks, and collected tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. They worked hard to make all these activities special. Great Job!! Madison had an excellent report that described a very well-rounded program that was conducted throughout the year.

The Great American Family Award went to the Arnold and Carol Bork Family from Macon County. They have 5 children and encouraged

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

each child to pursue a quality education while being actively involved in HCE, 4-H and church through the years. I would encourage all those who applied but did not receive the Grand Award to apply again next year.

The main focus this year for Family Issues is Autism Awareness. We had three mothers who work with the Family Center in Effingham to speak about their child's form of Autism. During the Share Shop, I provided you with a packet that included only a small portion of the information that is available on the internet and through other resources about Autism. ***I would encourage your county to focus on the Family Issues Topic during the month of April, because that is Autism Awareness Month.*** Wear your puzzle piece pin to show your support for Autism Awareness!

Thank you to all those individuals and counties who helped make the IAHCE Conference so special.

I plan to have more information on how to prepare your Education Reports at the District Workshops in August.

Happy Easter and Spring from the Korte Family! I hope everyone has a safe and successful planting season!

Norma Korte



LOST AT CONFERENCE!

I attended the state IAHCE Conference at the Helen Keller Complex in Effingham from March 27-29, 2012. I lost a brooch, (pink and purple dragon-fly). I would very much like to have it back. I feel I was with a creditable and trust-worthy group of people. If found, please send it to one on the state officers with no questions asked.

Mary Ann



INTERNATIONAL Pat Weitzmann

I am excited to be the new International Director. While I take my duties as a Board member and my commitment to all IAHCE members seriously, I am an outgoing and fun loving person who is rarely short on ideas.

As a life long resident of Lake County, Illinois, I've witnessed an explosion of population and cultural diversity. My life now has little resemblance to my pre-adult years as a daughter of a dairy farmer. The work ethic I developed as a farmer's daughter has been a great asset to me in education, career, home and social environments. I was a 4-H member in my youth and a hospital volunteer during my high school years. As a retired insurance operations junior executive, retired small business entrepreneur, Lake County HCE Board member and substitute grade school teacher, I've had plenty of practice organizing, planning, turning problems into opportunities and helping children and adults learn. I am glad to bring these skills to the IAHCE Board and my objective "to work with people throughout the world to promote peace, friendship and international understanding". I wanted to be International Director for IAHCE because I want to help make a positive educational experience for our members in the area of international understanding. Our global economy, increased cultural diversity in the USA, and struggle of many women throughout the world to improve their lives points to the need for understanding and appreciation.

I am married, have two children, two step-children, eleven grandchildren (including a US Marine grandson and three college students) and one great-granddaughter. As a 25 year member of Sweet Adelines International, I get plenty of opportunity to sing. I also sing in my church choir. I am blessed to be a 21 year breast cancer survivor.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORTS

My husband and I have traveled extensively in the USA and Europe. We go to Germany at least every 4 years to visit his family. I enjoy experiencing other cultures first hand whether through travel or local events. Learning about other people and cultures through reading and other educational ways is enjoyable to me also. (I think I could have been happy as a career traveler and writer of travel books).

I am a member of ACWW. Also, I'm waiting for assignment of my ACWW letter friend. If you haven't checked this "pen pal" opportunity out, you can at www.iahce.org. Just select IAHCE Guidebook and then the International section. This organization year we will be studying Trinidad and Tobago. I know they are southeasterly islands of the Antilles near Venezuela, South America; and the people like to use spices liberally in food. So, I'll be busy gathering information about Trinidad and Tobago to share with the county HCE organizations this summer.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be your guide for the next three years as you expand your international understanding.

Pat Weitzmann

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Sharon Middleton

As everyone has said in their articles, what a great spring and conference! Everyone should have returned home a got back into the swing of your county's events, lessons, etc. While you are really excited about the things we saw and did and learned, now is the time to get new members by asking them to join your unit meetings or an exciting lesson coming up. Let them see how much fun and learning that we have to share. Good luck in getting our membership numbers back to 10,000. Without you, we cannot raise to the occasion.



Now is the time to think ahead of the events that your county has coming up. To get some of those new members, we need to let them know about what we have to offer. You need to have flyers, brochures, newspaper articles explaining about HCE and their educational offerings. Leave that at the beauty shop, Dr. offices, etc. If you need a copy of a News Release/Press Release to send out to your local newspapers, radio stations, etc., please contact me for that information. That is how we get our name out.

If you would like a page on our website, www.iahce.org, send me your county's information and we can have your county listed. Check to see what other counties have on their webpage.

Until the District Meetings.....

Sharon Middleton



CVH/SALES

Karen Halicki



Thank you to all who attended the 88th Annual Conference in Effingham. I enjoyed meeting everyone and seeing all the wonderful things we do.

I am so proud of everyone that turned in hours. You are all so special in what you can do to help others. You sure did keep me busy. The total hours for 2011 was 490,024. Out of 9400 members, I received hours from 1817 members. Of the 81 counties that belong to IAHCE, there were 64 that turned in hours. We had 75 members turn in over 1000 hours! See you in August at the District Workshops.

These were the awards that were handed out on Awards Night. They are listed on page 41 and 49.

REPORTS

We had 560 new volunteers that turned in their hours this year, keeping it going. A Big Thank You!! to all the CVH County Directors for getting all the members listed on a sheet and in alphabetical order. This is a big help in posting them. Please remember to round off your hours to whole numbers. You can e-mail me your County List next year. I had several send them to me and it worked out fine.

Karen Halicki



U of I Extension Liaison Jenna Smith

I just returned from a wonderful trip to the 88th Annual IAHCE Conference in Effingham. I truly enjoyed meeting and visiting with hundreds of HCE members from various counties across the state. As part of the "Garden of Volunteers" theme, I dressed up as the Chiquita Banana Lady and paraded around with a basket of fruit on top of my head. What fun is it if we can't make ourselves look a little foolish? The parade was just one of the things that made the conference a huge success, and I congratulate all those who worked so hard to make it "one of the best conferences yet!" I may have said it before, but I'm so amazed when I hear about the many wonderful things that you do. This past year, 1,817 members reported 490,024 volunteer hours. (By the way, this is over 1500 more hours than what was reported last year and more people turned in their hours this year as compared to last). According to the Independent Sector, the Estimated Dollar Value of Volunteer Time is \$21.36 per hour. That means that your time of volunteer work for the past year is worth \$10,466,912.64! WOW!

To let you know a little bit about what's going on in Extension... Beginning April 1st, we will have a new Family and Consumer Science Program Leader. If you remember, Dr. Judee Richardson has served as interim in this role and did a fine job of leading our program areas.

However, she will go back to her previous position as Extension Specialist in Family Life/Family Resiliency. Dr. Jennifer McCaffrey will now serve as FCS Program Leader. Dr. McCaffrey, has provided leadership for the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) for more than 10 years in the Chicago area. She is a registered dietitian and has her PhD in public health from the University of Illinois-Chicago. In other news, we also have 6 Family and Consumer Science position openings: 1 Family Life Educator, 3 Nutrition and Wellness Educators and 2 EFNEP Educators. So we are hoping to get these positions filled soon!

Together, you are a "Garden of Volunteers." With more than 9,000 members, your "garden" is as big as 3 quarters of the length of a football field! Continue to volunteer and continue to recruit to make your garden grow even bigger.

Jenna Smith

If you want to contact Eddy for a program :

Eddy Weiss, 308-580-6337
308-850-6339 office
Chasing4Life.org

He is available for programs anytime, especially this summer.



Eddy Weiss and Reno

REPORTS

BOARD HAPPENINGS

March, 2012

1. Reviewed each conference committee prior to conference so that each would run smooth as possible.
2. Appointed Peggy Long, Knox County, as Cultural Enrichment Director to replace Kay Brinkley.
3. Verified June Board Meeting with new members.
4. Agreed to hold June, 2012 Board Meeting at Effingham so that new board members would be better acquainted with the set up.
5. Asked Sharon Middleton to develop a template so that we could each have it on our computers to make our own letterhead which would save the cost of purchasing stationery.
6. Treasa, Conference Chair, asked each committee to update the To-Do list for their committee as soon as possible.
7. Sharon, Newsletter Editor, reminded board members that their article for the newsletter was due no later than April 4. She gave us a few extra days because of conference.
8. Discussed the judging of Cultural Enrichment Show. Members enjoyed having the opportunity to vote. Next year, it was decided counting of votes should begin earlier so that Best of Show could be displayed on Wednesday.

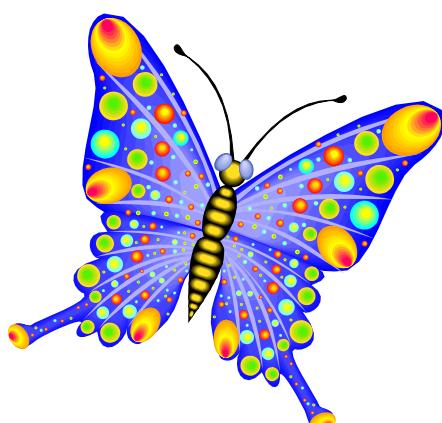
COUNTY SERVICES PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2011 REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT

I love to hear about the generosity you have shown in your community by the service projects you do. Many this year donated money or food to food banks to help the many without jobs.

You continue to make Linus Blankets (462 reported), 120 quilts and comforters for veterans, 173 quilts for kids, 159 pillowcases for veterans and children's hospitals, 634 little dress for African girls and 108 shorts for boys. About 1200 Christmas stockings to our soldiers plus 235 boxes for Christmas, 680 dozen cookies, too.

50,000 coupons were sent to Germany for use by the families of troops and some coupons valued at \$147,912. I don't know how many coupons that is but sounds like a lot. There were 150 activity bags for children, 100 blankets for hospitals, 632 cough pillows, 150 caps and mittens for children, 76 boxes of Kleenex to local schools, 5 boxes of assorted school supplies. 261 bags for wheelchairs and walkers, 10 prayer shawls, 75 catheter bags, 160 pillows for shelters, 20 pinafores and shirts for historical society.

You have given many other items to schools, soldiers and your communities that I do not have a number on. You have done a wonderful job in helping others.



DISTRICT NEWS



District 1

Marilyn De Vries

Hi Everyone!

The weather has been good all winter and has continued through the spring.

The District Workshops will be coming up in August. I want to invite everyone to come. It will be in Lake County this year for the 1 and 2/3 Districts.

Summer is coming and there will be many county fairs that will need help. Check with your local fair and see where you could volunteer to help.

Little Dresses can still be made and sent to Kenya. Keep saving those pop tabs; what a small way to help others and it means so much.

Marilyn De Vries

HENDERSON.....

December was a month for HCE members to get together for Christmas parties. Our county board members had their Christmas luncheon at the Roseville bowling alley.

We sold knives at the Stronghurst Christmas Walk and many HCE members donated their time to work at different locations. We entered a float in Okawka's lighted Christmas parade to promote HCE.

We have finished our quilt to be given away in September; proceeds from this will go towards 4-H, college scholarships, books for West Central Schools and gifts for the New Years' baby.

We are still collecting aluminum can tabs for Ronald McDonald House. We will be making

pillowcase dresses for African girls.

Diana Foster and Bev Alecock delivered a basket of gifts to Henderson County's 1st New Years' baby, Brae Lynn Cameron K. Vanskike, daughter of Brittani Olson and Bryan Vanskike.

We will be selecting our scholarship winner this month.

April 28 will be our Annual Meeting to be held at the Stronghurst Methodist Church. We will be using the "Garden of Volunteers" theme in some way.

We hope everyone has a fun and safe summer.

Bev Alecock
Public Relations

KNOX.....

