



News & Views

Outagamie County Home and Community Education

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**Make the
commitment
to find one
new
member**

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President's Letter

Hello Everyone,

As Spring approaches, we see the beauty of nature and how things have to come alive.

In HCE, things come alive as we work together for the good of others. We encourage you to keep up the good work and invite others, whether it be family, friends or neighbors to join us in our workshops, volunteering, and our leader trainings. As we work together, we learn new ideas and techniques to make our projects unique. It is amazing the difference we can make. It is so rewarding to see the joy on people's faces when they receive something we have made. Also, the thank you's that really express the gratitude in receiving it.

Thank you for the donations. They have been coming in steady, and it really helps a lot.

The Move in the Groove runs February 28 to May 28, I hope you are working hard at it and recording. This includes walking, cleaning, gardening, dancing, swimming, and any activity that gets you going. The forms need to be in to Lois Dalke by May 31, so she can tally them and turn them in to the State by June 10.

The Impact of HCE has been a focus of the Organization, and they would like to recognize you for your achievements; so therefore, you are encouraged to fill out the member contribution reports. Reports should include activities you have done between June 1, 2015 and May 31, 2016. Please turn the reports in to Linda Biese by June 1, so they can be tallied and sent in to the State by June 10.

Our big public activity this year will be our Picture Perfect Project on Wednesday, September 21. We have seen interest in the project and hope it will be bigger and better this year.

Our theme for the State Meeting is "76 Trombones Leading HCE". Let's come up with ideas for our fair booth using this theme. Thanks for all of your input.

Linda K. Biese
OCHCE President

No matter how small and unimportant what we are doing may seem, if we do it well, it may soon become the step that will lead us to better things."
Channing Pollack

Advisor's Letter

Dear HCE Friends,

A couple of days ago I read a "notable" horoscope...

"There's strength in unison, but there's beauty in harmony. Keep in mind that in order to create harmony, you have to play a note that is not the same one as the one already being played."

That really made me stop, think and reflect. Sometimes it is easier to be in unison with everyone else ... go with the flow...not rock the boat. But sometimes we need to strike a different chord and make different music to really make an impact. Each of us brings a different talent and viewpoint to the table or groups we are a part of. Don't feel like you always need to be in unison. We sometimes need to take a different chord and change things up by questioning and challenging the same old sounds.

So are you flat or are you sharp? At least you are voicing your opinion and how you feel! We can

agree to disagree if we are at least sharing our concerns and looking at the bigger impacts and challenges we face.

Guess that's why I enjoy playing with a band! Playing a French horn all by myself is OK...but I am so much better when I'm part of a group that is playing in harmony (well most of the time!) We all have a goal of what we want to accomplish and know that we can get there with different approaches. This may have a lesson in life as well.

So strike a chord and be your own person – share your special gifts and talents and we will find more harmony in how we approach life.

Be well,

Karen Dickrell
Family Living Educator/Department Head
Outagamie County UW-Extension

Calendar

April 2	9:00 a.m.	Garden Conference, Liberty Hall, sponsored by the Outagamie County Master Gardeners	See the UW-Extension website at http://outagamie.uwex.edu/
April 13	4:30 p.m.	Spring Association Meeting and Potluck	UW-Extension, Brewster Street
May 2	5:00 p.m.	2016 HCE Spring Banquet – 5:00 p.m. Social and Silent Auction; 6:00 Dinner. Cost is \$17.00 per person	Doxbees, Seymour
May 4	9:00 a.m.	Northeast District Meeting, hosted by Door County	Crossroads at Big Creek, Sturgeon Bay
May 10	9:00 a.m.	Extension Education Committee Presentation	County Board Room, County Admin Building, Appleton
May 10	10:30 a.m.	HCE Newsletter Committee	UW-Extension, Brewster Street
May 19-20		Country Apples 2016 Trip	Rawhide Boys Ranch, New London
May 21	8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Master Gardener Plant Sale	UW-Extension, Brewster Street
June 12	8:00 a.m. - Noon	Breakfast on the Farm	Keith and Troy Vosters Farm, Freedom
July 7	9:00 a.m.	Fair Booth Committee	UW-Extension, Brewster Street
July 26-31		Outagamie County Fair	Seymour
July 30		Newsletter Deadline for October, November, December	

Upcoming Events

Country Apples 2016 Trip – May 19, 2016

Rawhide Boys Ranch New London
Bart and Cherry Star exhibit, presentation and tour of the facility;
Maggie Mae's Barn Dance and Lunch, Oxford, WI

Send reservations to Judy Shafel, W7589 Park Avenue, Shiocton, WI 54170
by Friday, April 1. Questions: 920-986-3810
Make check out to Nationwide Travelers.

