



National Volunteer Outreach Network VISION

Thoughts from President Stephanie Jerabek

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 3

NOVEMBER 2020

Special Points of Interest:

- President's Message
- NVON 2020 Business Meeting Summary
- 25 Year Anniversary Pin Form
- Meet Your New Officers
- Project In Common Updates
- State Dues Notice

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Recently, I was reminded, yet again, of the fragility of life. A woman from my church passed away very unexpectedly. She was fifty-nine years old and, until the day she died, she showed no signs of illness or disease. She was an elementary school teacher and had been for 29 years. She had touched hundreds of children's lives with her lessons over the years but it was how she touched their hearts that they will remember her the most. She also touched the lives and hearts of many others, as well.

She was what some would call a "free spirit." She followed the rules that were laid out for all to follow, but she put her own twist on everything. Her dress was "bohemian modern," with shirts that flowed and leggings and socks that looked like they had been ordered from a Dr. Seuss catalog. She was not beyond having a feather or a strip of color in her grveled, white straight hair. She had the appearance of a woodland sprite, who floated in like Tinkerbell and spread fairy dust everywhere to add fun and frivolity to the matters at hand. She did it with a twinkle in her eye and a smile on her lips. She made you want to jump or skip or wave your arms to the rhythm of the music that only you and she could hear in her presence. She loved to walk on the trails in the nature preserve behind her house. I often thought that she was the kind of person whom the forest animals would come up to and have conversations with and do things for her like the ones in the Cinderella movie. Her personality was that magical.

Although we weren't close friends, we did interact with each other at church and had worked together at school. I had taught lessons to her students and had worked with her on other school activities. She loved when I made cookies for church and told me which ones were her guilty pleasure. I admired her for her free-spirit attitude and her ability to look beyond the restrictions and see the possibilities. When I looked at her, I saw the openness and generosity to the human condition through her eyes. I never heard a cross or critical word from her lips and I long for the ability to act without the inhibitions that my own personality presents.

Many in our community are grieving because of her death. Her husband and grown sons. Her church community. Her school community. She was a daily customer at Starbucks. The local Starbucks offered to serve iced coffee and brownies, her usual order, in her honor at our church service on Sunday. The employees at the department store where she worked part-time. She was such a presence there that other stores are sending employees to cover shifts so that her coworkers can attend her funeral.

Her family has planned to share her one last time with the greater community with an open air gathering at the church that she loved. Their wishes for memorials are for folks to give random acts of kindness to others they encounter. That truly reflects how she lived. Giving of herself to her family, her church and her school family and the greater community.

My favorite refrigerator magnet philosophy reflects her life greatly, "Well behaved women rarely make history." She, indeed, made history in our community. Rest in joyful peace, my friend. I hope that you too, like her, can Make a Difference in your part of the world, as well.



Stephanie Jerabek, NVON President



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MAKING A DIFFERENCE



Am I the only one who feels like I've been a bear in hibernation since March? It has been so nice that some things have started to open up in our community since the Covid shutdowns began. Meetings are starting up in person again and programs are being offered with social distancing and virtual options. Some community activities have begun again near us. Kids have gone back to school and churches are holding indoor services.

The needs in our communities are even greater. Some jobs are gone and won't be returning. Expectations from food banks and other social services offering assistance will increase. Students are back in school. Many teachers use their own funds to pay for school supplies for their classrooms and their students. Teachers are tasked with more teaching expectations than ever. There are many opportunities in our communities to help and to heal.

Make a Difference Day was created in 1992 by USA WEEKEND magazine and joined by Points of Light. Together they sponsored the largest national day of community service for more than twenty years. *Make A Difference Day* is an unofficial secular holiday or observance that emphasizes community service and volunteerism. This year *Make a Difference Day* is celebrated on October 24.

Every year, millions of people across the United States volunteer and perform projects for their community, for individuals in need and for charitable organizations. While the founding organizations no longer

support *Make a Difference Day*, the observance still impacts communities around the country. Volunteers and organizations have taken up the banner to help their communities in ways that best fit their needs.

People who observe this day perform some form of service for either their communities or for others in need. Some of the activities which have been performed on this day include painting at a local school, cleaning out the animal cages of a zoo, building community playgrounds, and cleaning parks. Many volunteers get together to raise funds for all kinds of charities or specific charitable purposes.

Make A Difference Day is a great way for individuals to give something back to the communities they live and/or work in. People who want to participate on this day can do so by picking an area of need that exists in a community and fixing that need. It's not only a great way to give back, but is also an opportunity for all of us to improve our communities.

