



Enhancing the lives of individuals and families through quality educational programs and experiences, encouraging responsible leadership and service to the community.”



PENNIES FOR FRIENDSHIP is now going to be known as the **FRIENDSHIP PROJECTS FUND**

This will allow more of the funds to help Illinois non-profits as well as continue to be used internationally through ACWW. The state average per person for 2017 was \$2.27. I thought this seemed low until I did the calculations and saw that Macon County’s average last year was \$1.64. I know we can do better! If you don’t collect pennies at your monthly meetings, please consider doing so. Other coins and bills are also accepted!

Historian Update

I am looking for information about your units. Please try to write some information about when your unit started and how it started. I have found that some units were started from ladies in other units. What a wonderful way to grow! I have found listings for 34 units during the 100 years of HCE. I have also found history from Maple Grove that they started in 1948. So, if you can put something together as soon as possible, that would be great. I am working on taking pictures of the scrapbooks and putting them on my computer to put on a stick and flash cards. It is looking great! Keep taking pictures!!!!

Thanks! Karen Halicki

Shirt News!

Linda Hooge would like you to know if the shirt that you ordered does not fit, please let her know. She will take your name, size of the shirt, and your phone number. If possible, she will try to see if they can trade shirts or sell the shirt and buy another. Thanks for your help!



Bread Monk tickets are now available! Father Dom will be here on Saturday, August 11, at 1:00 for a program entitled “100 Years of Baking”. The program will be held in the Illini

Room at the Macon County Extension Office. Tickets are \$15.00 each and can be purchased at the office. Hope you will join us!

If you have not had your picture taken for the MCHCE directory, please contact Sharon Middleton at 217-877-7229 (Home) or 620-0484 (cell). We want everyone to be included in this directory. This will be a great help to put names and faces together.



A Big Thank You to Pam Walker and Sandy Severe for taking the co-secretaries’ position. We sincerely want to express our appreciation to Louise and Judy for their past service as secretaries of the County Board. We would like EVERYONE to seriously think about taking an office this year. There are four positions that will need to be filled. We need you!!!

Upcoming Events

April

Friday, April 20, 2018

RSVP to Sharon Middleton for Spring Meeting

Monday, April 23, 2018

Pillowcase Sewing Day

9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Extension Office - Clover Room

May

Tuesday, May 1, 2018

Set-Up for Spring Meeting

1:00 p.m.

Extension Office - Illini Room

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Spring Meeting

9:00 a.m. registration

9:30 a.m. Meeting begins

Extension Office - Illini Room

Donations for Northeast Community Fund

Monday, May 14, 2018

1:00 p.m. HCE Board Meeting

Extension Office - Clover Room

Wednesday, May 16, 2018

RSVP for May Lesson

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Women Behind the Walls

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

At the Extension Office - Clover Room

June

Monday, June 4, 2018

Tri County Meeting

Cisco United Methodist Church

9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday, June 11, 2018

1:00 p.m. HCE Board Meeting

Extension Office - Clover Room

Newsletter items due to Linda Austin

lindaaustin48@gmail.com

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

RSVP for June lesson

Thursday, June 14, 2018

Flag Day

Flag Retirement

7:00 p.m.

Lions Park, Mt Zion, Illinois

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

Annual Farm Tour in Piatt County

Meet at Extension office at 8:30 a.m., return at 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 25, 2018

Scholarship Applications Must Be Postmarked by this date!

Monday, June 25, 2018

Pillowcase Sewing Day

9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Extension Office - Clover Room

SHOULD A WOMAN WORK AFTER SHE IS MARRIED?, 1924 DEBATE

The following is a shorter version of the article that I was given. I will highlight some of the comments that were made at this debate. This debate was conducted in the home of Mrs. Walter Dipper with members of the Sharon Home Bureau debating both earnestly and ably. Thirty women heard the debate whose question was: Resolved that women should continue to work at their professions after marriage. The negative won. The affirmative side was upheld by Mrs. R.J. Hinkle, and Mrs. Fred Hays while Mrs. L.E. Barnhart and Mrs. William Sawyer took the negative side.

Mrs. Hinkle took the affirmative side and took as her main point that working improves a woman's disposition, that she meets more people, develops her personality and keeps an active mind as opposed to the sluggish mind of the purely home woman!!! The ladies also contended that a married working woman gets paid for her work, helping out with the household expenses and therefore, a husband does not have to be a slave to his family. They also contended that a woman enjoys her children more and they are better off than if she is with them all of the time. They insisted that professional women could hire good maids and good nurse girls to care for the children as there are always women who know this kind of work and want to do it.

