



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



**SUPPORT OUR TROOPS**

To continue our celebration of 100 years of MCHCE, we are planning to collect 100 various items each month for the next year to donate to the troops. If everyone donates just one item each month we will make our goal. You can collect the items at your monthly meetings and then get them to the extension office where we will have a box. Remember NO LARGE SIZES as they are too costly to mail.

- March:** Puzzles, Game Books, Playing Cards
- April:** Peanut Butter or Cheese Crackers
- May:** Individual Powdered Drink Mixes
- June:** Body Washes, Shampoos, Deodorant
- July:** Chap stick, Moisturizers
- August:** Individually packaged Wet Wipes

**CULTURAL ARTS**

This is the Cultural Enrichment Categories list. Hope that you will get started as soon as possible on your crafts for the Fall Meeting. We are taking several entries with us to the State Conference in Effingham in March this year.

**Cultural Arts Categories**

- Art (Charcoal, Oil, Acrylic or watercolor)
- 200 Counted Cross Stitch

- 300 Crafts (Wood and Rugs included)
- 400 Crochet Afghans
- 500 Crochet - Other
- 600 Hand Embroidery
- 700 Quilt, Hand or Machine Pieced and hand quilted by HCE member**
- 800 Heritage Needlework (Silk Ribbon, Hardanger, Tatting, Etc.)
- 900 Jewelry (Handmade)
- 1000 Knit Afghans
- 1100 Knit—Other
- 1200 Machine Embroidery
- 1300 Quilt Machine pieced and machine quilted by HCE member
- 1400 Nature Items (anything made of natural things, wheat, corn husk, etc.)
- 1500 Photography
- 1600 Quilt, hand or machine pieced by HCE Member and quilted by non HCE member
- 1700 Quilted-Other (anything quilted that isn't a quilt)**
- 1800 Recycled
- 1900 Scrap Booking (up to 4 pages total, front and back, in 2 plastic sleeves) and cardmaking
- 2000 Table runners and covers
- 2100 Wearable Art (any technique applied to purchased or self made item)
- 2200 Wall Hangings
- 2300 Current Annual Conference Theme or Country of Study**
- 2400 Sewing**

Note: Above size maximums 24” including matting and frame or can be folded to 24”, except quilts.

## Upcoming Events

### February

**Thursday, February 28, 2019**

Scholarship Applications available at the Extension office and online @ www.mchce..org under Education tab.

### March

**Monday, March 4, 2019**

RSVP for March Lesson

**Monday, March 11, 2019**

Surviving a Concentration Camp

Andrew Chicalewski

Extension Office—Upstairs

9:30 am to 11:00 am

**Monday, March 11, 2019**

1:00 pm HCE Board Meeting

Macon County Extension - Clover Room

**March 12 - 14, 2019**

IAHCE State Conference in Effingham, IL

Keller Convention Center

**Monday, April 1, 2019**

RSVP for April Lesson

**Monday, April 8, 2019**

Updated Scams

Jay Scott

Extension Office - Upstairs Room

9:30 am to 11:00 am

**Monday, April 8, 2019**

1:00 pm HCE Board Meeting

Extension Office - Clover Room

Newsletter items due to Linda Austin

[lindaaustin48@gmail.com](mailto:lindaaustin48@gmail.com)

**Friday, April 19, 2019**

RSVP to Sharon Middleton for Spring Meeting

**Monday, April 22, 2019**

Pillowcase Sewing Day

9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Extension Office - Clover Room

**Tuesday, April 20, 2019**

Set-up for Spring Meeting

1:00 pm

Extension Office - Illini Room



### **Laughter is Good Medicine for the Soul**

My friend's husband is always telling her that housekeeping would be a snap if only she would organize her time better. Recently, he had a chance to put his theory into practice while his wife was away.

When I popped in one evening to see how he was managing, he crowed. "I made a cake, frosted it, washed the kitchen windows, cleaned all of the cupboards, scrubbed the kitchen floor, walls and ceiling and even had a bath."

I was about to concede that perhaps he was a better manager than his wife, when he sheepishly added.

"When I was making the chocolate frosting, I forgot to turn

the

mixer

before taking the beaters out of the bowl, so I had to do all of the rest."

◆ Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish!

◆ I think that my neighbor is stalking me. She has been googling my name on her computer. I saw it through my telescope last night. (I would never do that!)

