



News & Views

Outagamie County Home and Community Education

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**PUT HCE
BROCHURES IN
YOUR LOCAL
LIBRARY**

President's Letter

Hello,

Labor Day will be here soon and fall is just around the corner. The summer has just flown by and I hope you had a good summer and your gardens are doing fine. My rotator cuff surgery in July ended my gardening for this summer. Thanks to those of you who sent cards, emails, phone calls and rides to meetings; I really appreciated it.

This year's fair booth focused on "Pennies for Friendship." We were told there was a lot of interest. An article was put in the paper with contact information for both the Wisconsin/Nicaragua Projects and HCE. I would like to thank the fair booth committee for all of your efforts.

Several of us are attending the State Conference, Sept. 14-16 that is being held in Superior, Wisconsin. I'm really looking forward to this as we always come back with a lot of new ideas.

Our planning for 2010 starts in October and if you have ideas for programs, please present to Linda Biese, President or Shirley Krull, Coordinator of Programs by our Executive Board meeting, Sept. 21. Also, our Nominating Committee will present the nomination for new officers at the Sept. 21 Executive Board meeting. We will vote and officers will be sworn in at our fall association meeting.

Scholarship application information will be sent out in September so your applicants have ample time to get them in before the March 15th deadline. Please encourage them to give themselves enough time.

Please continue to work on your prayer shawls. We will have them blessed in November and distribute them after that. Thanks for your efforts.

"To get something you never had, you have to do something you never did. There are three ingredients to a good life: learning, earning, and yearning."

My grandma always said, "If you do not learn one thing new every day, your day is wasted."

Have a great fall!

Linda K. Biese

Linda K. Biese
HCE President

Advisor's Letter

Dear HCE members,

Each one of us is unique. We have unique qualities, strengths and things we can work on. The “things we can work on” make us humbler human beings. When we focus on our strengths, we often also build on our weaknesses—our weaknesses are the “humble” part about us. Some of us are artistic with sewing and quilting talents. Some of you have the ability to take many different types of fabrics and put the fabric together into a design that always amazes me. Some of you look in your cupboard and see dinner; others of us look in the cupboard and see food and seek out recipes and directions to create what others just simply create. Some of us gently hold the hand of a loved one, a child, or a grandchild to help guide them through a challenging time.

We share our wisdom in quiet conversations across the kitchen table, in our numerous car trips and carpooling and sometimes, when the opportunity comes up—in group meetings. Sharing your unique talents and gifts with others makes us stronger individuals. Thank you for sharing your talents and time with others in so many ways through your HCE activities.

Sincerely,

Karen M. Bickrell

Family Living Educator/Department Head



Calendar of Events

Sept. 1	1:00 p.m.	Food Safety Update, What's in the News, UW-Extension, Brewster St.
Sept. 14-16		WAHCE State Meeting, Barker's Island Inn at Superior
Sept. 21	11:30 a.m.	HCE Potluck Picnic, UW-Extension, Brewster St.
Sept. 25		Newsletter deadline
Oct. 1		Fall HCE District Meeting, Sheboygan County Hosting, Ebenezer United Church of Christ, Sheboygan
Oct. 6	11:00 a.m.	Newsletter Committee meeting.
Oct. 6	1:00 p.m.	Cleaning Green, UW-Extension, Brewster St.
Oct. 26	5:30 p.m.	Fall Association Meeting, Greenville hosting UW-Extension, Brewster St.
Oct. 29		Pre-register for Energy Savings Leader Training
Nov. 1-7		WAHCE week
Nov. 5	1:00 p.m.	Energy Savings, presented by staff from "Focus on Energy" UW-Extension, Brewster St.

Announcements

All committee chairs were asked to find a co-chair to be put into the program book. Please get these names to one of the Program Book committee members.

Scholarship applications will be mailed to the club presidents the first week of September.

Members at large can contact the Extension office or Linda Biese our county president.

Leader Training

Food Safety Update
What's in the News?

Tuesday, September 1, 2009

1:00 p.m.