Departure Times

7:10 a.m. Appleton (Nationwide Travelers on County A)
7:30 a.m. Center Town Hall
7:45 a.m. Lake Park Parking Lot, Highway 54 Black Creek

Return Times

5:45 p.m. Black Creek
6:00 p.m. Town of Center
6:20 p.m. Appleton

Membership

HCE Membership is:

Meeting and learning with friends
Educating ourselves and family
Mentoring, volunteering
Bettering our families
Enhancing our minds
Reaching our set goals
Stretching our budgets
Helping our communities
Involving ourselves
Positive attitudes

Committee Reports



Wisconsin Bookworms™

For the past 18 years, members have worked hard and put a lot of effort into raising the funds for Wisconsin Bookworms™. To get books to children who do not have any, to promote books and a love for reading. At the Quilt show in November, we sold \$1,171 in quilted items. We received \$50 in donations from Catholic Financial Life Chapter 188 and a \$100 donation in memory of George Dickrell (Karen's Father). For our fundraiser this year, we have both chapters 188 – 197 of Catholic Financial Life matching funds of \$1,500. In order to receive this money, we need to sell 300 books (900 tickets) to reach \$1,500. Just think, we can **DOUBLE OUR MONEY**. This is our **ONLY FUNDRAISER FOR THIS YEAR**. Every member's help is needed: You were given 5 books (\$25 worth) to sell. Those that can sell more tickets, please call Carol at 920-984-3344, Linda at 920-660-8057, Marcie at 920-757-5407. Tickets are \$2 each or 3/\$5. With a lot of hard work and every member doing their part, we will meet our goal and double our money. Think of this as your contribution to our book literacy program.

Drawing: May 2nd, Banquet a Doxbees at 8:00 p.m.

- Prizes:
- 1st – Bow Tie Multicolor Quilt (102 x 102) Marcie Surprise, quilted by Linda Biese
 - 2nd – Cancer Quilt (46 x 62) Linda Biese
 - 3rd – Frog Baby Quilt (48 x 60) Marcie Surprise
 - 4th – Girls Quilt (48 x 48) and Pillow from Giving Bees, quilted by Linda Biese
 - 5th – Purple Table Runner (19 x 35) Dolly Mleziva



Wisconsin Bookworms County Coordinator

Judy Asman – 920-766-5578

Marcie Surprise – 920-757-5407

Quilt Show

Our Quilt Show last November was a big success. It is a lot of work but it came together beautifully. We had over 100 quilted items on display with 11 venter booths in which one was HCE with items our members made and the proceeds went to our Wisconsin Bookworms™ fund.

Four of the quilts displayed were made by youth 14 and under. It is great to see them so enthused.

We decided not to do the show annually. We are going to every other year – the odd years, and the Local Quilt Guild does the even years. We have a lot of interest in future shows. We even had possible new members. Thank you to everyone for making the show as great as it was.

Charity Workshop

We are still meeting on Wednesdays several times a month. We usually have six people attending. There is always room for more so if you are interested, call Linda Biese at 920-833-2618. Some of the ladies work on greeting cards and the others are sewing. We usually work from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and bring a dish to pass for lunch.

We have requests for our Emergency Card Kits and have been working hard to fulfill them. The kits contain four different types of cards put in a neat little folder.

We are also working on several Patriotic Quilts that will be given locally. We make the quilts upon requests. So if you know of a person who would really enjoy one, let us know.

A donation of 26 Card Kits and two quilts were given to Community 2000 during the Christmas season.

District News

“IMPACT OF HCE” 2016

Dear Members:

For 2016, we would once again like you to keep track of your Volunteer Hours. **Remember, these hours must be activities directed by HCE.** They started on June 1, 2015 and go to May 31, 2016. There are new forms for Member and County reports. Executive Board forms will remain the same. ALL the forms are on the WAHCE website www.wahceinc.org under Awards Forms & Info. Please give your completed forms to your counties for compilation. Counties will send full reports to the following address by June 10: JoAnn Blonien, VP of Family and Community Life, S589 County Road WW, Elroy, WI 53929. If you need help getting the forms, the UW-Extension Office will be able to help you.

Totals for 2015 were very impressive: 37 Counties participated: outreach = 61,432 hours; donations = \$77,515; Executive Board: time spent = 24,848 hours; donations = \$26,579.

Keep up the GREAT WORK. Looking forward to 2016!

JoAnn Blonien, VP of Family and Community Life

Thank You's are evidence of impact Outagamie HCE is making



Dear HCE members,

Thank you so much for your generosity and your donations for our chili dinner. We appreciate your support of our music program.

Shiocton Music Department

Dear Linda and Marcie,

Thank you for the privilege of being part of the 3rd Annual Quilt Show as a vendor. We were in awe at the beautiful quilts on display. It was our first experience of “taking our art and crafts on the road. Thanks for welcoming us. May God bless your ministry to the Fox Valley.