Knox County HCE members spent January and February planning for the 29th Annual 2012 Class Day which was the last Saturday in February. In partnership with Carl Sandburg College, we offered 54 classes on a variety of topics including gardening, cooking, sewing, needlework, crafting, civil war history, antiques and more. All proceeds go to the Carl Sandburg College Foundation for scholarships offered to HCE members and their families and 4-H members. We had 260 attendees from Illinois and Iowa. This is an event which many members of our community look forward to each year.

New memberships are offered at Class Day at a reduced rate and a drawing for a free membership, thanks to memorials offered by families and friends of deceased members.

We had a successful Cookie Walk in November 2011. This is a bake sale at a local bank and at Sue Ryder's (an HCE member) Christmas Craft Show. Our November cultural arts project was making small fruit pies to sell at the Cookie Knox, con't

DISTRICT NEWS

Walk and it also helped some members improve their pie making skills. We had a great time. Many of our members volunteer their time to make this a successful day.

In December our units each plan their own unit Holiday celebrations and we do not have a lesson. We had a mitten tree and donated those to a local elementary school. Toys were collected for Toys for Knox County kids.

In January and February our cultural arts were "Making Valentine Cards" and "Dyeing Easter Eggs with Silk Ties".

Three of our units are planning our Annual Day on May 7th.

Our "Spring Fling" luncheon, plant and craft show is May 12th at the Agri Center in Galesburg. This year we are selling tickets to the public for a program by Debra Henninger on her Hobo Quilts. We will also have vendors from area quilt shops. Please join us for our sandwich and salad lunch, stay for the afternoon program and shop the vendors. Tickets to the lunch and program are on sale at the door.

ROCK ISLAND

The Rock Island County Home and Community Extension units have enjoyed the mild Midwest winter months and sharing lessons and activities.

The fall fundraiser on November 17th was held at Playcrafter's Barn in Moline, IL. The play, "Leaving Iowa," complete with pre-show hors d'oeuvres and festive clown décor was very well-attended, as well as giving us a pleasing profit. The organization of the Ways and Means committee was the key to dealing with the larger crowd in attendance. Busy Bees unit was honored for selling the largest number of tickets sold.

December 7th thirteen board members had their annual Christmas luncheon at City Limits

in Rock Island, IL with a short business meeting.

Volunteer hours this year exceeded our previous years' total by over 700 hours and totaled 11,440 from just 8 of our units that participated.

In February, Lessons for Living were held at a local HyVee classroom where members learned about "Pastas, Olive Oils, and Food Labels" from Chef Stephanie and "Diabetic Food and Cooking Lessons" from staff dietician Dawn. March 1st was the deadline for Extension members, together with local 4-Hers, taking orders for geraniums for May delivery. Orders totaled 3,929.

Our annual Spring Casserole luncheon held on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th, at Bethel Wesley United Methodist Church in Moline afforded attendees a yummy lunch, a chance to buy home-baked goods and the opportunity to bid on numerous silent auction items. Following these activities, two Lessons for Living were given to unit members: "Childhood Memories: Together at Mealtimes" by Janice McCoy and "Cooking from your Cabinet" presented by LaRue Fraser.

The month of April finds many opportunities for members to volunteer making comforters for charity donations, as well as a Lesson for Living on "Hanging Gardens" given to members by a Master Gardener. This will be a "welcome to Spring activity" to excite our members to enjoy the beauty of nature.

Lucille Mumma and Sharon Hough
Public Relations



DISTRICT NEWS

Stephenson.....

Stephenson County enjoyed the mild winter. Not too much snow and no bitter cold days. We were sadden in December by the death of our International Director. Mary Bicker lost her battle with cancer. We miss her smile and laughter.

In December we decorated a tree for the FHN Festival of Tress held at the Freeport Public Library. The theme was "Jingle All the Way". Our tree had a great variety of bell ornaments. We didn't win, but had fun trying.

On January 10 we held a Sewing Day at the Farm Bureau Building. Approximately 75 dresses were made for needy children in Africa.

At our Officer's Training, Audrey Musser gave us a lesson on "Food/Body Look-a-Likes". She had the fruits and vegetables there to show how much they look like various body parts.

On March 24 the local 4-H clubs held a Super Saturday at Highland Community College. H.E.A. members helped with the class "Making Pillow Case Dresses". H.E.A. members volunteered sewing machines, materials and helping hands.

Seven members will be attending the State Conference in Effingham. We are looking forward to the Heritage Arts Workshop co-sponsored by Carroll, Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties. It will be held Saturday April 14th at the Naaman Diehl Auditorium, Mt. Carroll, IL.

Ann Runkle
Public Relations

**CHECK OUT
OUR
WEBSITE
www.iahce.org**



DISTRICT 2/3 JEAN PIERONI

Conference is over and I'm slowly getting things cleared up and under control. I took my time driving back from Effingham, getting off the express way at Arcola. I drove on through Arthur, enjoying the peace and quiet after all the energy spent at conference.

Now it's time to gear up for annual meetings and all the things associated with spring and early summer. I like reading your county newsletters and get some good information about – oh, how to clean windows and not leave streaks, etc. Thank you all for those.

Next is the spring state board meeting and District Meeting at the end of the summer. In the meantime, enjoy the weather, even when it's cold, blustery, that's a good day to read and dream!

Jean Pieroni

Du PAGE.....

Taking part in the Du Page County 4-H International Night provided the opportunity to represent HCE to our up-coming generation. More than four hundred attendees enjoyed this entertaining and inspiring event. Mary Lambert and Pat Quetsch (photo) supplied information on Home and Community Education. Our display included photos of our activities and volunteer projects. Take-aways included our new membership brochure, and applications for our new scholarship.



DISTRICT NEWS

Du Page, con't

A multi-media presentation by Donna Svehla included a map of Scotland, dolls in traditional costume, tea-time and country recipes and Scottish music. Travel brochures and maps were available to take home. A Scottish Bagpiper and "Nessie," the Loch Ness monster coloring pages proved very popular with the younger 4-H-ers. Our "taste of Scotland" was oatmeal shortbread (recipe on our Facebook page: Paging Du Pagers). Getting together with our 4-H families was a wonderful time that we look forward to sharing again.

Donna Svehla
International

GRUNDY.....

What a gentle winter we have had, at least that is what it has been like up here in Grundy County. Christmas came and went but not without our units getting together for Christmas parties and having to play some bingo with our local nursing homes and assist living/developmentally disabled adult facilities. Spreading some good cheer.

In addition to our regular meetings once a month, we have a book club that meets every 3rd Friday of the month. We also continue to make up the book bags for "We Care" with the monies we collect from recycling ink cartridges and tin cans.

March 3rd was our Earth Expo day, held at one of the local schools. It is a great way to meet a lot of people and educate them what GCHCE is all about. We also did some hands on crafts. The pipe cleaner rings and the coffee filter flowers attached to pencils that had our names on them. Both were a big hit.

We have 4 members heading down to Effingham to the IAHCE State Conference March 27th-29th. It is always a joy to hear about the good times and the new things they

have learned.

On April 10th, we will be working our annual Government Day, put on by the U of I Extension. Approximately 100 students, 4th-8th graders, participate by spending the day with a government official. GCHCE helps out by cooking and serving lunch at one of the local church's. It is a great day.

April 19th will be our Annual meeting, this year our theme is on Scotland should be interesting. We also have a silent auction which ends up being a lot of fun.

This year Dorothy Pilch will be celebrating her 50th year as a member of Home Extension/GCHCE. It will be interesting to hear some of the old ways and what they did for their community 50 years ago.

The pictures are from our HCE Day back in November. A Chocoholics Dream. There was plenty of chocolate.



Hope everyone has a lovely spring for summer is right around the corner.

Brenda Acker
Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

KANE.....

Wow! Spring is almost here! We are very happy about that. Kane is going strong—we are now 9 units because Henpeck Unit and Hampshire Unit have merged. We are 184 members and still as active as ever.

Since the year 2012 began (our 94th year), we are looking forward to our 95th anniversary and a big celebration. It was suggested at the 2011 Annual Meeting that we plan to stage a big parade down Main Street! Funny thing—everyone laughed and NO ONE voted “yes”.

We had a most interesting Fun Day/Fine Arts program on March 7th. This is our luncheon/program activity wherein we also have our crafts judged for State Conference as well as an Auction which serves as a fundraiser. Our program was presented by Gayle Haas who is a dramatist and storyteller. She depicts “stories come alive” of historical and fictional characters. For us she portrayed Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch Holocaust survivor who helped Jews escape the Nazis during World War II. So in character, the audience felt Corrie was in the room. An amazing program and presenter.

Our Annual Meeting, May 16th will feature a “birder” as they are called, presenting a most unusual and informative program on the hummingbird. We have had the good fortune of finding some very different and interesting programs for all our county meetings.

We continue to collect books each year for Little City in Palatine which they in turn use for their annual book sale. We have donated as many as 400 books a year. We also continue to collect items for Hines Veterans Hospital, Maywood. These two countywide collections have been ongoing for many, many years.

Kane County is also hosting the Fall District Workshop for District 2/3 and 1 on August 21, 2012. Our Board enjoys joining with members

of the entire district such as when we hosted the Scotland Tea with Alison at the Extension office. Some 90 plus members attended. Along those lines and thoughts, we should mention that we are enjoying the activities of our consolidated counties Kane, Du Page and Kendall. Each has been attending each others county functions. Du Page had members at our Fun Day/Fine Arts activity and attend our Annual Meeting yearly as we attend theirs.

That's about it for this time. Wishing you a peaceful, happy spring and summer from Kane County.

Elaine Bond
President

KENDALL.....

Billie Poppen, a member of the Bristol Community Unit of the Kendall County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE), with some of the 14 baby quilts she made, which will be given to area agencies. Some of the fabric was donated to HCE.



Kendall County HCE is presenting their 14th Annual Victorian Tea, Sunday, October 14, 2:30 to 5:00 p.m., at Cross Lutheran Church on Rt. 47, Yorkville. The Decade of Dresses ladies will be presenting "Little Black Dresses". They will model or show at least two black dresses from the decades, 20's through 90's. Narrative includes anecdotes about Coco Chanel's influence, as she is credited with introducing "little black dresses". Attendees are invited to wear their little black dresses...the older the better!

Call Bev Scott at 630-554-1530 for more information.

Joan McEachern
President

DISTRICT NEWS

LAKE.....

The LCAHCE Annual Holiday Cookie Sale was held on December 10, 2011 at the U of I Extension Auditorium. A total of \$1,640.00 was raised from the sale. All the cookies were made by members of LCAHCE. The buyers were each given a plastic glove and a box to fill with whichever kind and quantity of cookies they desired. Cookies were sold at \$8.00 per pound. Members also donated toward the purchase of boxes and the cost of printing fliers to advertise the sale. The unsold cookies were given to PADS and a church that was hosting seventy-five sailors on Christmas Day.

The Lake County Fairgrounds was the site of the bake sale held my LCAHCE on March 10, 2012 during the fairground's hosting of antiques sale. Bake sale items were packaged in individual portions which could be purchased and eaten immediately. Even though the sale was scheduled to take place only on Saturday during the antique sale, many of the antique vendors who arrived on Friday evening to set up their booths asked to purchase our baked items that evening as our members were setting up their booth. This helps to bring the fundraising total to just over \$1,000.00.

As of February, 2012, \$1,114,074.00 in coupons has been sent to military families at the U. S. Air Force base in Spangdahlem, Germany since the beginning of the coupon program started by the Volo Unit of LCAHCE in July, 2009. Another \$361,407.00 in coupons has been sent to the U. S. Army base in Brussels, Belgium since July, 2010.

An organization in Missouri has lists of military bases that can use the coupons, which must be manufacturer's coupons, and also handles the reporting. The Volo Unit chose the name of "Volo Clippers" to use for reporting purposes. These members collect coupons, which come from both HCE members as well as the general public, then clip, sort, count and ship the coupons. The coupons are sorted into food and non-food categories. The total value of the coupons is reported each time a box is sent.