UW-Extension, Brewster Street

Our current County Extension needs assessment cited, "Consumer Confidence in the Food Supply Chain" as a key topic for UW-Extension to address. Last year we studied what is new in food preservation and current practices. This year the program planning team proposed that we look at the general food safety updates. Every time we turn around it seems that there are some new concerns about our food supply; what to eat, what not to eat; what to use for storage containers. Learn what is new in food safety and we'll all be better safe than sorry! Karen Dickrell will lead the training.

Save the following date:

Joy Conference
February 6, 2010



Education



Wisconsin Bookworms™

Outagamie County Wisconsin Bookworms™ is getting ready for the 2009-2010 school year. The books have been ordered for 315 children at all the six Head Starts in our county. We still read and give books to children at these Head Starts: Fox (68 children—this location may change), St. Bernadette's (50 children), Plamann (51 children), Kaukauna (34 children), Seymour (29 children), and Oneida Nations (83 children).

Would you like to be a reader or a substitute reader? It looks like 12 reading spots in the morning and three in the afternoon will be available. If you want to become a reader, please call Marcie Surprise 757-5407 to get on the mailing list and you will be sent out the paper work required by UW Oshkosh Head Start. Letters will be sent out to all present readers and the new ones by August 24. We will start reading the 2nd week of October.

The Wisconsin Bookworms™ county coordinators are Marcie Surprise and Ruth Biese. The coordinators put a lot of time in running the book program and here are some opportunities of how you can help: sending letters to businesses, clubs, organizations and writing grants. There is also help needed counting books, putting sponsor's label in books and delivering books to the Head Starts. Contact Marcie or Ruth if you can help. I want to thank everyone who has helped with our program and raising funds for the books. I want to thank Judy Asman and Denise VanderZanden for helping me write a grant on the web, put labels in books and delivering them

A check was received from Oneida Nations to pay for 83 sets of books for their five Head Start classes.

I spoke to the Appleton Golden K Kiwanis club in Appleton about Wisconsin Bookworms™ and was given a check for \$400. For the past nine years the Gold K Kiwanis have given \$2,500 to our book program. We received a check for \$500 from Catholic Knights Branch 197 for matching funds on the quilt raffle.

Wisconsin Bookworms™ County Coordinators
Marcie Surprise
Ruth Biese

Membership

In memory of
Elinore Greve, past member of Willow Hill

In memoriam

We mourn the passing our long-time member, Mary Paltzer. Mary was a member of the Holiday Club since 1948. She was a dear friend and lives on in our hearts and memories.

There are no new members to welcome at this time.

Other



This year the fair booth for Outagamie County Home and Community Education (HCE) was focused on “Pennies for Friendship”. We had a world map which showed all the places our pennies go. To show the “Power of a Penny”, our latest efforts were to fund a well in Mbezi, Tanzania. This well benefits 100 families. It provides safe water for cooking and drinking. This in turn has improved their health and, therefore, they need less medical attention.

HCE is involved with the Partners of The American’s, Inc. in the Wisconsin/Nicaragua program. Our members collect sewing items such as light weight fabric in one-yard or larger pieces, thread, needles, old sewing machines, any miscellaneous sewing item. These are then sorted and sent to Nicaragua. The sewing machines are all gone through and in working condition when sent. The Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners and Wisconsin communities have supported the Sewing Center project for 30 years. There are now over 60 sewing centers. These dolls’ dresses and other new products provide transferable skills to Nicaraguan women and income for families of scarce financial resources. The dolls and dresses on display were made by the Nicaraguan women.

There are many other program areas. If you are interested in getting involved contact: Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners, Room 215, Nelson Hall, UW-SP, Stevens Point, WI 54481, phone (715) 346-4702. E-mail: SBOWEN@UWSP.EDU. To learn more about HCE contact Outagamie UW Cooperative Extension Service, 3365 W. Brewster Street, Appleton WI 54914, phone (920) 832-5121, website: www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/outagamie.

Feature Club Articles

Never Idle by Mary Hribal

Never Idle went to work on the HCE community service project of making and donating prayer shawls. They may be knitted, crocheted or quilted. We decided to quilt.

