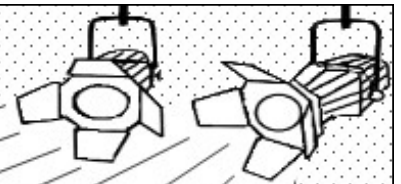


Macon County

September-October 2021

HCE HIGHLIGHTS



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

Inside This Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Creative Ideas for Sewing Your Scraps
- Culinary Lesson
- International Day is Coming Up!
- Laughter is Good for the Soul
- Anthony Peoples, WAND Meteorologist
- Things to Ponder
- Cancellation Notice
- Reminders
- Homemade Peach Pie Filling
- Endearing Recipes
- Meeting Minutes
- Unit News
- Officer Reports

The Ronald McDonald House Charities really appreciate the pillowcases we donate to them. They have another request if any of us are interested in helping. Their clients need G-Tube covers and Flannel Hearts for Premies in the NICU.

Instructions for making these can be found on the Create to Donate website. It’s a great way to use the scraps of flannel and terry cloth so many of us have. If you don’t use a computer, contact Carol Ropp and she will make sure you get a sample to copy. Mary Ann Platt has plenty of the plastic snaps for the g-tube covers. If you are making these items, be sure to keep track of your hours to send to Karen Cahill!!

Note: The directions for the g-tube covers say to sew right sides together, turn them out and stitch around the top. The sample I received is just stitched on top with the wrong sides together and the piece of terry cloth between. That’s much easier when trying to work with such a small piece of fabric. CR

APRONS, APRONS, APRONS!

We would like to compile a booklet for our program on the Evolution of Aprons during our HCE week in October. We need your help! If you have pictures of aprons that you own, stories about your mom, grandma, dad or grandpa (Yes, my dad wore an apron once in a while!) that you can share, please send them to Bonnie Lanham. This will be a lot of fun to put together and share with all of you! If you have any questions or comments, call Bonnie at 217-428-7404.

DID YOU KNOW?

September is National Sewing Month! Our sewing class, led by Mary Ann Platt and Cheryl Sample, is on September 18. This fits right in with the month’s theme! Mary Ann and Cheryl’s article in this newsletter will explain what will be happening on that day. There is a limit of 35 people for this class, so be sure to call in a reservation to the Extension Office right away. It will be a fun day!!!!

WE NEED YOU!

Board Members Needed!

Please consider taking an office on our Macon County Board. We need a 1st and 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and an International chairperson. Call Karen Halicki at 217-794-5508 or 217-855-1703. She will have more information about each of these positions.

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Be sure that you are keeping track of your volunteer hours! Record your hours in the front of your program booklet. That way, it will be easy to find when it is time to report them. If you have any questions, call Karen Cahill at 217-429-0037. Thank you!

FALL MEETING

MENU

CATERED BY RICHLAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE CHEF
TUCKER
COST--\$12.00

Roast pork with Cranberry-
Apple Chutney
Rice Pilaf
Vegetable Medley
Mini Cheesecakes

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, September 1

RSVP for September Lesson

Monday, September 6

Extension Office Closed

Wednesday, September 8

Culinary Lesson

1:00 -2:30 p.m.

Extension Office Clover Room

Monday, September 13

HCE Board Meeting

10:00 a.m.

Extension Office Clover Room

Tuesday, September 14

Set up for International Day

1:00 p.m.

Illini and Clover Rooms

Wednesday, September 15

International Day Event

9:00 a.m. Registration

9:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Program

Macon County Extension Office

Illini and Clover Rooms

Event Contact - DeWitt County

Ontario, Canada Program

Saturday, September 18

Creative Ideas for Sewing Your Scraps

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Extension Office - Clover Room

Monday, September 27

Pillowcase Sewing Day

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

Extension Office - Clover Room

Monday, October 4

Tri County Meeting

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

DeWitt County Extension Office

Friday, October 1

RSVP for ALL HCE Week Activities

Please be sure to RSVP for ALL HCE

Week Lunches

October 11-16

HCE Week

Monday, October 18

RSVP for Fall Meeting to Sally Dennis

Tuesday, October 26

Set-up for Fall Meeting

1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 27

Fall Meeting

9:00 a.m. - Registration

9:30 a.m. - Meeting Begins

Extension Office

Illini and Clover Rooms

50/50 to the Operation Enduring

Support

Upcoming Class Information!