Postage is \$12.95 per box. The Volo Unit pays for one box to be sent each month. Anyone interested in starting a coupon program in her county/unit can contact Volo Unit member, Betty Werke, at bwertke@oawl.net for more detailed information.

The annual International Day event hosted by the LCAHCE was held on March 1, 2012 at the U of I Extension Auditorium in Grayslake, IL. The room was filled to capacity with member, guests, and bagpipe music. Matthew Karner of Winthrop Harbor, IL played a variety of bagpipe tunes, filling the audience with emotion during his playing of "Amazing Grace". Wayne Rethford, President

Emeritus of the IL St. Andrew Society, spoke about the immigration of Scottish people to America and its impact, notably their participation in the American War for Independence. Rethford remarked that "Scotland's greatest export is its people". Historic figures of Scottish descent include Alexander Graham Bell, Daniel Boone, Thomas Edison, Ulysses S. Grant, Patrick Henry, and Woodrow Wilson.

Also speaking was Mary Petracco of Grayslake, originally from Kilsyth, Scotland. A slide presentation, display of Scottish made products, raffle baskets and a Scottish luncheon were enjoyed by all.



Matthew Karner chats with member, Margaret Sneesby (age 96).

Diane Shearer
Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

La SALLE.....

Hello to all my HCE friends. Winter is behind us. We were blessed with a mild one. Now as I write this, we are getting April showers in March. Trees are budded, flower bulbs are blooming and the grass is ready to be mowed. My peach tree is even in bloom! However, the "IAHCE Garden of Volunteers" bloom year round sharing their time and talents. I hope the unit scrapbookers are putting together pictures of their garden flowers and critters.

There will be three from LaSalle County attending the "Garden of Volunteers" Annual Conference in Effingham. It will be a great time for all.

We collected \$365.37 for "Pennies for Friendship". The can tabs for Ronald McDonald House weighed in at 36.64 lbs. Good job!

Blanket Day Workshop was a success. We enjoyed a day of fellowship & produced 49 blankets that were donated to various charities.

Eljean Creed,
Penny Carter &
Joyce Seibert in
picture.

A workshop for "Little Dresses for Africa" is planned for April 28, 2012. The 4-H members are invited to join us for the sewing project.

There was a donation sent to Gabe's Chemo Duck Program. We sponsored 2 Chemo Ducks to help make a difference in the life of children battling cancer.

LaSalle County HCE is now accepting applications for scholarships to be awarded to local graduates . Winners will be announced in June.



On March 10, 2012 LaSalle County 4-H units presented an "International Night". Each unit represented a different country with a display and ethnic foods. A tasty & fun event.

Penny Carter
Public Relations

Mc HENRY.....

Mc Henry County has enjoyed a milder winter this year and an early spring. What a joy it was not to shovel a lot of snow.

We had an informative presentation given by Grace Moline, Historical Site Chairperson from McHenry County Historical Society, on the various architectural designed home homes in the county and the history of their organ. She also talked about the importance of preserving our historical environment as well as the process of plauging.

West Dunham Unit performed a Musical Christmas Program at Mercy's Home Care in Harvard. Mrs. Santa Claus and an Angel with a broken wing came to cheer up the residents.

Four of our members, Leona Rinn, Marlene Rader, Patti Sautter and I attended the IAHCE Conference in Effingham. We really enjoyed the conference. If you have never gone before please try to go next year, it was great! You learn so much.

We delivered 48 African Dresses to conference which Leona Rinn had made over the winter; also ten Linus

Blankets were delivered to the Mc Henry County Chapter's Linus Chairman.



Florence Spesard
Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

DISTRICT 4

Peggy Ostermeier

Are your May flowers blooming or did that happen back in March during our early spring! We had many "volunteers blooming" at IAHCE Conference, I hope you were there to see and participate in all the fun and learning.



I was able to attend several of District 4 county HCE Annual meetings. It is so much fun getting to know all the members and helping each of the counties to continue to "grow HCE" in any way possible. We are all struggling with member count and adapting to changes so we need to keep the lines of communication open and help each other.

Remember after your County Annual Meeting to send the officer sheet to the IAHCE President, Secretary and to me. Thanks for asking me to visit your county!

Looking ahead, District 4 & 5 Workshop will be in Decatur on August 22nd. Please mark your calendar and make plans to attend. The State Board is working on making this a very informative day!

Oh, almost forgot, we moved into our new home this past December so my new address is 9072 Tip Top Road, Chatham, IL 62629. Phone and e-mail did not change.

Peggy Ostermeier



ADAMS.....

In October, the HCE Book Club took in the Big Read sponsored by Quincy Public Library at the John Wood Mansion. Another activity to celebrate HCE Month was a Cultural Arts soup luncheon with a speaker on Abraham Lincoln and the Adams County Connection. We had 44 ladies in attendance.



Thanksgiving and Christmas was upon us and everyone was busy making gifts for the Annual Kiddie Bazaar held the first Saturday in December. It was held at three locations in the county. On December 3, 2011 the Kiddie Bazaar was held. There were lots of very nice items for the children to purchase. It was a cold, rainy day but the sun did finally appear. Quincy had a total of 156 children in attendance.

All the Adams County units held their Christmas parties in December.

Plans have been made for members to attend the Annual Conference in Effingham.

A Cultural Arts session was held on March 1, 2012. The ladies made hand cream and put it in their decorated jars. There were several fragrances to choose from. There were 29 ladies in attendance.

**Pat Vaughn
Public Information**



DISTRICT NEWS

PEORIA.....

First of all, want to say the IAHCE annual conference was a great experience once again. Peoria was represented by nine members. If you have never been to a conference, you should really make plans to attend at least once although I have to tell you, that after you have been to one, you won't be able to wait to go again.

We have finally made the move this past year to change from PCHEA/HCE to PCAHCE and it is quite an undertaking. While changing the name for some things are quite simple, some of the changes are very intricate. We have been told that we might need to hire a lawyer to get through all of the legalities.

Other changes as far as Extension goes is that our local office has been downsized with staff and also office space. We are very fortunate to still have the extension secretary available to us but have lost one of our meeting rooms and storage space.

As far as "What's happening with Home and Community Education" in Peoria County, a few years ago we moved our International Luncheon to November. One reason is because February was bad as far as weather related and another was because we also have our Cultural Arts judging for what we take to the State Conference. At our International Luncheon, the International Director, Mary Smith, requests that members bring dishes from the named country of study. She has recipes for members to make or they can research their own. Of course, they can choose to make their own favorite dish also. The program for the luncheon is on the country of study and also considered a lesson.

Our spring tea or SO Day is in April. Our Ways & Means chairman, Carolyn Alaksiewicz, organizes the kitchen with a light menu. Our speaker topic is "Tales from Grandma's Front Porch". Our hostesses at each table decorate according to the theme and provide the dessert for their own table. This tea is a good time to invite outside members to enjoy an AHCE event.

Our annual meeting will be in May. We follow the theme from the state conference. It makes it easy for us because we just do the same things and our members that do not go to state can enjoy. They think our board is so creative! It also makes it easy for the installer, our District Director, to use the same installation ceremony. Hope you all enjoy your summer and appreciate every single day!

Julie Courdt
Public Relations Director

TAZEWELL.....

We were happy to contribute in 2011 to the Ronald McDonald House in Springfield with money obtained through the collection of aluminum soda tabs.

Always interested in helping 4-H, we contributed to Central Illinois Riding Therapy. Many of its participants are 4-H members.

A needy family with three children who wished to be 4-H members were granted a scholarship from TCAHCE so that all three could be members.

A new program is being launched to offer archery, air rifle and shotgun education to 4-Hers beginning in mid April. We donated \$200 to help get the program started.

The four-county unit of 4-H members are assembling birthday bags to donate to respective county food banks. The bags will contain cake mix, frosting, candles and other birthday items. Many of our units are contributing bags to help with the project.

We are collecting Box Tops for Education to help a school for special-needs children in Creve Coeur. These box tops appear on many items you might purchase; to name a few: Progresso soup, General Mills products, Ziplock, Green Giant and Chex Mix. If readers have any to donate, send them to me at 1027 N. Main, Washington, IL 61571.

Shirley Kelly
Public Relations

DISTRICT NEWS

WOODFORD.....

Central Illinois is experiencing unusually warm temperatures as I write this article in mid-March. It's beautiful – warm sunshine, grass greening, flowers blooming, trees budding out and in general very, very pleasant. Hopefully, our Spring is here to stay...by the time this is published we'll know whether it was or not.

Woodford County partnered with McLean and Livingston Counties in our first "Super Saturday". McLean hosted this gathering in Normal, IL and it was a very nice morning. Three lessons were presented to the women who will take these lessons back to their individual units. The lessons were: "To Soy or Not to Soy", "Maintaining Healthy Family Relationships" and "Wreaths for All Seasons". Many favorable comments were received as a result of excellent presentations.

Woodford County continues to struggle with membership numbers. Our membership is an aging membership, and we continue to seek ways to encourage new members.

We will once again be providing food at the HCE Food Stand at the 4-H Fair in July. This is an excellent money-maker for the County and also offers a healthy menu to 4-H-ers, their families and friends who support them at the County 4-H Fair.

The ladies also host an ice cream social in the Metamora Park in the summer during their annual summer band concerts. Many people come to enjoy homemade pie, cake and ice cream and this also is an excellent money-maker.

Aluminum tabs are being sent to the Ronald McDonald House in Memphis. We have partnered with 4-H clubs in the County in the collection of these tabs.

Happy Summer!

Betty Bekermeier
Public Relations



DISTRICT 5

Nancy Remmers

Hello Ladies,

What a great Winter we have had and a good start to Spring. The IAHCE Conference is now history. We had a very good time and met many new friends. I missed seeing a lot of you there.

I am now preparing to do installations and would like you to call me to set up a time. I am looking forward to coming to your counties. If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know and I will do what I can to help you. Please know that I am here to help in any way that I can.

My name is inside the front cover of this newsletter, so please let me hear from you.

Nancy Remmers

CHAMPAIGN.....

As I write this article, some of our board members are attending the 2012 IAHCE Conference in Effingham. I am sure they will be bring back many great ideas for growing our organization.

We changed our International Luncheon from February to November 28th this year. WOW!! What a day. We had 101 ladies in attendance, including three of our State Officers: Sharon Middleton, Kay Brinkley (& guest) and Karen Halicki. We also had guests from Vermilion and Ford counties. Since we have grouped our three counties together, it is great to have others joins us. The food was great, as usual, and several ladies brought Scottish dishes. Marge Probasco, our International Chairman, has been putting recipes from Scotland in our Chatter to help us choose from. We had two speakers: Hannah Forbes who told us of her early years in Scotland and Martin McFarlane who added by telling us about the geographical

DISTRICT NEWS

CHRISTIAN.....

aspects of Scotland. James McGauphey played the bagpipes for us. What a fine job he did. He explained how they worked and told us about his kilts, shoes and other parts of his outfit. Everyone worked together to make this another great event. We are looking forward to learning about Trinidad and Tobago in the Port of Spain area.

We are still collecting aluminum tabs from cans for Ronald McDonald House.

Elizabeth Michael, our Community Outreach Chairman, had a sewing day on March 9th. Six ladies attended and got six more autistic blankets ready to be stuffed. Elizabeth and I plan on attending the Autistic Walk at Hessell Park in Champaign on Sunday, April 15th. This is a great way to learn and share what we are doing.

We had two major lessons given by Champaign county ladies. "Understanding Home Schooling" by Penny Gioja and "Everything is Coming Up Roses" by Gloria Levitt who is a HCE member. Both were very informative and interesting. It is great to have such talent available in our community.

We now have 418 members and are always asking friends and family to join us.

We are planning for our Annual Meeting and Luncheon on April 24th at the Savoy Methodist Church in Savoy. Our entertainment will be Debra Henninger, known as the Hobo quilt lady. We are looking forward to a fun day.