◆ You're not fat, you're just .....easier to see! (Hmmmmm.....)

◆ And my personal favorite is: The location of your mailbox shows you how far you can be in a robe before you start looking like a mental patient! (Ours is quite a ways from the house, so I am fully dressed when I make the journey)

## President

Bonnie Lanham

Well, I hope all of the cold, snowy, weather is behind us or will soon be leaving. We have had to reschedule some things. Our Sew Practical day from January 28<sup>th</sup> will be on Craft Day on July 20<sup>th</sup>. Items that you will need to bring will be in a future newsletter. Please keep in mind that people put a lot of effort and work into the lessons, so please call and RSVP or cancel if you can not attend. Let's remember our items for the soldiers. February is granola bars, March will be puzzle books, game books and playing cards, and April will be peanut butter and/or cheese crackers. Follow the list in this newsletter for more supplies that are needed.

## Second Vice President's Report

Lois Miller

As we begin the year 2019, we need to be aware of recruiting new members. There are just 3 things you must be aware of to get a YES! Number one is to translate to him or her a genuine personal interest you have received from belonging to HCE. Number two is to transfer the values of belonging, such as obtaining information from the university and studying topics such as nutrition, wellness, horticulture, and family life. Number three is showing goodwill like the work that our units have accomplished, such as our Pennies for Friendship which is now called Friendship Projects Fund.

## International

Donna Washburn

In the last newsletter, I asked who knew what Bollywood is. Did you figure it out? Indian cinema is the world's largest film industry in terms of film production, with an annual output of 1,986 feature films as of 2017, and BOLLYWOOD is its largest film producer based in the city of Mumbai (formerly Bombay). Hence, the creation of the name which combines Bombay and Hollywood (credits to Wikipedia) was created.

And for the readers in our units, Karen Cahill has graciously suggested four good novels based in India that also share insight into the Indian culture. The

suggested books are: "The Storyteller's Secret" by Sejal Badani, "Secret Daughter" by Shilipi Somaya Gowda, "The Golden Son" by the same author, and "The Color of Our Sky" by Amita Trasi.

Plans are slowly moving along for International Day on Wednesday, September 18th from 11 to 2. I am sure it will be a fun atmosphere in which to learn more about India, meet old and new friends, and sample Indian cuisine! It's not all spicy.....honestly!!!

NEXT QUESTION: What is the name of the most popular bread in Northern India and where can you purchase it in Decatur?



To honor St. Patrick's Day, Karen Cahill sent me these bits of Irish Humor. Thank you, Karen! I hope you enjoy these, even if you are not Irish! I hope that you are one of those people, like me, who are fully entertained standing in front of the Dollar Store card racks, and reading most of the funny cards! Is that a sign of age?

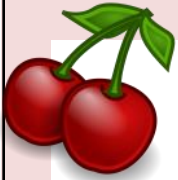
What do you get when you cross poison ivy with a four leaf clover? A rash of good luck!!!

Why don't you iron four-leaf clovers?  
You don't want to press your luck!

How is a good friend like a four-leaf clover?  
They are hard to find and lucky to have!

**Please RSVP to all  
Lessons.**

**Call 877-6042.**



## **Baked Ham with Cherry Maple Glaze**

1 bone-in, spiral sliced smoked ham  
(8 to 10 lbs)

Simmer:

2 jars cherry preserves (12 oz each)

1 cup pure maple syrup

6 tablespoons Amaretto

1/4 cup Dijon mustard

Combine 3 cups cherry juice and 1 stick of cinnamon  
Bring ham to room temperature, about 2 hours.

Simmer cherry preserves, maple syrup, amaretto,  
and Dijon in a small saucepan over medium-low  
heat. Reduce until syrupy, about 25 minutes.

Preheat oven to 300° with the oven rack in the  
bottom third of the oven. Combine the cherry juice  
and cinnamon in a roasting pan. Place ham, cut side  
down, on a rack set inside the roasting pan. Brush  
1/2 cup glaze, return to the oven, uncovered, and  
continue roasting until the glaze is set. 20 to 30  
minutes more.

Transfer ham to a cutting board. Loosely tent with foil  
and let rest for 15 minutes. Serve the ham with the  
remaining glaze. To ensure the ham doesn't turn out  
dry, be sure to let it come to room temperature  
before baking. Place it on a rack set inside a pan  
filled with cherry juice, then tightly seal with foil, to  
create the steam that steams the ham whole  
keeping it moist.

