
Speakers - 2018 NVON Conference



Wisconsin Night Speaker: Rochelle Pennington

Rochelle is an award-winning newspaper columnist and author of ten books including *Highlighted in Yellow* (available in four languages), *The Christmas Tree Ship*, *The Historic Christmas Tree Ship* (as featured on national television), *An Old-Fashioned Christmas* (2009 Midwest Booksellers Choice Award nomination for outstanding non-fiction), and more.

Her work has been included in several bestselling series including *Chicken Soup for the Soul* and *Don't Sweat the Small Stuff*. Pennington resides in Wisconsin with her husband of thirty-four years. They have two grown children and three grandchildren "so far."



Tuesday Luncheon Speaker: Karen Dickrell

Karen began her work with UW-Extension in 1985 as the Extension Home Economist in Kewaunee County. She then moved to Outagamie County UW-Extension in 1990 to become the Family Living Educator and has now achieved the rank of Professor of Family Development. She received her bachelor's degree in Home Economics Education with certification in Special Needs and Family and Child Development and her master's degree in Home Economics/Family and Consumer Sciences from UW-Stout. Karen teaches a wide range of topics including, food preservation and safety, family resiliency, financial management, strategic planning, works with the Caregiver Coalition, Hortonville Aging Task Force and other outreach programs. She is an advisor to the Outagamie County Home and Community Education Association. Annually she has led the Joy Conference

planning committee. Karen is an educator with the monthly *Children Caught in the Middle* classes taught with the Family Court Mediators.



Tuesday Night Speaker: Michelle (Shelley) Tidemann

Shelley has been an Extension Educator for 34 years, 4 years with the South Dakota Cooperative Extension Service and 30 years with University of Wisconsin-Extension. Shelley serves Fond du Lac County and holds the following positions: Family Living Educator and State WAHCE Liaison. Major programming focus includes: financial literacy education, tenant/landlord housing education, family strengthening education and leadership education. Shelley holds a BS in Home Economics Education and a MS in Curriculum and Supervision: emphasis on Adult Education/Supervision. She and her husband Fred have 2 sons: Krieg 27 and Cole 23. Shelley enjoys watching NCAA basketball, quilting and walking.



Wednesday Night Entertainment: Jessica Michna

Mrs. Michna, recipient of the Presidential Service Center's Distinguished Service Award, is widely known for her riveting portrayals of First Ladies, notable women of history and fictitious characters. She has entertained groups throughout America including guests from as far away as New Zealand, Japan and Brazil. Audiences ranging from young children to senior citizens have been equally enthralled. She has appeared before historical societies, schools, libraries, living history museums, senior centers, churches and has been guest hostess at parties and weddings. Mrs. Michna's performances are compelling and emotionally enthralling. Audiences laugh along with her humorous anecdotes. They share in her tears as she relates how the horrors of war have

impacted families. She has a powerful effect on an audience.