Mrs. William Sawyer led the negative and brought down the house by declaring that if a woman didn't have the money she ought to have, she had a right to go through her husband's trouser pockets to get it! She insisted that women did not need to work for men were willing to keep them supplied with money but the men had so much on their minds that they often forgot to do that. She also suggested that if professional women were poor cooks and poor housekeepers, they could join the Home Bureau and learn to do it properly. She pointed out that the home is the foundation of society and the government and that the woman is the center of

(continued from Page 2.)

that home and she declared the working wife and mother to be a detriment not only to the home but to the nation as well.

As you may surmise from this short summary of the article, this debate still goes on today. When I was growing up, my mother was a stay-at-home mother, as were many of my friends' mothers. We didn't think anything about it because that was just the way things were. She was there when I came home from school at noon for lunch, and she was there when I got home from school to help me with any schoolwork. I treasure those memories now. I grew up in a very loving family and I have to say that my mother was the foundation of our home.

Co-President

Karen Cahill and Carol Ropp

Twelve members from Macon County enjoyed their time in Effingham at this year's conference. It was good to meet up with old friends and make some new friends. We enjoyed interesting speakers, learned a lot from the Share Shops, had plenty to eat, and came home healthier from all of the laughter. We were so pleased to win several awards including **first place as County of the Year with more than 75 members**. Consider joining the fun next year when we will again be in Effingham.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Education book winners -

- ***Sandy Severe** – 2nd Vice President
Membership Activity - Dump Meals
- ***Emily Chamberlain** – International
International Event on the Philippines
- ***Sally Dennis** – Cultural Enrichment
Prairie Fire Glass in Monticello visit
- * **Linda Austin** – Public Relations
For showcasing HCE Week

We appreciate the time and effort all of you devote to our organization to make it such a great group!

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL MACON COUNTY MEMBERS!

Co- Vice President

Linda Hooge

Is everyone ready for spring weather to get here? I have flower bulbs to plant but it's too cold outside. While I've been waiting to work on my flower bed, my friend, Janet Poe, and I have been making trash bag containers to use

in a car. May 2nd, is our Spring Meeting. Some of us are making items to sell at the meeting. There will be a table set up with items for sale. The money will go in our treasury. Please be sure to check out the table. You may find something you like or some nice gift items. If you would like to make some items to donate, that would be wonderful! Bring them May 1st or give them to one of us. We will set up for the meeting the day before. Registration for the Spring Meeting is at 9:00 am. The meeting begins at 9:30 am.

May 23rd, the Lesson will be "Women Behind The Walls" at 9:30 am at the Extension Office in the Clover Room. This should be a very interesting lesson.

Do you have an old flag that needs to be replaced? On June 14th, you will have the opportunity to give your old flag away to be properly disposed of at the Flag Day Retirement Ceremony. This takes place at Lions Park in Mt. Zion.

June 20th is our Annual Farm Tour. Come join us as we go to Fox Creek Farm, and Twin Silos Farm.

Do you have a family member going to college? Be sure to have him or her apply for a scholarship and turn in the application before June 25, 2018.

June 25th is another Pillowcase Sewing Day. We will bring our sewing machines and sew or cut fabric, iron the fabric, fold pillowcases or just come and enjoy each other's company.

Second Vice President's Report

Bonnie Lanham

Due to the death of my husband, I do not have much for this newsletter. Please let me know of any deaths in your unit. I also would appreciate any ideas to gain new members. Thank you for your help.

Cultural Enrichment

Sally Dennis

May and June will mean that this year is almost half over and it seems like it just started! Anyway, for all of you who did not attend the conference, you missed some very interesting share shops, amazing food, good vendors, and some very good cultural enrichment entries.

Unfortunately, our entries were not among the winners. Please do not let that deter you from entering again. Whether we win or not, it is fun to see all of the ideas and talent that others have. For example, the winning quilt was embroidered blocks

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of the face of each president of the United States. I'm pretty sure that Clarence has pictures of the winners for our website. Hopefully, more of our Macon County members will be able to attend next year's conference while it is still in Effingham. The best news from conference is the fact that Macon County won County of the Year!!! Yea!!

Don't forget to bring some of your creative talents to the Spring Meeting on May 2nd for our craft sale. Keep creating for the Fall Meeting to see who gets to take their entry to next year's conference. Best wishes to all for a happy and healthy summer.

International

Donna Washburn

Australia is our country to study this year. An informational packet will be handed out to each unit at our Spring Meeting on Wednesday, May 2, 2018. Since I don't know everyone, please have one representative from your unit connect with me that day to pick up your packet.

Did You Know?