Recipe from Sharon Middleton



## **Cherry Coffee Cake**

1 1/2 stick margarine

1 3/4 cup sugar

2 1/2 cup flour

1/2 tsp salt

1 tsp vanilla

4 eggs

1/2 tsp baking powder

1 can cherry pie filling

Melt margarine, add the vanilla. Set aside. Mix sugar  
and eggs, one egg at a time. Add flour, baking  
powder and salt. Grease 9 x 13 inch baking dish and  
flour or spray with Pam. Spoon the batter and top

with pie filler. Pour melted butter-vanilla mixture  
over the top of the batter and swirl. Bake at 350° for  
45 to 50 minutes

Recipe from Beverly Carmean

## **Cherry Orange Chicken**

40 oz chicken tenderloins

20 oz maraschino cherries,  
reserving 3/4 cherries

1 cup orange juice, concentrate

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 tsp pepper

2 tablespoon vegetable oil

Roll the chicken in the crumb mix. Brown chicken in  
oil. Place the cherries and the orange juice in the  
blender. Blend until smooth. Place in the pan and  
heat. Thicken with 1 tablespoon of cornstarch in 1/2  
cup water. Put the browned chicken in a 13" x 9 "  
ungreased baking dish. Pour orange/cherry mixture  
over the chicken. Put in a 325° oven. Uncover and  
cook for 30 minutes. Enjoy!!

Recipe from Carol Flitz

## **Slow Cooked Cherry Pork Chops**

6 bone-in pork loin chops (8 ounces each)

1/8 t. Salt

Dash of pepper

1 can of canned cherry pie filling

2 t. Lemon juice

1/2 t. Chicken bouillon granules

1/8 t. Mace or nutmeg

1/8 t. Additional cherry pie filling warmed, optional

In a large skillet coated with cooking spray, brown  
the pork chops over medium heat on both sides.  
Season with salt and pepper.

In a 3 quart slow cooker, combine the pie filling,  
lemon juice, bouillon and mace or nutmeg. Add the  
chops. Cover and cook on low for 3 to 4 hours or  
until the meat is no longer pink. Serve with  
additional pie filling, if desired.

Recipe from Sandy Norris



# MACON COUNTY UNIT NEWS

## Hickory Point Unit

**January:** We met for lunch at the Decatur Club on January 8. Our new president, Elaine Hamm, led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemaker's Aim. We had 10 members present, including our new members, Janet Feller and Cathy Gipson. After our lunch, we discussed our lessons plans for the new year. We are looking forward to the many interesting programs planned by our county board.

**December:** We met for lunch at Primrose. Following a delicious bar-b-que rib meal, Rick Meyer, Decatur City librarian, gave an informative and interesting talk on happenings at our library. He strives to make the library a center of lifelong learning. He also gave us some information on the Strategic Plan for the library and the meeting of its goals in the plan. He was a very good speaker.

Our chairman, Elaine Hamm, opened our meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemaker's Aim. We always report our volunteer hours and collect monies for the Friendship Projects Fund. Mary Beth Wickline reported that our next meeting will be at the Scovill Zoo at 1:30 p.m., and Director Ken Fry will give us a tour of the zoo.

Louise Wickline, reporting

## Maple Grove Unit

**December:** We had our annual Christmas get-together at Carol Ropp's house on December 12. There were 17 members present. Our meal was catered by God, Family, and Friends. After enjoying the food and friendship, the activity booklets were handed out for 2019. Carol and Karen had prepared a contact list of our members, (addresses, phone numbers, and e-mails), which was included in our books.

There was no formal meeting. We had our gift exchange next. Our hostess read a story about the Wright family, as we passed our gifts to the left or right, according to the storyline. Everyone went home with a gift and great memories of Christmas at the Ropp's house.

Our next meeting will be January 24th at 11:30 at the Decatur Conference Center.

**January:** On January 24, thirteen of our members met at the Decatur Conference Center Cafe for our lunch/meeting at 11:30. We started our meeting with the

Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemaker's Aim. Carol entertained us with the joke of the month. The secretary's report was read and accepted. Our treasurer was absent.