Enjoy the beautiful Spring weather. I'm sure we are all anxious to get out in our gardens, whether they be flower gardens, vegetable gardens, or both.

Sue Christensen
Public Relations

Christian County HCEA held its annual membership meeting on Tues. November 25, 2011 in the Christian County Extension Office Auditorium with over 50 Attendees.

The program was presented by Twinkles the Clown (Jayme Sims) and a group of Junior Clowns. They entertained us with amusing skits. Twinkles also entertained us during the meal by walking around the tables with sight gags.

Awards were given for years of membership.

Three members of Christian County HCEA have a combined total of 180 years in HCEA. Catherine Sloman has 70 years of membership in HCEA. She has always been an active and supportive member of HCEA. She has held offices in the King Unit where she is a member and also on the Christian Count HCEA Board. She has also served on various committees over the years.

Treva Weiser has been a supportive and faithful member of Christian County Home and Community Education Association for 60 years.

Treva has held offices on the County Board three times and has held all the offices in her unit at one time or another.

Janet Engeling has been a faithful and active member of Christian County Home and Community Education Association (HCEA) for 50 years.

Janet praises HCEA for providing her with the opportunity to meet so many wonderful people throughout the county. She has found the lessons to be invaluable throughout the years.

A well attend Scottish Tea was hosted by the Christian County Home and Community Education Association on Tues, February 14 in the University of Illinois Auditorium.

DISTRICT NEWS

Christian, con't

International Director Ann Bandy arranged the event which was open to the public.

The event started with tea and Scottish scones. There were a variety of scones for tasting and enjoying.

Dr Neil Smith, Professor of Music at Millikin University in Decatur, IL, gave a very informative and enjoyable program on bagpipes. He explained the history of bagpipes, how bagpipes work, formal attire for bagpipers and entertained us with musical selections on the bagpipes.

Christian County HCEA Units set up informative displays on topics about Scotland .

Christian County HCEA held their annual meeting on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at 9:30am. The meeting was held in the Auditorium of the University of Illinois Extension Office in Taylorville, IL. with 41 members and guests in attendance.

The program was "Is There a SHOW in Your Garden?" and was given by master gardener Gwen Podeschi. The power point presentation focused on the garden walk from 2011 in Taylorville & Kincaid. Gwen showed pictures of many beautiful gardens and lawn features while explaining the layout and decorating ideas in each as well as how to correct some problem areas. The Master Gardeners of Christian County took over the Garden Walk from the Taylorville Tourism Group in 2011. Gwen told how the focus of the group is going to be on the whole county and be more educational.

IAHCE District #5 Director, Nancy Remmers, gave a short greeting and also installed the officers.

New officers elected were Julie Pearson, President; Dixie Vincent, 2nd Vice President; Berniece Larimore, Treasurer; and Debi Keifer, Secretary.

Officers for next year are those listed above and Jodi Heberling, 4-H & Family Issues Director; Jeanne Lee, Cultural Enrichment Director; Ann Bandy, International Director; and Janet Engeling, 1st Vice President. The office of Public Information Director is vacant at this time.

A luncheon provided by Ann Bandy and her daughter followed the meeting.

With 24,000 stockings left in 2011, Operation Santa for 2012 will be focusing on making handmade cards, signing store bought cards and collecting travel sized items to stuff the stockings. A lack of items to fill stockings and a shortage of funds to mail them led to this surplus.

The goal this year is to ship 25,000 stockings and postage is the biggest need and will determine how many stockings are shipped.

Card making workshops have been arranged for March 13 and June 15. August 17 will be a day to collect, sort and count travel sized items for stocking stuffers.

The annual Table Setting Luncheon & Plant Sale will be held Saturday, April 28, 2012 at the U of I Extension auditorium from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

This is our biggest fund raiser and we invite all to attend.



Berniece Larimore, Julie Pearson, Jeanne Lee, Dixie Vincent, Debi Keifer & Ann Bandy.

Georgette Merrifield

DISTRICT NEWS

EDGAR.....

CLARK.....

Hello to all HCE members of Illinois. We in Clark County have been a busy bunch of volunteers for some time, but now are stressing it more this year with the theme of a "Garden of Volunteers".

Our Countywide HCE meeting was held on April 19th with the theme in mind. Marilyn Daughhetee was one of our guests and installed the 2012-2013 officers. We all were honored with her service.

Our program had Cindy Wright of the local food bank, Virginia Dean with the local clothing bank, Burnsides Care Center was represented by Pat Marrs along with Cartha Gustafson from 4-H described how they used volunteers in each of their areas.

We had a baked potato buffet with salads and desserts. During the day, each of the ladies had a special time to vote on their favorite Cultural Arts exhibit. So many lovely projects were viewed. It was difficult to choose one from over fifty that were on display.

Our ladies have worked hard on the Quilts for Kids project and donated thirty-six quilts that were sent to the Champaign Cancer treatment center.

We worked hard on sharing with the local schools to have fresh Kleenex all during the year for the students to use. Small projects are sometimes the best ones done.

As we work on the 2012 projects, we do expect great results with them. We serve well with the ladies that we have.

Deloris Maurer
Public Relations



Edgar County HCE 75th Anniversary

On March 31, 2012, the Edgar County Association for Home and Community Education (HCE) held their annual meeting and also celebrated their 75th year anniversary in the 4-H building, Paris, IL. The tables were decorated with purple and silver ribbons, diamonds and purple candles. The IAHCE theme of "Garden of Volunteers" was also used with arrangements of flowers on the head table, registration table and program book.

During the annual business meeting, the following officers were installed by IAHCE President, Marilyn Daughhetee: Marge Houghland, President; Beth LaBorde, Secretary; Alberta Steiner, Treasurer; Shaun Sullivan, 1st Vice President; Carole Halloran, 2nd Vice President; Gay Tegeler, International/Family Issues; Marty Webster, Cultural Enrichment/Community Outreach; and Marilyn Daughhetee, Public Relations. Flower pins were presented to each officer as a gift. Pins were made by Kay Brinkley, IAHCE Cultural Enrichment Director.



The program after lunch began with Marilyn Brengle, former Home Advisor and County Director, sharing memories of her time in our county. She reminded us of the strong connective ties HCE have with each other and the community. DeAnn Cash, former Assistant Home Advisor, shared some memories of her time of working with HCE and 4-H. She also read a message from another former Assistant Home Advisor, Lori Bridwell, who was not able

DISTRICT NEWS

Edgar, con't

to attend. The new Edgar County 4-H Program Director, Cheryl Funkhouser, was introduced. A message from the new Office Support Assistant, Rebecca Shiver, was read as she could not attend. All members in attendance also shared what HCE has meant to them. Each member also said someone had asked them personally to join HCE.

Many scrapbooks of the past were on display as well as old program books. Some brought aluminum trays and feather hats which a lesson was taught many years ago.

As a table favor, each one in attendance was to take a large diamond as a keepsake. The rest of the diamonds will be used to continue celebrating throughout the year.

Marilyn Daughhetee
Public Relations

MACON.....

November we had what we call "Fabulous Friday". We started the day with a slow cooking class and tasted some wonderful meals. This was followed with Wheat Weaving, presented by Illinois Wheat Weavers. This was a very successful class. We learned a lot from these wonderful ladies. After lunch many of the members stayed to sew and stuff Christmas stockings for the Vets and another group worked on tows of braided fleece for the Alzheimer's units and nursing homes in our area.

At the end of the month we took a field trip to Springfield where we ate a delicious meal at Chesapeake Seafood House. Next we attended the "Festival of Trees" at the State Fairgrounds, where we saw many beautiful trees and gingerbread houses. We enjoyed eating gingerbread cookies and listening to the songs sung by the school children. It was a good day of friendship and fun.

February began a new year of lessons for us with a Decorative Painting lesson. We learned to paint a birdhouse image, a cardinal and a bluebird on a heart shaped wooden piece. The eager, hopeful artists, learned how to select brushes, shading, outlining and high lighting techniques. The very best hint of the day was that there was no such thing as a paint goof up that could not be fixed.

In March, we learned "The Art of Flower Arranging, Are you an Artist?". What fun it was to learn how to arrange fresh flowers and how to cut them at an angle so they can get water easier.

The ladies help prepare lunches for the Master Gardeners training days held at the Extension. Then finishing the month off by serving lunch at the Gardening Insight classes at Richland College.

Many of our members attended the IAHCE Annual Conference in Effingham. We had a grand night after the awards banquet.

Arnold and Carol Bork were "IAHCE Great American Family". Carol and Arnold had been active in many activities in Macon County. 4-H leaders for over 25 years and being very active with HCE and the County Fair.

Along with Carol's award, Macon County received awards in most all categories. Karen Cahill received the Grand Award in Family Issues and Margaret Leonard received the Grand Award in International. And then the "County of the Year" was announced - Macon County! We were so proud of our county. With everyone working in all of our projects, events, lessons, bake sales, all together as a group, we all shared in this recognition by our state organization.

Karen Halicki
Public
Relations



DISTRICT NEWS

Mc LEAN.....

The McLean County Association for Home and Community Education has had successful programs and Cultural Enrichment workshops this year. Both HCE members and guests have attended programs on "Understand Food Labels"; "Making Your Own Cleaning Products"; "Home Energy Savings"; and "To Soy or Not To Soy". Workshops include: Needle Tatting; Simple Embroidery; and Read & Share on the books: "*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*" by Barrows and Shafer and "*The Hunger Games*" by Suzanne Collins. A spring tour/trip is planned for April 17 to Reddick Mansion in Ottawa and Starved Rock Resort for dinner and a musical show.



Lu Payton of Hudson, IL holds a "smart meter" that can assist people track their water usage. "Home Energy Savings" lesson

January 28 at the 4-H Learn & Fun Day, HCE sponsored four Quilt for Kids Workshops where 9 HCE members and 9 Stylistic 4-H Club members helped 29 4-Hers learn about quilting. On February 11, 65 members and guests attended a Friendship Tea where they were treated to tea and cookies and a program by Linda Moore of Clinton, IL, The Egg Lady. Linda showed the many beautifully and unusually decorated eggs, some with intricately cut out designs using different kinds of eggs. She talked about the history of egg decorating and her egg decorating craft. Tea was provided by Tess Scott, a tea connoisseur, of LeRoy, IL.

On March 10, 61 people attended Super Saturday where HCE members and guests from McLean, Livingston and Woodford counties came together to learn about: Wreaths for All Seasons; Managing Healthy Relationships; and To Soy or Not To Soy. A successful morning of learning was enjoyed by all.

Thirteen members from McLean County attended the March 27-29 IAHCE Annual Conference in Effingham. We had a lot of decorated people at the Tuesday Luncheon.

Representing our "Garden of Volunteers" from McLean County were a bunny, carrot, eggplants, tomato, strawberries, blackberries and lilacs. Attending the conference were: Leatha Poshard, Connie Lindenbaum, Anna Marie Chrisman, Nancy Messamore, Kathleen Emery, Jane Woods, Jean Barrington, Carmen Schnitker, Linda Kobs, Pat Pulokas, Mary Ellen Gottselig, Eileen Norin and Kathryn McNeely. We enjoyed the many workshops, silent auction and Cultural Enrichment Show and all the new friends we met. The programs and classes were tremendous. We certainly had lots of FUN and look forward to the 2013 IAHCE Annual Conference.



Pat Pulokas
Public Relations



DISTRICT NEWS



DISTRICT 6 Marilyn Schaefer

We have just returned from the State Convention which was last week at the Keller Convention Center and the Hilton Gardens.

I hope all of you that came to the conference had a great time and met and made many new friends. It was a lot of work but I think it was one of the best conferences we had had in a while. I am getting to know more of you each time I meet you. It was hard for me to come in the middle of the year. I'm feeling more relaxed each time we have anything going on.