Despite the fact that it was a cruel winter, two days were set for those who could gather together to initiate this project. Storm after storm came with fierce and harsh winds, snow and ice coated roads and walkways making travel hazardous. Not to be deterred, however, members of Never Idle sallied forth with bag lunches in-hand to cut blocks of fabric for quilted prayer shawls. They met at Marcie Suprise's home. Each member was able to choose a pattern and color that she felt would personalize a prayer shawl. A kaleidoscope of color and pattern emerged. Ducks in earth tones of green and brown was one choice. Another featured an eagle in cool grays and blues. A green and dusty rose floral print, plus another one of pink roses and royal blue took to the scissors. A log cabin pattern was to emerge with calico colors. One member favored a star in browns, rust and green

gingham. While a lovely burgundy wine with pink, white and blue flowers took the eye of yet another member. Marcie sewed the blocks together that would be tied another day. This is an ongoing project made with love and prayers for those needing to be remembered in our thoughts and prayers.

This was especially brought home when three additional prayer shawls in soft pastels were presented to local women who are our friends and neighbors. They were really touched to know that love, prayers and healing thoughts were represented in every stitch.

Finally, winter waned and spring arrived. At the spring banquet in May, Gail Bohman received a pin for her 50 years as an HCE member and Marcie Suprise received her pin for 25 years of members. The camaraderie of the evening culminated in drawing the raffle tickets. It was a lucky evening for Never Idle members as Laura Tews was the winner of the exquisite queen-sized quilt, while Jean Rew won the throw.

Holiday Club by Ila Abitz and Helen McMahon

Colors!!



Mother Nature gave us a lovely display of colors this spring and summer. This fall we will be feasting our eyes on the changing color of the leaves on different trees: bright reds, yellows, orange with the burgundy of the sumacs.

Our club decided we would learn a lot from a box of crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty, some are dull. Some have weird names and all are different colors. But they all learned to live in the same box.

The colors of nature mimic the colors in the crayon box. Let us all learn to live together in peace in our world.

Clean Ideas: End-of-Summer Cleanup: Tips for getting things ready for storage



Source: SDA-Soap and Detergent Association

Before you get caught up in all the back-to-school activities, spend some end-of-summer time returning items to their best possible state before you store them away. This will prove to be a time saver when you want to use them again next spring.

- **Musty beach towels:** Launder, using the hottest water that's safe for the fabric. Add a small amount of fabric softener to the final rinse. Machine-dry thoroughly.
- **Sandy sleeping bag:** Turn the bag inside out. If the sand is damp, let the bag air out until the sand is dry. Shake the bag to remove as much loose sand as possible; then brush or vacuum away the remaining residue. If the bag is soiled, clean according to the sleeping bag's care label instructions.
- **Muddy tennis shoes:** Let the mud dry completely. Then take the shoes outside and bang the soles together to remove as much of the dried mud as possible. Using a solution of warm water and hand dishwashing liquid and an old toothbrush, scrub gently to remove the remaining dirt. For stubborn dirt marks, scrub with a nylon pad. Wipe with a damp sponge or damp paper towels. Stuff the tennis shoes with clean paper towels and let them air-dry.
- **Grungy plastic tablecloths:** A wipe-down with a soapy sponge may clean the top of the tablecloth, but not the flannel backing. To clean the whole thing, machine-wash, using the gentle cycle. Machine-dry on the delicate cycle for about 15 minutes. This is just enough time to remove the creases caused by chine washing, but not long enough to harm the vinyl. If the cloth is still damp, line-dry.
- **Grubby molded-resin outdoor furniture:** Clean with mild detergent and water. Avoid abrasive powders, chlorine bleaches and silicone cleaners.
- **Soiled outdoor cushions:** Acrylic, polyester and cotton fabrics should be spot-cleaned by sponging with a solution of liquid dishwashing detergent and lukewarm water. Rinse with clear water and air-dry.
- **Dirty plastic pool toys:** Mix $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of chlorine bleach per gallon of warm water. "Soak the prewashed toys for five minutes. Rinse and then air-dry. If the toys aren't used during the winter, store them in a closed container so they'll stay clean and dust-free.