It was announced that the MCHCE meeting that was to be held at the Decatur Police Academy will be rescheduled for warmer weather. The Sew Practical will be held on January 28th. Karen had an example of the snap-purse that will be made, along with two other projects. We were reminded of the Hummingbird lesson to be held on February 11. Several people commented about how entertaining the presenter, Vernon Kleen, was last time that he presented.

We voted on whether the Spring Meeting should be catered or potluck, as was requested by our new president, Bonnie Lanham. The vote was unanimous for a catered meal. We will be reporting on paper, beginning with our February meeting, our volunteer hours. January hours should be divided into HCE and other.

Several of our members were "under the weather" for this meeting, so we had a moment of concern for them. Also, as a concern, Gini Smith mentioned that the T.S. A. workers, at the Decatur Airport, were working without pay due to the government shutdown. She suggested that a collection of money be taken in order for her to purchase food and take it to them on Friday. If there was enough money, she would take it again on the following Friday. The next meeting will be February 28th at the Decatur Conference Center at 11:30.

Mary Kay Ennis, reporting

## Rock Springs Unit

**December:** We had our traditional cookie exchange for the month of December with each member bringing 3 dozen cookies. We had nine members at our meeting. We then chose from each tray until all members had 3 dozen cookies to take home.

After opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemaker's Aim, Donna Washburn showed us the dried fruit wreath that she made at the Extension Office. Bonnie Lanham read the minutes from the November meeting and we collected pennies for the Friendship Project Fund. Our unit's Christmas donation went to the Northeast

## UNIT REPORTS

Community Fund. The volunteer hours should be sent to Bonnie Lanham. We also discussed the International Day theme about India this year. Our next meeting will be January 9th at the home of Lois Miller.

**January:** We met on January 9th at the home of Lois Miller. There were 8 members present. We were very glad to have Millie Xanders join us. She is a mailbox member and a former founding member of our unit. Our president, Rosemary Knap, was absent. Lois Miller presided over the meeting. There should be a good attendance for the upcoming lesson at the Extension Office about hummingbirds. Everyone in our unit is very interested about hummingbirds. We also talked about the Tri-County meeting on February 4th at our Extension Office. The Macon County board will meet on Monday, February 11. Newsletter items are due to Linda Austin on that date. Pillowcase sewing day is February 18 and everyone is welcome at the Extension Office even if you can sew or not. There are many things to be done on the pillowcases. The scholarship applications will be available online on February 28. Don't forget the IAHCE Conference in Effingham on March 12-14. We have several board members from our unit that are going, and I am very excited to be one of them. Our next unit meeting will be February 13th and will be hosted by Donna Washburn.

Lois Miller, reporting

### Mt Zion Unit

**December:** Ten members of the Mt. Zion unit met at the Raspberry Tea Room on December 28th. After ordering from the menu a short business meeting was held. Roll call was "The Best Christmas Present I Ever Received." Members were reminded that their 2018 Volunteer Hours are due as soon as possible. Program books for 2019 were distributed and we will fill out the details at our January 23rd meeting.

After enjoying a delicious lunch, President Vicky Wooten treated us to a new, original version of the Wright Family Game, written by Vicky with

some help from her grandsons. As always, the game was a lot of fun.

**January:** The January 23rd meeting will be held at Antioch Christian Church with Ruth Gibson serving as hostess. The program will be filling out the program books for 2019. We all left the Tea Room, many of us with a piece of pie in a take-out-container, very full from lunch and happy to have had a chance to visit with our friends in the Mt. Zion unit.

January: The first meeting of the Mt. Zion unit in 2019 was held January 23rd at Antioch Christian Church at 1:00. The roll call was "A Program I Would Like to See in HCE this Year." After a short business meeting, we filled out our program books for 2019. We are excited about the nice variety of programs that are available this year.

The February meeting will be February 27, 2019, at Antioch Christian Church at 1:00 P.M. Carol Flitz will present the lesson and the Roll Call will be "My Favorite Valentine."

You all are invited to join us.

Von Gregory, reporting

### Oakley Unit

**January:** Our January meeting was held on January 11, at the home of Carol Bork. We discussed the lessons for the upcoming year and filled out our books. The IAHCE Conference will be held in Effingham, IL on March 12th thru the 14th. Our new county board president is Bonnie Lanham. Our February meeting will be held at Nancy Flach's home.