On Monday, April 9, we were very privileged to have three local libraries inform and educate us about all of the many services that our libraries provide to us. Rachel Miller, Forsyth head librarian, Maria Dent, Mt. Zion head librarian and Robert Edwards, the assistant director at the Decatur Public Library gave us so much information that some of us felt overwhelmed with all of it. Did you know that within the Illinois Heartland System that covers the central and southern part of Illinois, you can check out and return items to any library within the system? You don't have to check out and return to your home library that your card is from. Did you know that the libraries provide other programs, like Baby Talk classes, summer reading programs for all ages, Tech Clubs, Bingo, card-making lessons, music movement classes for 6 to 18 month old children, storytime, and book sales? There was so much information that I could barely keep up with writing all of the activities and technologies that the libraries have. As our guests reiterated several times, if you

have questions about a library, either call or just go in to the library. There are trained people who will be glad to help with any questions or comments that you may have. We all agreed that this was a wonderful program and we learned a lot.

Planting Your Spring Garden For the Garden of Your Daily Living

Plant Three Rows of peas

1. Peace of Mind
2. Peace of Heart
3. Peace of Soul

Plant Four Rows of Squash

1. Squash Gossip
2. Squash Indifference
3. Squash Grumbling
4. Squash Selfishness



Plant Four Rows of Lettuce

1. Lettuce Be Faithful
2. Lettuce Be Kind
3. Lettuce Be Patient
4. Lettuce Really Love One Another

No Garden is Complete Without Turnips

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to Help One Another

To Conclude Our Garden We Must Have Thyme

1. Thyme for Each Other
2. Thyme for Family
3. Thyme for Friends

Water Freely With Patience and Cultivate With Love.
There Is Much Fruit in Your Garden Because You Reap What you Sow.

(found on Facebook, author unknown)

REMINDER: Name tags are available for \$3.50 each. Contact Karen Cahill if you need one.

MACON COUNTY UNIT NEWS

Hickory Point Unit

We met on March 20, 2018, at Evergreen Living Center as guests of Barbara Brohard, our member who is a resident there. Joan Grider assisted her as co-hostess. Gigi introduced our speaker, Officer George Kestner, from the Decatur Police Department. He is a crime prevention and elderly care officer. He talked to us about scams and gave tips about reducing our risk of identity theft and staying safe in public places. He was very informative. Sharon reported on the state conference that was recently held in Effingham. She also told us the good news that Macon County was chosen County of the Year. We are looking forward to our county Spring Meeting. Our unit will furnish breakfast treats.

Louise Wickline, reporting

Rock Springs Unit

December meeting: We met at the Raspberry Tea Room. Discussed making totes out of placemats. We will be going to the Staley Museum on December 20th. We also exchanged ideas for Christmas gifts and had a delicious lunch.

January meeting: We met at the Wildflower Artisan Bakery. We tried on and submitted our orders to Linda Hooge for our new MCHCE shirts. We also discussed the toiletry items that we would bring to DOVE in March. The State Conference will be held in Effingham on March 13th to the 15th. The Spring Meeting is May 2 at the Extension Office. Lyn reported on the various activities that are listed in the THRIVE magazine. The next meeting will be at Lois Miller's home.

February meeting: We met at Lois Miller's home and we had 9 members and 1 guest present. Deb Lehman is Bonnie's neighbor. Our unit is purchasing name tags for each member. We also sent a check to the Northeast Community Fund. We looked at the table runners, kitchen towels, and totes made out of placemats. Our county's 100th anniversary is coming up on September 8th. Paul Osborne will be the speaker. August 11th is the Bread Monk at the Extension Office. The cost is \$15.00 per ticket. The Rock Springs concert is June 3. We then enjoyed a good dessert of blueberry and sour cream bunny cake with ice cream.

Lois Miller, reporting

Maple Grove Unit

February: On February 22, eighteen of our members met in the Club room of the Primrose Retirement Community Center. We had a delicious meal that was very reasonably priced. Gini Smith was our hostess.

The Homemaker's Pledge was recited to begin our meeting. The secretary's report was read and there were no corrections. Treasurer's report was given and the Pennies for Friendship container was passed around for all to contribute. Co-President, Carol Ropp, reported that 55 more pillowcases were sewn on February 19th. There were a few 4-Her's on hand to learn the process. The next sewing session will be April 23rd.

According to an e-mail from President Jane Chapman, our county is in the running of the top 5, for County of the Year. Carol then reminded us of the IAHCE Conference on March 13-15, held in Effingham.

The budget, for this year, has been set at \$500. Carol displayed two new items, that could be added to our available items for sale at the Fall meeting. The new items were a smaller pillow with sewn pillowcase, and a tote bag made from a placemat.

We are gathering memorabilia for the Century celebration of HCE on September 8th. Carol has found a few items that her mother had put aside, even her membership card to HCE. She asked members to search for more things to display.