Creative Ideas for Sewing Your Scraps

Mary Ann Platt and Cheryl Samples

I am so sorry that we had to cancel the class on July 21. I had some health issues and a death in my family to deal with. We are going to have this class on September 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. From 9 to 11 will be the string piecing quilt technique, from 11 to 12 will be a class about jelly roll quilting, and from 1 to 4 will be crumb block quilting. We will have a salad luncheon and if you want to contribute ingredients, that would be great.

Cheryl Samples has agreed to help so we can accommodate up to 35 students in the Clover Room on September 18. Have you ever felt bad about throwing away small strips of fabric? I have, but I don't anymore. From 9 to 11, you will learn one of my favorite ways of using scraps. I have made and donated several quilts using the string piecing technique. Many quilters use this technique. We will sew fabric strips onto a paper foundation. Strips will vary in width, but some will be very narrow. You will have the choice of using strips in the same color family or using a variety of colors. I would like to end this class at 11. After that, Cheryl will be presenting a class on using jellyrolls for quilting. There will be a one-hour break for lunch. You can sign up for either or all of the classes.

At 1 o'clock, you will learn another favorite technique that I like to use, making crumb blocks. We will be sewing small scraps together to make our own "fabric". Once you have made a big enough piece of fabric, we will square it up to a predetermined size and make more blocks. Again, this is FUN. Some people think that I am a bit crazy when I ask for their scraps. I like to make these totally scrappy with many colors.

You will need to bring a sewing machine in good working order that you know how to use. You will also need neutral thread, a quarter inch foot for your machine, scissors, paper for notes and pins or clips. Bring these items too, if you have them: a small, low voltage iron, a rotary cutter, a small cutting mat, a wool pressing mat, and a ruler for cutting. I have ALL the scrap fabric that we will need, so you don't have to bring fabric.

We hope to see you there. We know that it will be a great, fun day!! Call the Extension Office at 217-877-6042 as soon as possible since we have a limit of 35.

Culinary Lesson

September 8

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Macon County Extension Office

We are very privileged to have Lois Miller's daughter, who lives in Europe and is a chef, present our culinary program on September 8. A little bird told me that she is going to demonstrate how to make a strudel. Who doesn't love strudel? Be sure to call your reservation in for this program. Call the Extension Office at 217-877-6042 to reserve your spot!!!

International Day is Coming Up!

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

Be sure to have your reservation and your money (\$12.00) to Sally Dennis, 7562 Bonnie Rd., Dalton City, Illinois 61925, phone number is 217-864-2792 or 217-433-0605, by September 1st for International Day. There is a cost this year because we are not doing potluck as we have in the past. The ingredients will be supplied to us for Shepherd's Pie. Join us along with Platt and DeWitt Counties for this wonderful event. Our country of study is Ontario, Canada.



Laughter is Good for the Soul

As you already know, I love the Tribune and find lots of funny things on the back of the paper that I like to share with you. This newsletter has "Things You Wish You Would Hear" from a 2019 publication. Enjoy! Linda

From your auto mechanic: "That part is much less expensive than I thought".

"I have never seen someone take care of a car the way that you do," "You could get that done more cheaply at the garage down the street." "It was just a loose wire--no charge."

From a telemarketing person: "I am sorry, did I reach you at a bad time? Here is my number--just call me back if you would like to hear my sales pitch." "I understand that you are not interested. Thank you for your time." "Click" (Them hanging up)

From your doctor: "You are in better shape than a person half your age." "This is such an interesting case. I will treat you for free just for the learning experience."