Here are a few dates you might remember in the upcoming months:

"Women Walk the World" - April 29, 2012
at 10 A.M.

District 6 & 7 Workshop - August 23, 2012 in Mt. Vernon

IAHCE State Conference - March 26 - 28, 2013
at the Keller Convention Center

I am scheduled to attend some of your annual meetings, but would like to visit all of your counties sometime and it doesn't always have to be annual meeting. Just let me know.

See you soon.

Marilyn Schaefer

BOND.....

Bond County board members ended 2011 with a Christmas luncheon and gift exchange at the Galaxy in Alhambra. Also in December we were happy to meet and greet our new HEA Director, Lisa Wait.

Scotland was the country for International study on January 9, 2012 held at the First Christian Church in Greenville. A luncheon made from Scottish recipes were enjoyed by about 40

persons and our District Director, Marilyn Schaefer. A slide show prepared by Alison Burnett, Rita Stewart and Jane Chapman was viewed as the group dined.

Bond County had 8,722 volunteer hours from 26 members reported to the CVH State Director, Karen Halicki, from our small county of 166 members. Watch out for next year! We had 6 units out of 9 submit pages for the scrapbook. I hope you looked at it at the conference. We are proud of our small county.

February 6 was the American Red Cross Blood Drive with Homemakers Extension Association as hostess at the Family Life Center, Christian Church, Greenville, IL.

Twenty donors presented themselves with 14 donating blood.

"I Make a Difference" is the motto of donors to American Red Cross Blood Drives.



In the photo, Janet Bohle, HEA board member, and Diane Melvin, Red Cross coordinator for Greenville, donated blood and in background are Extension members serving in the canteen.

Local University of Illinois Extension units took part in Southwestern Electric Cooperative's Health Fair. They provided information on healthy snacks like "fruity goldfish snack mix" and "nutrition birdseed". Extension provides educational support to increase awareness and skills in areas that will improve the quality of life for persons of all ages. Bond County, along with Clinton, Jefferson, Marion and Washington work together to provide services for all citizens in their counties. Helen Leonhardt, Family and Consumer Sciences program coordinator, represented Bond County.

2012 IAHCE Conference was held March 27-29, 2012 in Effingham, IL. Attending the conference from Bond County were HEA board members Georgianne Tompkins, Pat Sutton, Jeanette Brown and Shirley Volentine.

DISTRICT NEWS

Attending on Tuesday and Wednesday were Phyllis Bandy, Carol Bohle, Carol Boatright and Esther Henry—all board members. Share shops were well attended, very interesting and educational.

Shirley Volentine
Public Relations

CLINTON.....

Clinton County H. E. A. "Christmas in October" was held October 20, 2011 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Carlyle. This year the theme was "Patchwork". Julie Maschoff of Maschoff Pork Farm demonstrated a pork loin with apple stuffing to more than 300 in attendance.

A "right to left gift game" was played and each person in attendance received a present. H. E. A. members donated many wonderful handcrafted items for this raffle. It is the only fundraiser for the group. Everyone is also encouraged to bring a toiletry and school item for the needy in the area. Many more gifts were won through attendance prizes by the committee along with a program booklet which included recipes of the food and punch sampled by all. Over \$295 was collected this evening and donated to benefit "dollars for friendship".

A Major Lesson was also held on November 10 with Emily Bruegge presenting "Quick and Easy Holiday Appetizers". More than 30 enjoyed this demonstration along with sample tasting.

Cindy Niemeyer



EFFINGHAM.....

The 20th annual quilt show was held at the Effingham County Extension Center on March 17th. The public was invited to enter quilts, and over 90 quilts were exhibited. Ribbons were awarded to the winners in several categories. The show was open to the public and refreshments were served. A display using the theme "A Garden of Volunteers" was set up to promote the HCE annual convention which was held in Effingham the last week of March.



A workshop is being planned in the future to make catheter bag covers, wheel chair caddies, walker caddies and bookmarks. Effingham county HCE members reported 9,389 volunteer hours for 2011.

We sold butter braids and cookies as a fundraiser.

Jean Sporleder/Linda White
Public Relations

FAYETTE.....

The members of the seven units of Fayette County HCE (Vandalia Day, Bingham/Ramsey, St. Elmo, Wheatland, Wright's Corner, St. Peter, and Sefton), have been active in their various and combined units' projects and activities, which include the following:

The ongoing "HCE Teddy Bears for the Kids" project is producing more and more Teddy Bears yield as the need grows. The bears are given to the emergency room and the lab at the local hospital. A nurse commented that the kids love them and the young patients who have to return look forward to receiving a new one, as the colors and fabrics are varied. We even have bears in camouflage print for the boys.

Vandalia Day unit is making "Washcloth Bunnies" candy holders for the nursing homes.

DISTRICT NEWS

Fayette, con't

As our meetings (units and the Board meetings) are always reported in four newspapers, our projects garner the interest of the readers and some save their tabs, box tops, etc. and give them to a club member. Schools and individuals have contributed.

Collecting soda can tabs for the McDonald House is a popular project and when friends of Irene Reed of Wright's Corner learned of it, they helped collect eleven pounds of tabs.

Our annual "Baby Shower for the Lighthouse Pregnancy Center" yielded a generous supply of baby items which was presented to the director Sharon Farris by Vandalia Day Chairman, Debbie Siegrist and member Carrie Hill.

Several members of the Fayette County HCE attended the IAHCE Annual Conference at the Effingham Hilton Gardens in March.

Janet Stout of the Bingham/Ramsey Unit made two nice quilts to be donated to a veterans' home. Flo Allen-FCHCE President and Evelyn Probst-Chairman of Bingham-Ramsey Unit display quilts.

FCHCE is enthusiastically preparing the FCHCE Get Acquainted Day Potluck Brunch & fundraiser auction. A humorous, but inspiring skit was written on our theme, "The Perfect Garden" will be given by HCE members.

Panzi Blackwell
Public Relations

JERSEY.....

As always, Jersey County Homemakers Education Association keeps busy with their various activities and Lessons for Living. In December we collected over \$800 to buy



groceries and supplies to help the local Salvation Army food pantry. We work closely with those in charge at the food pantry and check with them to see what they actually need before we shop, so we can help restock – we are told we are "angels".

After Christmas, we usually try to take a break before getting involved with the "New Year". We invited Jim Siebert, former Youth Adviser with the Extension Service, who has recently retired from the local bank as loan officer to present our February lesson for living, "The Cost of Managing Your Money". As always, Jim does a super job and adds a lot to our event.

In March we presented the lesson we had received from Franklin County, "Frozen Bread Dough (and what you can do with it)" and enjoyed samples of the many different recipes prepared by our board members.

We continue to work with our Cultural Enrichment and Craft Club activities, meeting the 1st Tuesday of each month and have recently completed jewelry made from Idaho potatoes and also purses from cigar boxes. Also, our Quilt Block of the Month class continues on the first Wednesday of each month.

Our Family Issues and Community Outreach Director is asking all members to collect items to be taken to the nursing homes for Bingo prizes, which we have been doing and we also are cooperating with the local Royal Neighbors group in helping to make lap robes for the nursing homes.

Elizabeth Schwab

MACOUPIN.....

Macoupin County HCE held their annual "Entertaining for the Holidays" luncheon on November 17, 2011 with a delicious meal provided by Sundae Best. Following the meal we were entertained by a local singing group, the Prairie Sound Quartet. These four gentlemen really know how to harmonize and

DISTRICT NEWS

MADISON.....

we enjoyed their renditions of familiar songs and holiday music. This is also the time to show off some of our holiday baking by bringing cookies for our annual "cookie exchange". Many varieties and recipes were exchanged.

In December, the County Board members and newly elected board members gathered at Magnogias Restaurant in Carlinville for our Christmas luncheon. A short business meeting was held, welcoming new board members and saying farewell to those who were retiring at this time.

In January and February our Cultural Arts project was scrapbooking and journaling. Andrea Duncan displayed many of her scrap books and gave us some very interesting tips on writing notes or stories to explain about the pictures. Remember these scrapbooks are for people to enjoy down the road, who have no way of knowing what was so special about that picture or even who they are. Always label your pictures, you may be the only one who knows who they are.

In March Dorothy Cordes instructed us in card making. Dorothy is very adept on the computer and very knowledgeable in several techniques of card making. Each of us were able to make two cards in a very short time that morning, of course, she sort of had them ready for us just to put together. A fun time and nice cards too!

On March 8, 2012 we enjoyed a county meeting luncheon with a meal provided by Rosie and Kenny Huff. Following the meal we enjoyed a presentation, in costume, by Kathryn Harris portraying Elizabeth Keckley, Mrs. Lincoln's seamstress. A very interesting program.

As I write this newsletter, I am preparing for my first State Conference, looking forward to a fun and enlightening time in Effingham. Myself and three other ladies from Macoupin are planning to attend.

The picture is of the Madison County Board at a retreat for the board members to discuss and take care of dates and events for 2012.



Front L-R Rebecca Wayne, Nancy Sakalauski, Beth James; Back Row L-R Wally Fisher, Betty McKinnon, Cheri Hacker, Joyce Cornwell, Shirley Drexelius, Edna Head and Vi Huebner. A poster reflecting the State Theme IAHCE Garden of Volunteers is the backdrop.

When this goes out, we will have attended the IAHCE conference which we are looking forward to all of the activities. Thanks so much to the organizers of the fun and informative event. You always do a great job.

On February 7th board got together setting up dates and events for 2012. This is in addition to our monthly board meetings. Our Christmas in November theme is "Stockings and Stuff" which will be on November 1st, place to be announced.

Our Annual Meeting is set for April 30th at 9:00 a.m. We are encouraging each of the units/clubs to make a poster highlighting the IAHCE theme "Garden of Volunteers". This can be used by each club for special activities and during HCE Week. I will report and hopefully have a picture of the winning poster. Gloria Blechle of the Hamel Unit will do a presentation of hats!

DISTRICT NEWS

Madison, con't

On June 30th, Joyce Cornwell and Nancy Sakalauski, are working on a Craft Day "Summer Cool Down" at SSP, Inc Center, 2603 N. Rodgers Ave. Alton IL 62002. Booklets will be left at various businesses in Madison County for the public to pick up and register for classes being presented by various members and other crafters in Madison County. This is a membership drive to encourage new members to join HCE and see the many benefits of the organization. The cost is \$10.00 which includes a box lunch, some crafts will have an additional cost.

In February, Ameren IP gave the lesson "Energy and Your Life". Kenneth Blum from the Peoria office gave the lesson. Marine and Alhambra/Leef had Paula Nixon of the Maryville Office present a lesson to the group with the opportunity to ask questions and see what rebates and energy saving options are available to the consumer.

Our Victory Garden Tea will be on May 7th with a great menu and entertainment planned for the evening. On May 23rd for our County Tour we are going to "Explore the Mississippi" with a cruise on the Spirit of Peoria, lunch at a Grafton Winery, a tour of the Melvin Price Lock and Dam and Confluence Tower. We hope for a bus full for this event.

Rebecca Wayne and Vi Huebner have been working on an idea of a Disaster Preparedness Fair to hopefully be held in the Spring of 2013. We collaborated with St. Clair County and Monroe County to see if we could do a joint effort--its a big job with a lot to consider.

We have had Spring much earlier this year and look forward to the months ahead as we move MCAHCE forward with its "Garden of Volunteers"!

Gloria Hartmann
Public Relations



MONROE.....



2011-2012 Cultural Arts Contest Winners:
L to R: Tina Johanning, wearable art; Janice AuBuchon, counted cross-stitch; Arlene Stumpf, crafts and wall hangings; Sharon Scherer, embroidery and knitting and standing in for Julie Riechert in crocheting is Joanne Roider. .

Ericha Sondag
Public Relaions

ST. CLAIR.....

I am new to this job of public relations replacing retiring June Wagner. So as everything is starting to grow outside, I will be growing with this new responsibility.