My challenge to you:

DO SOMETHING to MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

It doesn't need to be large, cost a lot of money or even be recognized by the multitudes. Even small acts make a difference in someone's life.

Stephanie Jerabek, NVON President

NVON 2020 Business Meeting Summary



Pat Weitzmann, NVON Secretary

Across two time zones and in multiple locations the annual business of NVON was conducted electronically via Zoom on October 20, 2020. With the 2020 NVON Conference cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic there was still essential yearly business to attend to including financial reports, committee reports, member states reports, year 2021 budget, election of officers and future items.

All participants received copies of reports, proposed budget and the credentials of nominees for election electronically in advance. Representatives of each member state attended the meeting. The total membership of NVON was reported as 37,117 by Joyce Kluttz, Vice President.

Karen Bell Fox, immediate Past President of Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council, was elected NVON Vice President 2021-2023. Nancy Jo Prue of Indiana Extension Homemakers Association was elected to a second term as NVON Treasurer 2021-2023.

Nancy Jo Prue gave a positive Financial Report. The Year 2021 Proposed Budget was accepted.

Joyce Kluttz encouraged member states to use virtual technology like Zoom and Google Meet platforms in efforts to get new members. As promotion she encouraged putting logos on any Covid-19 masks your organization might make. KEHA has been doing this.

Pat Breznay, Chair of the 'Water Around The World' project reported 192 water filters with buckets will be delivered to Nicaragua in November through the efforts of Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners. The NVON Water Around the World Committee will finalize the termination on December 31, 2020 of the very successful WATW Project.

NVON is considering submission of a Resolution/ Recommendation to Associated Country Women of the World for the 2022 ACWW Triennial Conference. Pat Weitzmann, NVON Secretary will coordinate this.

Karen Hill, President of Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association, reported they are actively working on the 2021 NVON Conference they are hosting with a theme of 'Be The Sunshine-Make A Difference'.

Stephanie Jerabek NVON President and Pam Hanfland NVON Webmaster organized this virtual business meeting.

Please visit the nvon.org website for the actual State Reports.

Financial Review Venue – Not Typical

Pat Weitzmann, Secretary



The NVON financial review this year was changed COVID-19 pandemic style. Typically the Financial Review Committee, consisting of the NVON Secretary as chairperson and two assigned State Presidents, meets at the NVON Annual Conference site to perform the financial records review/audit. The NVON Treasurer brings the financial records and is present to answer any questions during the audit. With the NVON Conference in South Carolina cancelled and pandemic restrictions in place, the Committee meeting in person was problematic. Alternate arrangements were made.



Donna Zarvoy, WAHCE President and Sandy Henke, IAHCE's Lake County HCE Treasurer, met at NVON Secretary Pat Weitzmann's home in Antioch, Illinois to perform the audit. It was only 25 minutes travel time one way. NVON Secretary Nancy Jo Prue prepared and sent a very professional packet of financial records to Pat's home in advance. Nancy Jo was available by phone during the audit. Donna, Sandy and Pat all wore protective masks. Pat's dining room table 'Gave It Up for COVID-19'. It was transformed for a socially distanced financial audit.



ARKANSAS EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS COUNCIL

Cheryl Stewart, President



In July 2019 Arkansas was immensely proud to host the NVON 21st Annual Conference in Springdale Arkansas, "Today's Woman Striving to Strengthen Her Community". We had 6 exciting tours to offer. The Walmart Museum, Compton Gardens, Springdale AR/MO Railroad, the Peel Mansion, Crystal Bridges Museum, and the Native

American History Museum. We had several Craft Classes, where we were able to make Wool Dryer Balls, a Beaded Serving Spoon, a Flower Garden Quilt Piece, a Scarf Necklace, and the most popular and best smelling was an Insta Pot Demonstration. The whole wing smelled delish! The Education Classes offered a variety of options, from Essential Oils to Chair Yoga.

At our 3 District Rallies in October, we had a theme of "We Nourish Arkansas Roots". The speakers were from the Arkansas Food Bank and they expanded on the need for our Extension ladies to learn about Food Insecurity in our state. We also honored our 25-year members, by giving them a pin and a certificate.

In February of 2019, Arkansas held a Strategic Meeting facilitated by Professor Karen Ballad and Assistant Professor Julie Robinson. The focus was, to break into small groups and come up with Ideals, Communication, Leadership and Accountability. Then coming back together to a whole group to discuss what we had learned.