"Take this pill once a month and you will be at your perfect weight without exercise or changing your diet."

Anthony Peoples, WAND Meteorologist

June 22, 2021

Submitted by Karen Halicki

We were fortunate to have Anthony speak to us on June 22, at the Extension Office. He has been in Decatur about 16 months now. He is originally from Kentucky. He graduated from Murray State University where he studied to be a weatherman, as well as a Criminal Justice degree. His first job was in Maryland, then Texas, Ohio, Wisconsin and Minnesota. He continued his education with Distance Learning programs.

Anthony gets up at 2 a.m. to be at work by 3 a.m. At work, he fixes coffee and starts looking over all the information from around the country to see how the weather is developing. The Morning Show is from 5 a.m. to 7 a.m. with a lot of repeated weather information and updates, if needed, mixed in with the news. Most people don't listen for the whole two hours, so the information is repeated many times for those people coming in and out of that segment of time. He is off work at 9 a.m. unless there is bad weather, and he needs to stay longer. He tries to keep everyone updated on his Facebook page.

He told many enjoyable stories about his job, and we thoroughly enjoyed having him speak to us. You may see him walking and reading a book. He talks about the books he reads on the Morning Show. He is truly "living his dream".

Things to Ponder

I often think about these things before I drift off to sleep at night—do you?

Why does a round pizza come in a square box? We had pizza that night.

Why is it that people say they slept like a baby when babies wake up a lot during the night? This was after nights with our kids many years ago!

How do those dead bugs get into those enclosed light fixtures? This pondering question came after a cleaning the house adventure!

Why do doctor's leave the room while you are undressing when they are going to see you naked anyway? This was after a doctor's appointment!

If Jimmy cracks corn and nobody cares, why is there a stupid song about him? A grandchild asked me this!

Why do people constantly return to the refrigerator with hopes that something new to eat will have materialized? No explanation needed—I am guilty!!

Cancellation Notice

Due to scheduling conflicts, the September 25th craft day/membership drive has been cancelled. We will try to do this at a later date.

REMINDERS!!!

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR CULTURAL ENRICHMENT ENTRY IF YOU HAVE ONE READY, POP TABS, BRAIN PUZZLE INSERT FROM THE HERALD AND REVIEW, OLD OR NEW GREETING CARDS, AND PLASTIC PILL BOTTLES TO THE FALL MEETING!

Homemade Peach Pie Filling

Author: The Kitchen Whisperer

Yield: 2 quarts or 7 quarts Q

Find more fantabulous recipes, tips and tricks at www.thekitchenwhisperer.net. Also, join our TKW Family on Facebook

Ingredients

FOR 2 QUARTS OF FILLING

7 cups sliced peaches
2 cup sugar
1/2 cup ClearJel plus 2 tbl
1/2 cups cold water or peach juice
1/4 tsp cinnamon
1/2 cup lemon juice
qt jars/lids/rings

FOR 7 QUARTS OF FILLING

6 qts of sliced peaches (about 7-8 pounds of peaches)
7 cups sugar
2 cups ClearJel plus 3 tbl
5 1/4 cups cold water or peach juice
1 tsp cinnamon
1 3/4 cup lemon juice
7 qt jars/lids rings
Plus an additional 1/4 cup lemon juice or Fruit-Fresh pectin

Instructions

1. Make an 'X' in the bottom of each peach.
2. Place into boiling water for 30-60 seconds
3. Remove and place into ice cold water
4. Remove skins
5. Cut up the peaches
6. To keep from turning brown mix in 1/4 cup lemon juice or Fruit-Fresh pectin. Stir to coat.
7. Combine the water, sugar, ClearJel and cinnamon in large pot.
8. Stir and cook over medium high heat until the mixture thickens and begins to bubble.
9. Add the lemon juice and boil the sauce for 1 minute more, stirring constantly.
10. Add in the drained peach slices and cook for 3 minutes.
11. Fill the jars within 3/4"-1" from the top.
12. Put the filled jars in the canner and keep them covered with at least 1" of water.
13. Boil for 30 minutes.