St. Clair County units have been working very hard this year on family issues projects. We have sewn many dresses and shorts for the African children. Also, we completed huge Christmas stockings and neck coolers for our troops deployed overseas and we continue to sew cancer hats for winter and are starting on summer hats.

At our annual Christmas party, we decorated a Christmas tree with country ornaments for a local nursing home. Our units also made bookmarks for libraries and Linus blankets and stuffed bears and cats for sick children at our local hospitals. Instead of a Christmas gift exchange our Floraville unit members donate

DISTRICT NEWS

money to buy notions and necessities for the veterans at the V. A. hospital and veterans' nursing home. Another unit collects money each month for yearly charities and school supplies donation.

St. Clair County HCE started a women's health issues program and this year our topic is Alzheimer's. Our past programs on breast cancer and ovarian cancer were very educational and I'm sure this one will be the same. Our Members' Appreciation Day will have a spring theme of different color Jello. What a colorful old-fashioned idea!

I must end with a sad note. Our very active, full of energy and enthusiasm Family Issues chairman, June Donze, passed away in March. She kept all of our units hustling with her ideas and programs. We will miss her greatly.

Jane Kaiser
Public Relations

DISTRICT 7

Barbara Spencer



Conference is over for another year and it was a fantastic time. I was pleased to see so many District 7 ladies there as some drive quite a distance.

I'm having trouble figuring the weather, as so many of you do also. I just hope this means plenty of peaches, apples, etc. this year.

It seems like every county finished the year in a big way and already have many projects in the works. Pulaski/Alexander county started 2012 by having their Annual Meeting on January 2nd. It was a super day and the weather behaved itself. The ladies were so welcoming and the food was great.

I would have visited Saline County on March 19th as they are another county who starts their

year early. However, they have postponed until a later date due to the tornado that devastated Harrisburg. Our best wishes to them. Many of the counties have contributed to them in various ways. If you still want to help in some way, contact the Mayor's office.

The items you donated to the "goody" bags at conference were appreciated by all.

The theme for the conference, "A Garden of Volunteers", this year is a good one and I look forward to seeing it observed all over Southern Illinois.

Barbara Spencer

FRANKLIN.....

We are getting ready for a busy year in 2012. We were glad to have a respite during the winter. After the last newsletter, Franklin County once again hosted the annual Christmas Ideas Day and Health Fair. There were many visitors to shop with the vendors, gather health facts and then be entertained by dancers. Lots of cakes were won at the Cake Walk, good food at the Taster's Table and the food stand, and let's not forget the Country Store and its goodies.

The Civic Center always hosts a Craft Day after Thanksgiving and Franklin County HEA took part in that one too. Our last lesson for the year was on "Edible Arrangements" taught by Sonja Lallemand of U of I Extension. This years Lessons for Living so far have been "Making Your Own Cleaning Products", taught by Joy Richey; "Better Car Care" taught by Mark Lamczyk; and "History of Coffee" taught by Barbara Spencer.

Margaret Duncan was going to have a special lesson to teach on the Great Depression, but it is postponed at the present until she is better. Margaret is at home now and we're hoping to see her well before long.

Our Valentine Membership Luncheon was a

DISTRICT NEWS

Franklin, con't

success this year with over 70 attending, some of which were visitors and one new member. The board made different kinds of soups and the units provided salads, sandwiches and desserts.

Scott McDonald, brother-in-law of one of our members, played some rollicking tunes on his bagpipe and told the ladies (and gentlemen) a lot of history. Sonja of U of I demonstrated how to make "Edible Arrangements" for your table out of fruit and vegetables.

We are continuing to make neck coolers for the soldiers and one of our board members is still crocheting caps for children cancer patients. We have collected soda can tabs, but many of them were given to the ladies making bracelets to sell to help with expenses for a young lady. We still collect the cancelled stamps and lately received half a shoebox full from one lady.

We were appreciative of representatives of the Wounded Warriors who came to our March board meeting to discuss their role in helping our returning veterans.

We weren't able to host our Spring Lawn and Home event at the Civic Center as they are in a remodeling project. Franklin County HEA will be assisting with Focus on Youth in May and the 4-H Food Stand and other duties in July.

Barbara Spencer and Margaret Duncan

HAMILTON.....

The Hamilton County Homemakers Education Association is finishing the year 2011 with some exciting activities. The annual Style Show, Salad Luncheon, and Bazaar in November was a success. It was well attended and everyone enjoyed a delicious salad luncheon as well as a show with the latest fashions. We even took a step back in time as we celebrated our HEA

50th Anniversary with a mini style show of the decades.

Family Issues director, Eileen Hopfinger, has done a fabulous job of promoting our Chemo Duck project. The "Dollars for Ducks" project produced over \$350 to buy ducks. We have also been collecting soda tabs all through the winter and the community has really rallied to support this HEA project.

In January, our ladies found a great cure for the ailment "Cabin Fever". Karol Brown, Community Outreach Director, planned a full day of activities. Participants spent a day working on lap robes, wheelchair caddies, and bookmarks. The finished items will be distributed to nursing home residents and school children. Later in the day HEA members' hosted bingo with prizes for residents at the Heritage Woods Assisted Living. The winter "blues" were definitely gone by the end of the day.

On February 20, Jewell Wilson, 4-H Director for HEA, planed a joint activity with the Piopolis Busy Bees 4-H. They hosted a basic 4-H cooking class with over 50 students taking parting in this project. A lot of measuring, egg breaking, and discussions of good table manners made for a great educational opportunity for all.

During January, February, and March we collect greeting card fronts to send to St Judes' Children's Ranch. In February HEA contributed over 566 items plus \$67 to the VA Medical Center in Marion. Hamilton County 4-H made over 300 Valentines as part of our VA Valentine project. Thanks to our board members Phyllis Parr, and Gloria Sloan Reel for making the delivery of the Valentines and items to Marion.

Our Lessons for Living included a mail out on Made in the USA, as well as a panel discussion of community leaders that spoke and the topic "Charity Begins at Home". We learned what local community projects were available in our area. We have also joined with the Garden

DISTRICT NEWS

Club to learn about Vertical Gardening.

In March our Cultural Arts Director, Tillie Miller, planned a very nice bus trip for HEA members and guests. On March 16, a group of 44 traveled to Grand Rivers, KY where they enjoyed a nice lunch at Patti's Restaurant followed by a great performance of "Sweethearts of Country Music" at Badgett Playhouse. It was lovely spring outing!

Six ladies from Hamilton County attended the State Conference in Effingham in March. We are anxious to hear their reports and get started on next year's projects.

I hope everyone has been enjoying our beautiful spring weather and we wish all of you a very exciting summer.

Bernadine Drone
Public Relations

JACKSON.....

The ladies of Jackson County celebrated the gray days of January with a Humming Bird class presented by Cathie Hutcheson who is certified by the Federal Government to trap and tag hummingbirds. She tagged, weighed, and recorded statistics on over 6,000 humming birds in Southern Illinois. Ms. Hutcheson has worked in this area over the past 40 years when she began her studies at Southern Illinois University. This was one of the largest classes we have ever hosted here in this county. We had people attending from other counties. It was standing room only in the Extension Auditorium. We learned many new things about birding skills.

Also in January we began a Bunco game night which was well attended by members and their husbands. The Bunco Game night was fun and we all had lots of laughs sharing in the chaos of the game.

In February we hosted an International Program on Scotland with a slide show and several items

prepared by our HEA ladies. The program was well attended and enjoyed by all who was in attendance. Many new things were learned.

In March we again hosted another program presented by an Illinois State Trooper on Safety. He presented a power point program on safety issues. This program was attended by ladies from all over our county and again was very well received. We plan on inviting him back again for a winter safety program later this year.

We are planning gardening programs for April and May. We are also planning on a day trip on the local Amtrak which will leave Carbondale in the late afternoon, travel to near-by Centralia for dinner and then return. This will be a great time for our members to reflect on the great times they have had in HEA and to invite their neighbors and co-workers along to share in the fun.

Our Stitcher's Unit has completed 3 quilts. We will begin a raffle for these quilts at our annual meeting this April. They are planning many more projects this year.

Jean Conrod
Public Relations

JEFFERSON.....

I hope you all had the same kind of winter that we had here in Southern Illinois – very mild. I think it may have snowed 2 or 3 times but none of it ever stayed for more than 48 to 72 hours. However – Leap Day was horrendous to Harrisburg in Southern Illinois, when a tornado went through taking 7 lives and hurting over 100 people and leaving behind many destroyed or damaged homes and businesses. Just Thursday, March 23rd, a tornado touched down in southern Jefferson County, in the small town of Opdyke (same town that our 1st Vice Treasa Brookman lives in) destroying a couple's double wide mobile home and killing the woman that lived there.

DISTRICT NEWS

Jefferson, con't

By the end of January we all had our reports in the mail. Many of our 'Love Boxes' were already in place. Some were taken for Christmas, some for Valentine's Day and some no specific day.

Our January lesson, 'Challenges of Parenting Grandchildren' hit close to home for me. My husband and I took in my niece, after my sister was killed in an accident, as a foster child until such time as we adopted her. I was 41 when she was born so, I'm really old enough to be her grandmother. I gave the lesson to my unit and it was really something I could relate to because for the most part, I've lived it and just as I feel (I'm sure, all other grandparents do also) I wouldn't have done anything differently. As I used to say to my husband every now and then "What have we done?" and then when my daughter came up to us (at age 4) and said "I love you" we knew we'd done the right thing.

On February 6th we joined with Faith Lutheran Church again, for another Blood drive. Our February lesson was on Air Evac, quite interesting and informative. Living in a small town setting you never know when you or a loved one may have to go by helicopter to a larger city for emergency medical care.

March is Conference month so we spent quite a bit of time making plans for that. We've also started making plans for Jefferson County's annual meeting in May. We are all looking forward to Conference and to our Annual Meeting, it'll be here before we know it.

The lesson in March was on the DAR and our lesson for April will be on our local 'Methodist's Children Home' and promises to be very enlightening.

I hope everyone made it through the time change with out being late too many times. I also hope you didn't get caught by too many April Fool's Day jokes.

This will be my last contribution to the Newsletter in this capacity. While it has been fun, I will have new projects to keep me busy.

Marge Wilcox
Public relations

PERRY.....

Everyone I know enjoyed the mild winter we had here in Perry County. The kids who got sleds and snow boots were really disappointed this year.

The HCE sent 280 cards with quarters to the Anna Veterans Home at Christmas time. Ten quilts were completed for the Anna's Quilt project and board members donated money to the Five Star residents in Du Quoin for their Christmas gifts.

Lori Schmidt, coordinator of the Helping Hands Outreach Programs gave an update on the Bright Minds after school reading project. She provided nutrition programs to several classes in the area. She gladly accepted snacks and reading materials for the afterschool program.

The quilt money-making project netted \$1,489 for our scholarship fund. Applications are being taken for those scholarships to be awarded in May. The new quilt went in the frame the week of February 20 with lots of helping hands getting it ready.

Veterans received Valentine cards in February and some HCE members worked on Bloomers for Boys or African dresses for girls. April 12 is Passport Party where 4-H and HCE learn and teach about a country – Scotland, of course, and a state. This time it is Maine. The Master Gardeners of Perry County have a series of classes going on called "Gardening 101" in both Du Quoin and Pinckneyville.

Annual Meeting is coming April 26 when new officers will be installed. Current board members deserve a much needed rest so new thoughts and ideas will be forthcoming from the new HCE Board.

DISTRICT NEWS

Four people are attending the state conference in Effingham. Jane Chapman continues on the state board this term. The units of Perry County seem to have thoroughly enjoyed the prepared lessons on things and places of interest in Illinois. Many topics were covered from state capitols of the past and present to the best of harvests Southern Illinois has to offer. We still need to have the lesson on "Skeletons in the Closet" which should be very interesting.