In March, just a day or so before our world as we knew it changed. We had our annual Spring Educational Workshop in Ferndale.

"Working Together Today for a Better Tomorrow". We broke out into 8 concurrent sessions to allow our members to learn about the duties for the offices they hold. We also had two guest speakers, Emily Smith and Debra Joyner explain to us the importance of reporting our 2020 Census on April 1st.

Arkansas Extension Homemakers rallied to the call for masks across the state. Over 4000 masks have been made so far!

April 25th was our statewide Food Insecurity Day. With the Corona 19 Virus however, we had to rethink our plan of collecting food. So, instead of our ladies collecting food in our neighborhoods, we decided to donate food to our local food banks. Then were to report our donation and volunteer hours to our state Food Insecurity Chairman. In just 5775 hours, Arkansas Extension Homemakers donated around 30,700 meals for families across Arkansas.

Sadly, we had to postpone our annual state meeting until August 12th and 13th due to the Corina Virus. We had to shorten our meeting to a half day to "work" and one full day to have an abbreviated but effective meeting.

Our State Meeting was a great success! We adapted and over came the difficulties!



ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION FOR HOME & COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Jane Chapman, President



"I cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples," Mother Teresa.

I hope during the past five years that I have served as the IAHCE President that I have caused a few ripples; a few big waves and I hope to create a tsunami in this last year

of my term as state president. My theme the first three years of serving as president was on teamwork and how much easier it is to accomplish a goal through teamwork. One definition of teamwork is a group of people who believe in and are committed to the value of working together to achieve a common goal in a spirit of cooperation where information is shared and decisions are mutually decided upon. Teams accomplish goals which individuals cannot accomplish on their own. We carried this theme forward by encouraging counties to work as a team and not as individuals when it comes to decision making, lessons, and securing new members. The main underlying purpose of the state board is to encourage new members, for without new members we have no organization.

The beginning of my second term I chose "change" as my theme. We either change as an organization or die! Change to many is like saying a bad four-letter word but not to me. I embrace change as a challenge and jump in head first to adapt to change or make changes.

As an organization we were stagnating and losing ground so I knew we had to start reassessing what we needed to do to survive and flourish as an organization. We as a board knew that the Biggest obstacle to overcome was changing the mindset of the membership because change removes one from their comfort zone and creates more of a challenge to an individual.

So, we started this change process by realigning the districts. The Districts were realigned and a District Director was eliminated thus saving money which is an issue when membership drops. We had a change of focus to the positive side of membership, as we now emphasize more on the new members each county secured over the past year rather than the losses. We also have become more accessible to the membership, letting them know that if they need help, we are there! Fun has been reinstated into the annual conference and into our counties. A joke now and then is okay! Laughter is good for everyone!

Oh, by the way, do you know why cows have hooves? They lactose! Sorry couldn't help inserting a little humor there!

A year ago, we encouraged the counties to try new events, to introduce people to new ideas, and not to just do the programs that have been done for the last thirty years or more. Several counties did create new activities and service projects which they noted on

their service project reports. One county had a grand total of \$7,292.00 worth of service projects in 2019! Some of the new projects mentioned were a museum display on "Honor of Home", over 700 sanitary pads sent to 3rd world countries and \$300 worth of books given to a high school English class.

Other projects completed by the IAHCE membership include; bras to "Women Support Women", appreciation lunches for local Extension office personnel, numerous times first responders were honored, 2000 pounds of food to food pantries, \$7,200 scholarship were given, and over \$6,500 worth of other donations. These donations are in addition to the great donation to the ACWW thru Pennies for Friendship of \$9,427.00, and the Water bottle project money of over \$8,000! We have continued with the dime collection this current year and sharing the collection with the Feed Illinois food banks and other portion to ACWW.

The IAHCE was gracious enough to allow me to attend the ACWW Triennial in Australia last year and present a resolution on "iron deficiency". The resolution was adopted by the ACWW for part of their focus over the next three years. Illinois has taken hold of this and presented many programs on iron deficiency at health fairs, county meetings, district meetings, and have even prepared a book about iron deficiency. The other USA resolution adopted at the Triennial on "pollinators" has been promoted immensely throughout our membership, too.

As we go forward, we want you to know that we will do whatever it takes to keep the IAHCE organization strong, prospering, and growing but we are a team so the membership must help. What was needed years ago as far as having a successful family life, strong community service, leadership skills, and a purpose in life has not changed even in this day and age. Everyone still has all those needs but in order to fulfill those needs you must approach it differently today than how those needs were approached several years ago. "If we don't change, we don't grow. If we don't grow, we aren't living." a quote by Gail Sheehy.