Notes

ClearJel is not the same as SureJel - read THIS article that explains the difference and what will happen when you try to substitute one for the other. My local stores do not carry ClearJel so I order it off of Amazon.

Find it online: <https://www.thekitchenwhisperer.net/2012/08/24/homemade-peach-pie-filling-eat-it-now-or-can-it-for-later/>

Endearing Recipes

As I looked for recipes to publish in this newsletter, I came across this poem by Relma Browne in our family's published recipes. My mother-in-law was a wonderful cook, and she tried to tell me how to make certain recipes, with a bit of this and a bit of that. This poem speaks to that. Enjoy! Linda

MOTHER'S OLD RECIPES

My mother never could explain
Just how she baked her bread
Or made her pies, her recipes
Were in her head.

Her cakes were gems, but when she
Tried to tell me just her way---
The flour? "Oh, just a cup or two"
Or "Just enough", she'd say.

Her measurements were not precise
As mine must be today.
Yet seldom have I "Just enough"
As mother used to say.

In our family cookbook, I did get her to write down her recipes with measurements for the daughter-in-law that needed that!!! Here is a favorite recipe of hers. She would make this at Christmas time, and it was delicious!

Orange Slice Cake

2 cups chopped pecans
1-pound candy orange slices, cut thin
1/2 lb. dates, chopped
1 pkg. Coconut
1 1/2 pound of sugar

1 cup butter
4 eggs
1 1/4 c. milk
1 tsp. Baking soda
3 c. flour

Mix all the ingredients together and pour into a greased angel food cake pan and bake at 250 degrees for about 2 hours.

Macon County Meeting

May 10, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: President—Bonnie Lanham at 10:05

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Bonnie

HOMEMAKERS AIM: Bonnie

Country Church Prayer: Bonnie

Roll Call: Units 6 Total attendance 11

Secretary: Carol Flitz; Minutes of last meeting, following corrections. Motion to approve by Karen Halicki; 2nd Cheryl Sample—Motion carried.

Treasurer: Sally Dennis; Verbal report. Filed for audit. Judy's Catering (Spring Meeting) charged a 20% gratuity for their service. Which they did not tell us when the price was given for the meal. The food was delicious. It was decided that the Fall Meeting meals will be \$15.00.

Correspondence: Thank you from Beth Miglin for Christmas gift.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Bonnie Lanham; No report.

1st Vice President: Karen Halicki; Reminded us of the Biscuit Making lesson on May 20th, Former State President, Jane Chapman will be giving the lesson.

2nd Vice President: Lois Miller; Unable to attend.

Community & Family Issues & CVH: Mary Ann Platt; She will provide all material for "Creative Ideas for Sewing Your Scraps" in July.

Cultural Issues: Cheryl Sample; She will provide more information of upcoming events in a letter to members.

Historian: Carol Ropp; Needs Pictures.

International: Vicky Wooten; Dewitt will be handling the September International Day.

Public Relations: Linda Austin; Needs information for newsletter. Also Spring Meeting .

Extension advisor: Beth Miglin; Told us about the new people in Office. We are glad to have Roxy (front desk) helping us.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Tri County meeting, June 7th. If you are going call Carol Drayton. Starts at 9:30.

Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by; Carol Flitz

Macon County Meeting

June 14, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: President—Bonnie Lanham at 10:05

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Bonnie

HOMEMAKERS AIM: Bonnie

Roll Call: Units 5 Total attendance 10

Secretary: Carol Flitz; Minutes of last meeting, May 10 approved as printed by Cheryl Sample. 2nd Vicky Wooten—Motion carried.