Gratefully, Sister Rita Schmidt, Sister Leanne Lee and Sisters of St. Joseph, TOSF

Dear Linda,

It is with great joy we send you thanks for the pillow cases you have made. They will be a very special gift for the children at TLHOH. They will brighten their beds during the day and surround their heads at night. I can already see and hear their expressions of delight. Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness. Gifts like this remind the children that they are thought of and loved so much. God bless you as you use and share your talent of sewing.

On behalf of the Children, Staff and Board of the Lords House of Hope, We thank you! (Please share this with the Giving Bees)



*Dear Home and Community
Education Members
(aka Do Gooders),*

*Thanks once again for your
contribution to making our
Woman's Veterans project a
success. I've included a copy
of a thank you we received to
give you a sense of how greatly
it was appreciated.*

*God Bless You All, Unit #106,
Seymour American Legion*

TO: American Legion, Auxiliary #106

I was a member of the volunteer staff at camp American Legion. I wanted to share all of the excitement that I saw in our lady veterans as they received their gift bags, toys, books and magazines. The women were happy to have items that reflect “We ARE Women,” like the magazine and hygiene items. I am a female Army Veteran (1995 to 2003 Active Duty). In many deployments or overseas, items for women were an afterthought. I had a two hour bus ride in Korea only to buy underwear, socks or a bra! Thank you for your thoughtfulness and recognizing that we are a special group with unique needs. I am not sure why this is the only auxiliary that participates but the tag on the bag said #106.

Please pass on the heartfelt thank you!
Kimberly, Army Veteran

Feature Article

Country Apples

Our club tries to find interesting topics for each of our meetings. Some of the programs we have scheduled for this year are: putting quilt squares in order to make new quilts and having a silent auction to make money for our club. (We each bring some good, but no longer useful, items to us.) We have made over \$100 at some silent auctions. Topics with presenters will be “fraud” to keep us aware of the ever growing scams out there, decorating cookies, information on how to stay healthy, and our annual tour this year to Rawhide and the Maggie Mae dinner theatre (see information in this issue). Also at the meetings we try to have an overview of the Educational Focal sessions.

We print an agenda each month with the pertinent events of the present month and upcoming months, so each member can take it home and keep track of what is coming up.

Welcome!

Country Apples has a new member! Welcome Judith Sampson (Judy), W4638 Country Road B, Black Creek, WI 54106, 920-984-3188



In Memoriam

Geri Van Handel, a 27 year member of Country Apples HCE, passed away on February 4, 2016.

At one time Geri was Secretary for our club. Geri and her husband Arnie loved coming to our Spring Banquets and going on our club trips. Geri was a member of the Women’s Auxiliary for the VFW and the American Legion. She also loved going to the Old Time Car Club events and going out to eat. Geri and Arnie loved going on many trips with the Farmers on the Bum Bus Trips with many of our club members. She also loved spoiling her grandchildren and 18 great grand children.

Tribute written by Carol Theobald



Outagamie County



UW-EXTENSION (920) 832-4763
AGRICULTURE Dairy/Livestock (920) 832-5124
FAMILY LIVING (920) 832-5126
AGRICULTURE Crops, Soils & Horticulture (920)832-5128
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (920) 832-5125
4-H/YOUTH (920) 832-5127
Fax (920) 832-4783
711 (Wisconsin Relay)

Thomas Nelson, County Executive (920) 832-1684

**Outagamie County UW-Extension
3365 West Brewster Street
Appleton, WI 54914**

**VISIT OUTAGAMIE COUNTY
UW-EXTENSION'S WEBSITE AT:**

<http://outagamie.uwex.edu/>

County Extension Staff

Karen Dickrell, Family Living/Dept. Head
Evan Groth, Nutrition Educator
Kevin Jarek, Crops, Soils & Horticulture
Zen Miller, Dairy & Livestock
Casey Plamann, 4-H Youth Development
Jim Resick, Community Development
MaryBeth Seib, 4-H Youth & Family
Kristine Soper, Nutrition Educator

Extension Support Staff

Vicki Handschke, Office Assistant
Joan Behle, Office Assistant
Terry Hampton, Office Assistant
Shari Peterson, Program Assistant

**Extension Education Committee
County Board of Supervisors**

Dan Rettler, Chair
Keith Surprise, Vice-Chair
Daniel Melchert, Secretary
Leroy Van Asten, Member
Debbie VanderHeiden, Member

The University of Wisconsin-United States Department of Agriculture - Outagamie County Cooperating "UW-Extension Provides Equal Opportunities in Employment and Programming - Including Title IX Requirements."



Applet. May. June 2016
News & Views

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University of Wisconsin-Extension
Outagamie County UW-Extension
3365 West Brewster Street
Appleton, WI 54914