L R Knost once said, "Do not be dismayed by the brokenness of the world. All things break. All things can be mended. Not with time, but with intention. So, go. Love intentionally, extravagantly, unconditionally. The broken world waits in darkness for the light that is you."

So, we hope to create a tsunami this next year! So, to go along with our theme for 2020 – "Power of the Past, Beacon to the

Future" we asked everyone to "Go Shine Your Beacon for HCE", and to embrace the need for change with much intention!



INDIANA EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION

Anne Moore, President



Greetings from Indiana! The 2019-2020 year started on a smooth and well-planned journey, abruptly hit some rough seas (Covid-19 pandemic), which thrust us into uncharted waters.

IEHA was forced to adapt in many ways to continue the mission of “Strengthening Families”. State President, Anne Moore’s theme “Embracing Change to Meet Tomorrow’s Challenges.” certainly rang true this year as many events and activities had to be postponed or cancelled. Most notably the CWC USA Area Conference, scheduled in Indianapolis fall of 2020. The safety of our members and guests was a top priority in this decision. Anne’s pin design and theme referenced to the art of sailing by using two logo designs, one for the member pin and one for print media. The design for print media has IEHA logo surrounded by the theme and a circle of anchors and sailboats bounds the design. Urging members to “stay anchored by our roots and traditions but embrace change as we move forward like a sailor adapts to the changing winds” thus making IEHA grow and thrive as an organization.

Indiana Extension Homemakers Association is comprised of ten districts, 84 counties, 626 clubs, and 201 mailbox members with total membership of 7184. Two goals were set by the State President to address the problem of declining membership; 1) try to add one new club per county, which could potentially add around 400 new members. 2) try to gain an IEHA presence in the 8 counties that do not currently have any clubs. These goals were diligently worked on and will continue throughout the next year. Progress was made but still have a long way to go. We encouraged local clubs and counties to work on the NVON Project in Common, Double Your Influence, Add 2.

L.O.V.E of Families, started this year to give clubs, counties, and districts a framework for the year’s programming. L-literacy O-Opioid Abuse Awareness V-Volunteerism E-Education. Clubs could choose to work on any of the topics or all four, totally voluntary. Participants were asked to contact a local news source and share what was done, hoping collaboration with other groups interested in the same areas of focus could work together for a common cause.



Opioid Abuse Awareness was focus of spring meetings. Speakers enlightened us to the seriousness of the opioid problem, what was being done to combat the problem, and made us all more aware of recognizing the signs of opioid addiction and ways to help. Plans are to continue talking about this at the spring 2021 district meetings.

The idea for IEHA to help ease Hoosier hunger was generated from our Volunteer Community Support Focus Group. “Pastabilities” was started; attendees to our Home and Family Conference and district meetings were asked to bring boxes of pasta to donate to Second Helpings, a non-profit that addresses Food Rescue, Hunger Relief, and Culinary Job Training, to reach the goal of 1,000 boxes of pasta. We decided to continue receiving donations for another year.

IEHA continues many state sponsored programs. An extremely popular program lauded by teachers, parents, and volunteer readers is Our First Books for Kids and is beginning its 21st year. Volunteers read age appropriate books to preschool or kindergarten age children, leave a copy of the book in the classroom or supply a book per child to be taken home. Members support Riley Children’s Hospital by donating toys, making puppy pillows, tote bags, pillowcases, and fleece blankets, and making comfort shawls for the “Threads of Compassion” program for the Indiana Donor Network. The shawls are given to the families who have lost a loved one and who’s loved one donated tissue or organs to the living.

Our leadership training program, i-LEaD (Indiana Leadership, Education, and Development) is offered annually and consists of three levels. We are immensely proud of and “thank you” to two of our members who have assumed leadership roles in NVON; Stephanie Jerabek, NVON President, and Nancy Jo Prue, NVON Treasurer.

This year has been a year of challenges but IEHA members have “EMBRACED” those challenges and now are “ACCEPTING” those.

Judy Furr served as NVON Secretary 2008-2010.
Judy passed away on August 2, 2020.
Please keep Judy's family in your thoughts and prayers.



KENTUCKY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS ASSOCIATION

Karen Hill, President



I cannot believe that it has almost been a year since I was installed as the KEHA President. What a year full of exciting adventures and learning opportunities! I have received so much encouragement and support from members across this great state and have made so many new friends. I am learning things each day and enjoying being on this winning team!