Treasurer: Sally Dennis; Via phone. All bills paid.

Correspondence: We received a thank you from Ashton Williams for the Scholarship she received.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Bonnie Lanham; Judy's Catering no longer Caters out of town, so another caterer will be found for the Fall Meeting.

The District meeting, August 11 was discussed. Each County has been asked to donate various items for the day. We will donate water.

On November 1st at Monticello United Methodist Church-Evening meeting, Mindy will be giving a lesson on Mock Drinks.

Bonnie got lots of good ideas for lessons from the Tri County Meeting.

1st Vice President: Karen Halicki; Suggested that we purchase trays, to be used at our County meetings, so those attending meetings that have difficulty walking can be served. This will be discussed at the next meeting. Remember the 2022 program planning meeting at 9:30, July 12.

2nd Vice President: Lois Miller; Unable to attend.

Community & Family Issues & CVH: Mary Ann Platt; Unable to attend.

Cultural Issues: Cheryl Sample; See her report in upcoming Newsletter.

Historian: Carol Ropp; No report.

International: Vicky Wooten; We will be responsible for the food for the upcoming International day. She & Bonnie will contact Chef Tucker to come up with a menu idea.

Public Relations: Linda Austin; News Newsletter articles are due today. She has lots of information for the upcoming letter.

Extension advisor: Beth Miglin; There are no longer attendance requirements for any of the events.

Volunteer Hours: Karen Cahill

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: Farm Progress will start August 31. Help is needed. Don't forget board meetings will be at 1:00pm July, Oct, & Dec.

Nomination Committee. Karen Balicki will be chairman, Carol Flitz & Vicky Wooten will help.

Adjourned at

Respectfully Submitted by; Carol Flitz

Unit News

District 3 News

Linda Austin

Several of us were able to attend the District 3 meeting in Springfield on August 11. Part of the morning meeting was spent discussing the awards that were to be given at the state conference that was cancelled last spring due to Covid. The County of the Year for a membership over 75 members was Jefferson County in District 5. The County of the Year for memberships under 75 was Fayette County in District 4.

The Family of the Year award was presented to Philip and Linda Bradshaw of Griggsville, Illinois. Mr. Bradshaw gave an inspiring message about the American farmer and volunteerism. He has traveled quite extensively and said that this is the only country that people are most willing to volunteer!

The IAHC board has four positions that need to be filled: second Vice President, Secretary, Cultural Enrichment and Family and Community Issues. If you or anyone you know might be interested in applying for a board position, let Bonnie or another board member know.

Presently the number of members in the state is 4,528 members. We have been challenged by our state President, Angela Hicks, to increase our membership by 100 members in the next three years. You are encouraged to ask family or friends to join us for any of our lessons, small unit meetings, or our county meetings. We really need to increase our membership.

The Country of Study for next year will be Italy. The theme for next year will be "Aspire to Inspire." More information will be coming in future newsletters.

Oakley Unit

We met at Coney McKanes for lunch on July 9. Five members were present with Sandy's daughter, Wendy, as a guest. We discussed ideas for lessons for the coming year. We hope to plan a little trip for the unit before the bad weather sets in.

On August 6th, we met at Napoli's restaurant for a very enjoyable lunch. We discussed upcoming events and filled out the forms for the 2022 lessons. We will meet next month for International Day. We want to offer our condolences to Nancy Flach whose son passed away last month.

Sandy Severe, reporting

Pana Unit

We are on summer break right now so everyone can enjoy vacations, cookouts, and summer activities. We will start again in September. Due to the Labor Day holiday, we will meet the second Monday of September. The lesson will be "Biscuits Now and Then". We hope everyone is enjoying the summer. I would like a lot less humidity! Georgette Merrifield, reporting

Maple Grove Unit

Hooray!! Our club finally got together at the Decatur Club on June 24 for a lunch/meeting. President Carol Ropp led us in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Homemakers' Pledge. The minutes were read from our February 2020 meeting. Karen Cahill corrected the minutes with the correct last name of one of the contributors for the lesson on "scamming". Our unit's treasurer, Judy Wilhelm has moved to another state, so Carol gave the report in her absence.