**February:** The February meeting was held on February 7th at the home of Nancy Flach. There were 5 members present and one guest, Tammy Myers. Patty Lovecamp gave a lesson on small appliances. Tammy joined and now is a new member of the Oakley Unit. We welcome her! Our next meeting will be on March 7th at the home of Patty Lovecamp at 1:30 pm.

Cheryl Yoder, reporting

# DECEMBER MINUTES

## Macon County HCE Meeting December 10, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Karen and Carol. We said the Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemakers' Aim. Joke was read by Carol.

**Present:** Karen Cahill, Carol Ropp, Linda Hooge, Bonnie Lanham, Sandy Severe, Pam Walker, Sharon Middleton, Mary Ann Platt, Sally Dennis, Karen Halicki, Donna Washburn, Linda Austin, Anna Bell Farrell, and Carol Flitz. Those absent: Beth Allhands and Barbara Abbott. Fourteen members were in attendance, seven units represented.

**Minutes from the November** meeting were reviewed; motion to approve as corrected by Linda Hooge and Second by Bonnie Lanham.

**Treasurer's Report** was given by Sharon Middleton. No bills being received the report was filed for audit. Sharon passed out to each unit a report on the members that she had listed who have paid dues for 2019. We received a check in the amount of \$48.00 from IAHCE for signs delivered to them at Conference.

**Correspondence:** A thank you note from Karen Cahill was passed around as well as a Ronald McDonald brochure and a note from Ann Adkesson.

**Co-Presidents:** Karen & Carol

Karen stated she and Carol leaving as Presidents was bitter-sweet. They are looking forward to other projects and some rest.

**1st Vice President:** Linda Hooge gave us the upcoming events:

December 28th Volunteer hours are due to Bonnie  
Jan. 9th, 2019 RSVP for January 15th tour of Police

Training Academy

January 14th Board Meeting  
January 15th Police Training Tour  
January 28th Sew Practical Lesson

**2nd Vice President:** Bonnie Lanham- Nothing new to report at this time. Lois will be taking over in January.

**Community & Family Issues:** Mary Ann Platt

A total of 322 pillowcases were made for the year with some being sold at the Spring and Fall meetings. Other pillowcases went to Ronald McDonald House, Cunningham Children's Home, and the Macon County Correctional Center. Operation Enduring Support received \$167.50 in donations. Ronald McDonald received 27.6 lbs. of pop tabs. Honor Guard received \$125.00 in donations. January collection for OES is hand warmers and in February granola bars will be collected.

**Cultural Enrichment:** Sally Dennis

Sally still needs a list of winners for the Fall Meeting recipes. Don't forget your articles for the Conference. Items need to be given to Sally by the end of February.

**Historian:** Karen Halicki

Karen is still working on the books and they should be done by January 2019.

**International:** Donna Washburn

Packets for India should be ready next month. Macon County will be in charge this coming year. She is looking into possibly having catering service for the luncheon. She will try to divide some of the areas up for reports, like was done the past year.

**Public Relations:** Linda Austin

Newsletter items are due today. She still needs some of the recipes from the Fall meeting to put in the newsletter. Please remind new members of the name tags available for purchase for \$3.00 each. Five aprons and two shirts are still available for purchase.

**Beth Allhands:** Absent

**Unfinished/Old Business:**

Christmas Flower arranging lesson was very well received. Lots of new ideas for making an ordinary poinsettia look extraordinary.

**New Business:**

For the tour of the new police facility on January 15<sup>th</sup>, please meet at the police facility at the main entrance at 9:45. It is requested that only members attend.

**Sew Practical in January will be making:**

Teacup pin cushions  
Kitchen boa  
Microfiber foot mops  
Phone caddy  
Snap bags  
Chemo Port Pillows

The new program book was reviewed and Linda Austin's information was omitted. Sharon will make two new pages for the book, as there were a couple other errors on the Officers' information pages.

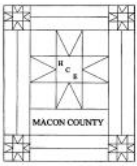
Monies for Friendship Projects Fund was \$350.00 for this year.

If we have extra Christmas cards, we were asked to consider sending cards to:

A Recovering American Soldier  
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center  
6900 Georgia Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20307-5001

Meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sandy Severe and Pam Walker, Co-Secretaries



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Sharon Middleton 2017-2019

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