Carolyn Bathon
Public Relations

POPE/HARDIN.....

During January and February, the Pope-Hardin County Home Extension ladies donated new, warm socks to be distributed to nursing homes and residential care facilities in Pope and Hardin counties. We had approximately 200 pairs of socks, 200 valentines, 60 packages of candy hearts, 10 pencils and 10 roses. All of these items were distributed on Valentine's Day.



Socks and Valentines collected by Pope and Hardin County Homemakers. Pictured are Joy Roy, Chris Blair, Joyce Aly, Ramona Martin, Joyce Cloninger, Carmen Cate, Mitzi Bray, Helen Gallimore and Donna Mathis.

In addition to these items, we also participated in the Illinois Special Olympics Winter Scarf program. The red and blue hand knitted scarves were given to all Illinois Winter Games Special Olympians, during the statewide competitions at Chestnut Mountain, Galena, IL.

Pope Hardin Home and Community Education President, Helen Gallimore presents the HEA's 4-H donation of \$175.00 to Lindsey Robinson, 4-H coordinator.



Pictured from left to right are Lindsey Robinson, Chris Blair, Joy Roy, Ramona Martin, Joyce Aly, Carmen Cate, Joyce Cloninger, Mitzi Bray, Helen Gallimore, and Donna Mathis.

Joanne Martin
Public Relations

RANDOLPH.....

Since the last report, the Randolph County had several events. The annual end of summer salad supper was held with members bringing their favorite salads. A representative from the Wounded Warriors program spoke about how they help wounded soldiers when they return to the states. The members had been collecting items for their program. A version of the antique road show was held with a local auctioneer estimating the value of items that were brought that night.

Two local women were invited to teach the members how to paint. The first project was a flower pot and a candle. It was enjoyed so much, the next class was painting on a wine bottle and wine glasses.

In the fall, the first Quarter Auction was held, and the public was invited. It was a nice fundraiser for the HCE. The quilt was also raffled that evening, and one of the board members was the lucky winner.

DISTRICT NEWS

Randolph, con't

Before Christmas, a make it and take it craft was enjoyed. At the same event, board members also demonstrated foods for a Christmas brunch.

In March, another craft and cooking lesson was presented by the 4-H coordinator and she prepared foods for an Easter brunch. Board members brought ideas for table runners, wheel chair caddies and rag quilts.

Six board members attended the annual Conference in Effingham.

Jane Lucht
Public Relations

SALINE.....

Saline County was hard hit by a F4 TORNADO February 29, 2012 at about 4:45AM. Harrisburg lost 7 lives, 454 homes and 100 businesses were destroyed or damaged. Southern FS, our farm store has flattened gas pumps but the store is gone. The white building behind the gas pumps is the County Farm Bureau building where we have our board meetings. The roof is gone and a lot of damage was done. Water flooded the basement where we had all our records of Homemakers Education Association.



We met in a board members home for our monthly meeting. We canceled our Annual Meeting as you could hardly get through town.

Our daughter and her family lived in Country Club and their house was totaled and everything ruined with splinters, glass or insulation along with about 2 blocks of other homes.



Several Homemakers Education Association board members helped cook meals, prepare food and served numerous workers at local churches. The clean-up crews stayed at the churches while helping with the clean-up.



It is unbelievable how many groups came from many states and the supplies and food sent from as far as California.

Georgia Murphy
Public Information

WASHINGTON.....

Washington County HCE members are busy planting seeds of hope, love and friendship. As they begin the year of 2012 as "Garden of Volunteers".

A beautiful quilt top was quilted by the ladies of the county. Raffle tickets for this quilt will be sold during the year as it will be raffled at our "Christmas Special" program in November.

The WCHCE Annual Meeting with the theme "Garden of Volunteers" will be held April 24, 2012 at Hoyleton Community Club Hall, Hoyleton, IL. A buffet meal served by our members and musical entertainment by the Hoyleton Chime Choir will be held. Installation

DISTRICT NEWS

of officers will follow the meeting.

Our 4-H Youth and Family Issues Director reported that our county collected 13 pounds of can tabs and 10,244 CVH hours by our members.

"The Garden in Your Heart"

Within each of us lies a garden,
You need only look inside.
It lies within our hearts
Where love and hope abide.
Each and every act of kindness,
Acts of giving, sharing too.
All represent a flower,
There inside of me and you.

Quoted from a poem by Gina Laurin

Adeline Blumhorst
Public Relations

WHITE.....

We have been busy in White County these past few months. November 4th was our annual Rhodes Fish Fry. We also gave away our raffle quilt at the fish fry. The winner this year was a new resident to the county and a brand new member of HCE. Congratulations Bonnie!

Then beginning the third Friday of November, the Chamber of Commerce plans a week of festivities, "It's a White Country Christmas" to launch the holiday season and encourage shopping in the downtown. We help launch the festivities with our Chocolate Tasting. At least 20 HCE members make candies, cookies, tortes, whatever - as long as it is chocolate. We also serve hot chocolate and coffee free to young and old. They get to taste all of the chocolate and then vote on their favorites and monetary prizes are awarded to the top 3 vote getters. The balance of the profits go to a chosen charity. It's a fun way to let the public know more about HCE.

In December, we made, filled and delivered Christmas stockings to the veterans home in

Marion, IL. Each year we do something for them as we never want them to think they have been forgotten.

We also delivered 71 pounds of pull tabs to the Ronald McDonald House in Evansville, IL.

Our 1st Vice President, Ruth Norris has had some very interesting lessons for us this past year with more scheduled for this year. Thanks Ruth!

In February we observed Heritage Skills Day with photography of the past and present, a ham and bean dinner and chose the Cultural Enrichment items to take to the state conference.

Now seven of our board members are getting ready to go to state conference where they will learn new ideas to bring back and share with the rest of the county members.

In April, we will be having our annual spring style show and salad luncheon. Carnaby's Square of Fairfield supplies the clothing and our HCE ladies become "models for the day". Everyone enjoys lots of different salads and learns what is new in fashions and accessories this year.

Also in April, we have annual day and installation of new officers with a potluck dinner.

We always invite the public to join us for any of our lessons or other activities.

Until next time.....

Shirley Smith
Assistant Public Relations



DISTRICT NEWS

WILLIAMSON.....

Williamson County HCE celebrated the international country of study with a bagpiper and his distinctive music. Paul Thompson was dressed in full regalia and explained his clothing and the weaponry that was worn with it. His last song, Amazing Grace, was a fitting closing since we held the event in the Herrin First Christian Church.



Almost 40 attended the Scottish Tea planned by International Director, Karen Williams. Each of the units attending not only brought finger foods with Scotland in mind, but several members shared albums and other objects from Scotland.

Something new was tried at this event with members bringing arts and crafts items to share in a display area. From greeting cards, wine bottle painted lamps, embellished clothing, altered books, a recycled jewelry Christmas tree framed, a painting, knitted and crocheted items including a prayer shawl, a quilt, a wall hanging, a photo, a painting, and more were shown.

The tea concluded with a slide program and talk by a local chemistry college teacher who was from Scotland and educated there. Dr. James Elliott spoke of Scottish history and wars and experiences and culture of the country.

With our new Williamson County President, Charlene Morris and Vice President, Liz Loomis



organizing Family Issues day on September 29 of 2011, we were pleased to have our District Director, Barbara Spencer, attend and help greet both Williamson and Franklin counties attendees.

This years' event featured a program on Underground Railroad Quilts, Lifelong Learning for All Generations with Mabel Hayes of John A. Logan College, and Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine.

With lunch catered by the Old Home Place Restaurant of Goreville, door prizes and gift bags with items from local merchants, a good time was noted in evaluations.

Our annual bazaar featuring crafts, gift basket drawings, a cake walk and snack bar sales was October 27, 2011. For 2012, our Cultural Enrichment director who also holds the Ways and Means position is planning a new project for the bazaar. Barbara Eastwood is assembling a quilt to be raffled which is made from feed sack prints donated by our treasurer, Jo Barger.

This project has involved members and the board with cutting the square pieces to be assembled in an appealing arrangement of colors, values, and prints.

Shown here are some of the members and those shopping at last year's bazaar. We are already hard at work on the quilt and some units are seeking new ideas for craft items to feature at this annual event.



Marie Samuel
Public Relations

2012 CONFERENCE AWARDS

District 1

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------|
| Bureau | Lake | |
| Pat Anson | Camille Evely | 1656 |
| | Sue Jehlicka | 1762 |
| | Ruth Malloy | 1594 |
| Jo Daviess | Dorothy Rodewald | 1026 |
| Nancy Fulton | Patricia Weitzmann | 1235 |

Rock Island

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|------|
| Elaine Seevers | LaSalle | |
| | Louise Brucker | 3262 |
| | Penny Carter | 2564 |
| | Gail Heath | 1880 |

Stephenson

| | | |
|-------------------|----------------|------|
| Marilyn DeVries | McHenry | |
| Diane Ethridge | Leona Rinn | 1042 |
| Shirley Kampmeier | | |
| Judy Prasse | | |
| Judy Shippee | | |

Warren

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|------|
| Becky Knapak | Peoria | |
| Janet Schreck | Cathie McGuire | 1004 |
| Maxine Stewart | | |

District 2/3

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------|
| Boone | Tazewell | |
| Marge Heindl | Lily Vermillion | 1040 |

Du Page

| | | |
|----------------|-------------------|------|
| Sandy Decker | District 5 | |
| Carolyn Fisher | Champaign | |
| Pat Quetsch | Norma Kite | 1033 |
| Fran Vodicka | Marge Probasco | 1216 |
| Tom Vodicka | | |

Grundy

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------|
| Yvonne Canik | Edgar | |
| Lynn Sampson | Marilyn Daughhetee | 2335 |

Kane

| | | |
|------------------|------------------|------|
| Barb Geison | Macon | |
| Joyce Harner | Janice Leach | 1104 |
| Marlis Hutchison | Sharon Middleton | 1290 |
| Mary Veach | Joyce Pirtle | 2626 |

Kankakee

| | | |
|--------------|---------------|------|
| Helen DuFour | McLean | |
| Mary Noble | Erma Ragle | 1002 |
| Nesha Walton | Eileen Norin | 1221 |

Kendall

| | | |
|----------------|------------------|------|
| Karen Klatt | Vermilion | |
| Joan McEachern | Sheila Rene | 1477 |

District 6

| | | |
|-------------|--------------|------|
| Bond | Margie Mills | 1513 |
| | Wes Pourchot | 1057 |

Effingham

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Marilyn Schaefer | 1375 |
|------------------|------|

Fayette

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Carol Oldham | 1224 |
| Debbie Segrest | 1353 |

Macoupin

| | |
|------------|------|
| Melva Reid | 1016 |
|------------|------|

Madison

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Joyce Cornwell | 1038 |
|----------------|------|

District 7

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| Franklin | Loma Baxter | 1140 |
| | Ellen Day | 1050 |
| | Margaret Duncan | 1724 |
| | Barbara Spencer | 1160 |

Hamilton

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Geraldine Barker | 1100 |
|------------------|------|

Jackson

| | |
|--------------|------|
| Linda Clutts | 1731 |
|--------------|------|

Jefferson

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Barbara Shurtz | 1638 |
| Tina Trotter | 1238 |
| Marge Wilcox | 1872 |

Perry

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Jane Chapman | 1172 |
| Frances Milam | 1318 |
| Alberta Woodside | 1448 |

Pope-Hardin

| | |
|------------|------|
| Mitzi Bray | 1541 |
|------------|------|

Wabash

| | |
|-----------------|------|
| LaVerne Sherman | 1190 |
|-----------------|------|