The first item that we needed to address was the replacement of the treasurer position. Gloria Lowery volunteered to take this position. We collected money for Pennies for Friendship and dues for the year for our unit.

Upon hearing the balance of our treasury, it was decided to give \$50 to the 4-H Foundation. The motion was made by Karen Cahill and seconded by Bev Carmean, motion carried. Other organizations were discussed as possible places to give donations to. The topic was tabled until another meeting as to give members an opportunity to think about where they would like to give a donation.

Those of us who attended the June Lesson with Anthony Peoples, the WAND weatherman, reported on what a great job he did in entertaining and informing us. These upcoming events were highlighted: The pillowcase sewing day on Monday, June 28, the program planning meeting of July 12. Carol mentioned that if you can't make the meeting, but have an idea about future programs, you could call her and let her know, and the July 21 lesson on using your scrap materials for projects.

As comments to end the meeting, Carol mentioned that the Ellaveech Unit is folding, and there may be one member who would like to join our unit. Workers are still needed for the Progress Show. The list of members present were: Dorothy Albert, Karen Cahill, Bev Carmean, Janet Doss, Mary Kay Ennis, Helen Kershaw, Gloria Lowery, Margie Malone, Carol Ropp, and Pam Walker. Our next meeting will be July 22nd at the Decatur Conference Center at 11:30. Meeting adjourned at 1:05.

Twelve of our members met at the Decatur Club for our July 22 meeting. The rollcall was answered by naming their favorite summer activity as a child. After the pledge and homemakers' pledge, the minutes from the June 24 meeting were read. Gloria Lowery gave the treasurer's report.

Carol Ropp handed out the list of possible lessons for the 2022 year. Members are to vote for their top 20 choices, some members turned their form back completed by the end of our meeting. These are due as soon as possible so scheduling can begin.

Members were encouraged to attend the District meeting on August 11 in Springfield at the Southern View Church. Lunch is served, the cost to go is \$25. Workers are still needed for the Progress Show, Aug. 31-Sept.2. Also, in September there is a culinary lesson on Sept. 8, and the international Day on Sept. 15. September 27 will be the last pillowcase sewing day of the year. Our next meeting will be at the Forsyth Park pavilion on Aug. 26 at 11:30. Members are to bring their own sack lunches and a lawn chair. Submitted by Mary Kay Ennis

Rock Springs

Our group did not meet in August due to some of our members going to the District Meeting in Springfield. The September meeting of our unit will be in conjunction with the culinary lesson which will be held at the Extension office. Reporting, Lois Miller

International

Vicki Wooten

Mark your calendars! International Day is coming on September 15! Dewitt County is in charge of the program this year. The event starts with a 9 a.m. registration at our Extension Office in Decatur. As I am sure that you know, Ontario, Canada is our country of study this year. I am hoping that some of you have visited there. You have been there if you have been to the Canadian side of Niagara Falls. They are serving Shepherd's Pie, but you will be putting the ingredients on it that you like. I hope to see a lot of you there!

Unit News Cont.

Mt. Zion

We traveled to Arthur last Wednesday for a lovely meal at Yoders. After lunch, we went to several stores, depending on which car you traveled in. I went to several grocery type stores and to the fabric shop in uptown Arthur. No, I don't have my skirt done that I bought fabric for. I hope to get it done this week.

In September, we will be traveling to Springfield to a Tea Room. I have never been there, so I am looking forward to going.

We are looking for a few new members for our group. Ask your family or friends to join us sometime at our unit meeting.