Our next meeting will be March 22 at Imboden Retirement Center. Arrangements have been made to park at Garfield School and transfer over to Imboden. On April 26th, our meeting will be at the Decatur Club at our usual time 11:30 time. The group was reminded of the March lesson.

March: Our March 22 meeting was at Imboden Creek Garden Assisted Living. This is where one of our members is employed, Peggy Moffett, so she was our hostess. Our lasagna and salad meal started at 11:30, followed by our meeting. There were eighteen in attendance. After the Homemaker's Pledge, Carol asked for the secretary's report. There were no corrections. The treasurer gave her report and it was motioned that the \$46 collected from the donations for the breakfast items provided by us at the Fall Meeting, should be donated to our Scholarship Fund. Motion carried. Our president then stressed the fact that we need a

MACON COUNTY UNIT MINUTES

person to fill the Macon County Board secretary position. Judy Wilhelm volunteered to be a co-secretary, but needs another person. Members were asked to let Carol know if they feel they could do this job. The fact that members need to let the office know if you have RSVP for a monthly lesson and then need to cancel. It is important that they know the number attending.

Carol reported that the IAHCE Conference was enjoyable. The best news was that Macon County was the County of the Year (in the category of over 75 members). She proudly displayed the plaque and the book that the co-presidents work on all year to get our points. She mentioned that there were several other counties celebrating their 100th year, as well as ours. We were reminded of the April lesson on four of our local libraries, on April 9, and the scheduled pillowcase sewing date of April 23. Sharon Gepford showed us several items that she can add to our sale at the Spring Meeting. Our May meeting will be at 11:30, at the Burger Theory connected to the Holiday Inn.

Mary Kay Ennis

Oakley Unit

We did not meet in March. Only one member attended the lesson at Novel Ideas. We had one member attend the conference. I would encourage more members try to attend conference because we had a really great time. The April meeting was held at Patty's and Sandy gave the lesson on "Scams". We discussed the lesson and the upcoming Spring Meeting and who will be attending. We are to prepare the breakfast items. Shirley will be attending the lesson in May about "Women Behind the Walls." The June meeting will be at Cheryl's and she will present the lesson.

Sandy Severe, reporting

Pleasant Grove Unit

We had nine members present for our March meeting. Elsie told us that the International country of study this year is Australia. Mary Ann reported that more than 55 pillowcases were made at the last sewing time and that the 4-H students were also there to help. She suggested that we do something for the first responders such as cookies for the district fire department. We talked about who was going to the conference. Anna Belle reported on the upcoming lessons and the May 2nd Spring Meeting. Our unit plans

to help July 8th with refreshments for the Rock Spring Concert.

In April, we had 8 members and 1 guest present. Sally and Anna Belle reported on the conference and encouraged more of us to attend next year. Mary Ann updated us about the next pillowcase sewing day, our upcoming lessons and the Spring Meeting.

Alice Bray, reporting

Mt. Zion Unit

Our March meeting was held at Antioch Christian Church. Von provided wonderful goodies. The program was given by a crew from Ameren. They gave us all kinds of ideas about saving energy at home. Our next meeting will be April 25 at Rock Springs. We will learn more about the library. We will take a sack lunch. The meeting will start at 12:00.

Carol Flitz, reporting



A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU!

This is a very special note that was received by our State President of IAHCE, Jane Chapman, from Hodgson Mill, one of the speakers at the conference.

"We would like to thank the IAHCE (Home Extension Organization) for inviting us as a speaker at their "Celebration of the Crossroads" on March 14th. We loved having the ladies stop in to visit at the Mercantile. Looking forward to the next conference with this wonderful group of homemakers."

That was a very nice compliment from a very large company!

RSVP

Please, please, please remember to **RSVP** for the programs. If you have signed up for the whole year's programs, and you discover that you cannot attend, please let the office know. Many times, if the class size is limited, there are waiting lists of people who want to attend. Let's be sure to call to reserve your spot, and call if you cannot make it. Thank you so much for your help!!



It's Time to Celebrate!

MACON COUNTY HCE 2017 COUNTY OF THE YEAR 1918 – 2018

“A Century of Learning & Sharing”

Over 30,000 Volunteer Hours

Start the Celebration - May 2, 2018, Spring Meeting!

Lunch is \$11.00 (sent to Sharon Middleton)

Come and support MCHCE!

Awards will be handed out so be there to receive yours!

Speaker: Ann Irwin of Operation Enduring Support, we will be asking for donations for this and NE Community Fund.

Craft Boutique with handmade items for sale to help with costs of our 100th Celebration in September.

Boutique Items

Think gifts for Christmas,
Birthdays, etc.....



MENU

Chicken in wine sauce
Twice Baked Potato
Casserole
Italian Salad
Apple Pie Bars with
Ice Cream

A Chinese auction will be held.
And much more!



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