Washington

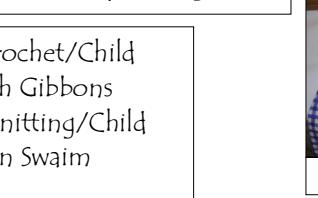
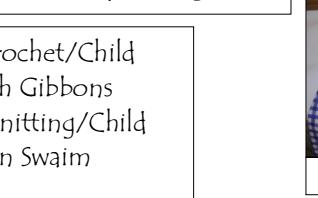
| | |
|--------------|------|
| Mary Barrett | 3512 |
| Sara Sallee | 1216 |



CVH - MEMBERS WITH 1000 HOURS & OVER

CULTURAL ARTS

"BEST OF SHOW" AWARDS

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| Quilts | Small Machine Hand | Sharon Helms Leatrice Helbring Ruth Hillyard Helen Miller | Madison County Champaign County White County Effingham County |  | Quilts/Hand – Ruth Hillyard | | | | | | |
| Wall Hanging | Adult Child | Mary Jo Heger Judith Gibbons | Tazewell County Champaign County |  | Quilts/Machine Leatrice Hilbring | | | | | | |
| Crochet | Adult Child | Shirley Drexellius Jean Swaim | Madison County Champaign County |  | Quilts/Machine Leatrice Hilbring | | | | | | |
| Knitting | Adult Child | Sharon Helms Rosie Kremer | Madison County Effingham County |  | Small Quilt Sharon Helms | | | | | | |
| Art Crafts | | Mary L. Teel Anna Sake | Livingston County Du Page County |  | Crafts - Rosie Kremer | | | | | | |
| Paintings | | Sharon Codey | Pike County |  | Wall Hanging - Helen Miller | | | | | | |
| Photography | | Thelma Harms | Sangamon County | | | | | | | | |
| Embroidery | | Eileen Norin | Mc Lean County | | | | | | | | |
| Counted Cross Stitch | | Angela Hicks | Lake County | | | | | | | | |
| Nature and Wood | | Diane Fedorow | Warren County | | | | | | | | |
| Jewelry | | Sharon Helms | Madison County | | | | | | | | |
| Scrapbooking | Adult | Angela Hicks | Lake County | | | | | | | | |
| Wearable Art | Child | Nell Sanders | Pike County | | | | | | | | |
| Recycling | | Mary Shelton | Macon County | | | | | | | | |
| Weaving | | Tina Jo Hanning | Monroe County | | | | | | | | |
| Sewing Misc. | | Francis Ulner | Bond County | | | | | | | | |
| Circus Theme | | Vera Pratt | Edgar County | | | | | | | | |
| Rugs | | | | | | | | | | | |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Art - Sharon Helms | Knitting/Adult - Shirley Drexellius | Crochet/Adult - Mary Jo Heger | Recycling - Nell Sanders | Left-Crochet/Child - Judith Gibbons | Right-Knitting/Child - Jean Swaim | Croceted/Adult - Mary Jo Heger | Sewing Misc. - Tina Jo Hanning | | | | |



Wearable Art - Sharon Helms



Wearable Art/Child - Angela Hicks



Embroidery - Sharon Codey



Nature & Wood
Eileen Norin



Photography - Anna Saake



Paintings - Mary Teel



Weaving - Mary Shelton



Scrapbooking - Diane Fedorow



Jewelry - Angela Hicks



Rug - Vera Pratt



Counted Cross Stitch - Thelma Harms



Circus - Francis Ulner

2012 EDUCATION AWARDS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

2011 Education Awards

Vi Huebner, Director

District 1 - None

District 2/3

Safety - Du Page County

For the Shoe Story describing what shoes to wear when.

Special Activities - Kankakee County

For collecting school supplies and making dresses for Africa.

District 4 - None

District 5

Citizenship - Christian County

For Operation Santa.

Special Activity - Macon County

For their Alzheimer's project.

District 6

Special Activity - Effingham County

For Christmas Stocking Project for "Fish" organization.

District 7

Citizenship - Massac County

For reporting on many issues in their community.

Environment - Franklin County

For recycling all useful things

Special Activity - Perry County

For including the farm community with it's Harvest Time.

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

2011 Education Awards

Kay Brinkley, Director

District 1

Textiles & Clothing - Rock Island County

For many sewing activities during the year.

Special Activity - Bureau County

For tour of Japanese Garden and Cheese making plant.

District 2/3

Textile & Clothing - Will County

For Craft Day and making dresses for Africa.

Heritage Skills - Du Page County

For Quilts for Kids and Quilts for Valor.

Special Activity - Kane County

For tours to Rock Lodge and Millies restaurant, etc.

District 4

Textile & Clothing - Peoria County

For making dresses for Africa and teaching sewing.

Heritage Skills - Pike County

For Spring Tea and Quilt Show.

Special Activity - Adams County

For a "Night at the Theater" including guests and teens.

District 5

Heritage - Edgar County

For making 25 scarves for the Special Olympics.

Special Activity - Macon County

For tour Homestead Prairie Farm and learning how the early settlers lived.

District 6 - None

District 7 - None

2012 EDUCATION AWARDS

FAMILY ISSUES

2011 Education Awards

Norma Korte, Director

District 1

Health, Food, Nutrition – Lee County
Childhood Health Awareness

District 2/3 – None

District 4

Family Living – Sangamon County
Why collect tabs and involve families.

Health, Food, Nutrition – Pike County
Good Oral Health (PACT)

District 5

Special Activity – Champaign County
Ansar Shrine Circus and tab collection

District 6

Family Living – Madison County
Pennies for Friendship Walk
Special Activity – Effingham County
Recycle old cards
Health, Food, Nutrition – St. Clair County
Ovarian Cancer Awareness

District 7

Family Living – Hamilton County
County/Family Chemo Duck program
Special Activity – Franklin County
Hats for cancer patients

INTERNATIONAL

2011 Education Awards

Jane Chapman, Director

District 1

Country of Study – Lee County
Well planned, educational, great idea for Pennies for Friendship

District 2/3

Special International Event – Lake County
Great research and articles for newsletter.
Great survey.

District 4

Country of Study – Sangamon County
Good info for members.
Other International Ctry of Study – Pike County
Grand initiative to prepare a program on your own.
Special International Event – Peoria County
Well planned, open to other counties

District 5

Country of Study – Champaign County
Well planned, good pre-promotion, great decorating.
Special International Event – Edgar County
Great event held during HCE Week.
Terrific advertising.

District 6

Country of Study – Clay County
Well planned, recruited new members through public invitation.

District 7

Country of Study – Jefferson County
Great planning, good publicity.
Special International Event – Washington County
Great publicity, well planned.

2012 EDUCATION AWARDS

MEMBERSHIP

2011 Education Awards

Sandra Bechtold, 2nd Vice President

District 1

Special Activity - Henderson County
Dresses for Little Girls in Africa

District 2/3

Membership - Kane County
HCE Week Activities
Special Activity - DeKalb County
Circus Membership Party

District 4 - None

District 5

Membership - Macon County
All activities geared toward membership.
Special Activity - Edgar County
Death by Chocolate Workshop

District 6 - None

District 7

Activity - Perry County
HCE Week Activities
Special Activity - Franklin County
Valentine Membership Luncheon



Membership Winners

PUBLIC RELATIONS

2011 Education Awards

Sharon Middleton, Director

District 1

Public Relations - Jo Daviess County
For getting HCE information out to the public.

District 2/3 - None

District 4

Public Relations - Adams County
For getting HCE information out to the public.
Special Activity - Pike County
For participating in six (6) summer parades.

District 5

HCE Week - Edgar County
For having two proclamations and two events during HCE Week.
Public Relations - McLean County
For getting HCE information out to the public.
Special Activity - Macon County
For Fabulous Friday.

District 6

Special Activity - Effingham County
For Countywide Quilt Show.

District 7

HCE Week - Washington County
For the "Circus Train" rolling over the county promoting HCE Week.
Public Relations - Massac County
For getting HCE information out to the public.
Special Activity - Franklin County
For Valentine Luncheon inviting members and guests.

GRAND AWARDS

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



MADISON
COUNTY
Citizenship

INTERNATIONAL



MACON
COUNTY
Special
International Event

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT



Mc LEAN
COUNTY
Heritage Skills
Sewing quilts,
Christmas stockings
and sending cookies
to soldiers, knitting
hats and scarves.

MEMBERSHIP



MASSAC
COUNTY
Membership
AJMPU Mini
Conference

FAMILY ISSUES



MACON
COUNTY
Health, Food,
Nutrition
Childhood Health,
Ice Cream fund
raiser for Chemo
Duck and RMH
Tab Collection

PUBLIC RELATIONS



MADISON
COUNTY
For doing a
variety of
projects during
the year
promoting HCE
thru each.

THE GREAT AMERICAN FAMILY



Carol Bork and her family, Rick and Linda accepted the Great American Family award on Tuesday during the Awards Banquet. Sadly, Arnold passed away last summer but he was with them in spirit. The family farm is located in Oakley, IL, just east of Decatur in Macon County. The family consists of five children, twelve grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Their children were very active in 4-H as their parents were 4-H leaders for over 25 years and county fair superintendents which Carol continues doing this summer. Congratulations to the 2011 IAHCE Great American Family!



Community Outreach Winners



International Winners

← Family Issue Winners

← Public Relation Winners

WINNER OF TAB COLLECTION HAMILTON COUNTY



Cultural Enrichment Winners



← Public Relation Winners



TAB COLLECTION LIST

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Hamilton County | 172 pounds |
| Jo Daviess County | 165 |
| Madison County | 147 |
| White County | 131 |
| Randolph County | 125.7 |
| Champaign County | 119.6 |
| Sangamon County | 109.7 |
| Macon County | 94.2 |
| Monroe County | 86.51 |
| Washington County | 63.2 |
| Tazewell County | 51 |
| Edgar County | 35 |
| Du Page County | 31 |
| Marion County | 30.4 |
| Peoria County | 29 |
| Jersey County | 18.4 |
| Jackson County | 13 |

CERTIFIED VOLUNTEER HOURS

2011 Education Awards

Karen Halicki, Director

Highest Number of Hours Turned In

District 1

Warren County 17,282

District 2/3

Lake County 18,627

District 4

Pike County 14,478

District 5

Champaign County 37,051

District 6

Macoupin County 13,293

District 7

Franklin County 10,853

Highest Percentage Members/County

District 1

Warren County

District 2/3

Boone County

District 4

Pike County

District 5

Macon County

District 6

Effingham County

District 7

Pulaski/Alexander County

Highest Number of Participating Members/County

District 1

Warren County 72 of 100

District 2/3

Boone County 62 of 117

District 4

Pike County 101 of 213

District 5

McLean County 167 of 238

District 6

Macoupin County 53 of 181

District 7

Randolph County 31 of 98



CVH AWARD WINNERS

NET % GAIN

1. Lawrence County -6.35%
2. Will County - 6.20%
3. White County - 3.77%
4. Scott County - 3.53%
5. DeWitt County - 3.49%
6. Du Page County -3.28%



COUNTY OF THE YEAR



MACON - COUNTY OF THE YEAR

2. Mc Lean County
3. Hamilton County
4. Jefferson County
5. Edgar County





UPCOMING DATES

2012 IAHCE Workshops

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| District 1 & 2/3 | August 21, 2012 |
| Kane County | |
| District 4 & 5 | August 22, 2012 |
| Decatur Conference Center | |
| District 6 & 7 | August 23, 2012 |
| Holiday Inn, Mt. Vernon | |

2013 IAHCE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 26-28, 2013 at the Effingham Hilton Gardens

NVON (National Volunteers Outreach Network)
July 17-19, 2012 in Columbia, SC

CWC (Country Women's Council USA)
September 23-25, 2012 in Manchester, New Hampshire

ACWW September 26-October 2, 2013 - Chennai, India.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE
July 1, 2012

www.iahce.org



The State Board goes from Clowns in 2011 to Critters and Veggies in 2012!

**ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR
HOME & COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

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

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New _____ Renewal _____ Address Change _____

E-mail _____

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