Vicki Wooten, reporting

Officer's Reports

President

Bonnie Lanham

Hello! Boy, time sure flies! We had a very enjoyable District 3 meeting on August 11. We are looking forward to some new things this next year. We are all encouraged to find new members. I know that it is hard to get the younger set involved but they could start a computer HCE club. They would not have to get out and go to meetings. They are all experienced in computers.

Please sign up for International Day. The caterer will be the Richland Community Culinary School under the supervision of Chef Tucker. The Fall Meeting is coming up and the caterer will also be the Culinary School. HCE week is approaching in October so you will want to call the Extension Office to sign up. Your program book has the lessons that will be offered. We are sorry to say that the River Cruise will not be happening due to the Covid restrictions.

Before you know it, we will be into fall weather, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and a new year. Don't laugh, it really will go fast!

As always, if you have any questions, complaints, or suggestions, please contact me or one of the other board members. Better yet, why don't you consider joining us on one of the positions that are open on the board? We would love to have you join us.

First Vice President

Karen Halicki

Thank you to all of you that attended the planning committee meeting for 2022. We received a lot of good ideas and with the help of Roxy at the Extension Office, we were able to put all of the ideas into a voting sheet to pass out. Please have these voting sheets back by HCE week in October so the committee can get it all put together and find dates and times for everyone that is helping.

Carol Flitz, Vicki Wooten, Lois Miller and I are in charge of finding replacements for the new board members. We are looking for 1st Vice, 2nd Vice, secretary, and International. I started with HCE in 1995 and was on the board in 1996. At the Fall Meeting in 1996, Betty Trebacz had asked me to join the board, I thought why not because my fellow unit member, Sheryl Young, was going off and if I needed anything, she could help. This has been an exciting journey for me. I started as Family Issues, President, Treasurer, and 1st Vice. I also was on the IAHCE state board as Sales and Volunteer Hours person for 3 years. I have been coming to the board meetings as a board member and/or Patchwork representative for 26 years. I feel that it's time to add new members to the board. Please consider being part of the board. You may light it up!!! I know I have, but time slows us down. Let's get new ideas on the board!!!

Second Vice President

Lois Miller

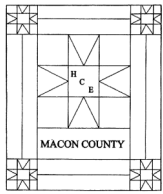
Well, I trust everyone has had a good summer so far. I can't believe it is almost the middle of August now. With the virus going around, the time sometimes seems to drag on, and then if you are retired, like my husband and me, you forget what day or month it is! I will tell you a little about my summer. My three boys and their families have visited here for a week at a time and now, my daughter is here until probably September. We have got a lot of decluttering done. It wasn't much fun except I was doing it with her. I hadn't seen her for a long time because she lives in Europe. My summer seemed to be a summer of expenses with house repairs also. I really enjoy reading about all of your unit meetings in the newsletter. Let's all remember to pray for the California and Greek people who have lost everything in the wildfires. Don't forget about the German people who have lost a lot due to the flooding. Till we can all be together again with HCE, take care of yourselves.

Cultural Enrichment

Cheryl Samples

Even as school buses begin to appear on the road again, there is still some summer yet to come. Events to look forward to enjoying included: Mahomet Musical Festival at the Lake of the Woods (August 27 and 28th), Rock Springs, various Farmer's Markets, Decatur Municipal Band at Fairview Park and Central Park in Decatur, and the Farm Progress Show, August 31-September 2.

In the meantime, I want to remind you of crafts and the enjoyment they bring to our lives. I hope that you are beginning preparations for something to send to Effingham next spring. To me, one of the highlights of the State Conference is seeing the variety of crafts our members enjoy creating. I hope that you are planning to share something that you enjoy with others. Your work can inspire another member to try a new craft. Go to the IAHCE website to view the categories for the Cultural Enrichment competition or call me at 765-426-1420. I am looking forward to seeing your creations.



Macon County Association for
Home & Community Education
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Decatur, Illinois 62521

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