Who would have thought that just a few days after our 2020 Spring Board Meeting that a global pandemic would strike and change our lives causing us to cancel pretty much everything including our State Meeting. I think this was the first time that has happened. I appreciate so much the understanding and kind words from everyone during this difficult time. I also want to thank our Executive Committee and Kim Henken for having virtual meetings and having to make decisions that none of us would have ever anticipated.

I have so enjoyed traveling across our beautiful state, visiting areas, and meeting enthusiastic homemakers who never cease to amaze me with their skills and zest for what they do.

In July 2019, I traveled to Bardstown for the annual transition board meeting where out-going officers shared their wisdom with the new officers. This is always a great experience. Then I headed to Grayson County to meet with the Leadership Academy Team to work out details of the Leadership Academy held in March 2020. What a great event this was! Next, I was honored to be one of the Kentucky delegates to the NVON Conference held in Springdale, Arkansas. The theme for this meeting was "Learning, Leading, Serving: Today's Woman-Striving to Strengthen Her Community". I learned so much from their classes and workshops. We were also honored to share information about hosting this conference in July of 2021 with the theme of "Be the Sunshine-Make a Difference".

In August 2019, the Bluegrass Area invited me to speak at their Leadership Training in Lexington so off I went. I was welcomed with open arms and greeted with such enthusiasm about the new year. They have a great event to train their officers and chairmen. In August I also attended the Kentucky State Extension Advisory Council where I was privileged to meet Dr. Laura Stephenson who brings so much enthusiasm to the job as Director of Extension for the University of Kentucky. She is such a great asset to Extension, and I am looking forward to working with her.

In August I was also invited to attend the Master Farm Homemaker Guild's meeting in Meade County. We had so much fun working side by side with other homemakers helping at this event. Who knew hard work could be so much fun?

In September 2019, I attended the dedication ceremony for the 2020 Census Quilt at the National Quilt Museum in Paducah. It was such an honor to represent KEHA in dedicating this beautiful quilt created by our members. This project showcased our tenets of education, leadership, and service. The quilt is an example of teamwork and achieving a common goal.



In September and October 2019, I was very busy, representing KEHA at Area Meetings. I traveled from Purchase Area in the far west to Wilderness Trail in the southeast. I learned so much at each meeting, looked at beautiful Cultural Arts entries and heard great speakers. I took many ideas to incorporate in my home area. We have so many talented members who do so much good across the state and I enjoyed meeting many of them. I was welcomed with open arms at every meeting.

In November 2019, I attended the University of Kentucky Scholarship Luncheon in Lexington where I met the KEHA Scholarship recipient and her family. She was the keynote speaker that day and is such a bright young lady. I was excited that she was a Dietetics major like myself, so we had plenty to talk about. I also brought greetings from KEHA to the KEAFCS annual meeting in Lexington where I heard exciting things from agents across Kentucky.

In 2019 I was honored to serve as a representative of the Kentucky State Extension Advisory Council on the selection committee for the Western Regional Director for Extension. It was an informative and interesting process and I was honored to represent Extension leaders like our KEHA members.

In February 2020, I participated in the Kentucky State Extension Advisory Council Winter Meeting and continued to learn even more about Extension and what is in store for our future.

I participated in the first KEHA Leadership Academy held at Blue Licks Battlefield State Park in early March 2020. What a great program to educate and train leaders to carry KEHA into the future. These enthusiastic participants make the future of KEHA look strong!

My plans for KEHA - A Winning Team included 3 main points. The first is **Leadership Development, Training, Member Recruitment and Retention**. We are always looking for ways to Grow Our Membership!

As you can see, my first year was one of learning and meeting many members across the state. I cannot wait to continue this journey of learning from so many of our talented, amazing members.

MICHIGAN COMMUNITY EDUCATION OUTREACH

Sherri Drake, President



Since the year started, MCEO continued our Transition from our former organization to the Current one. Michigan will continue in that mode for the entire year.

At the beginning of the year we were in contact with NVON to see if MCEO would be able to join. Paperwork was gathered and sent to President Stephanie Jerabek. We received NVON's acceptance of membership.

The By-Laws of MCEO were completed so that we could send for our annual raffle license. Our annual raffle is our major source of revenue other than dues. Unfortunately, the raffle was cancelled due to the coronavirus.

I attended two planning sessions for our 2020 convention scheduled for October in Bay City, Michigan. Good progress in planning was made until the committee encountered roadblocks and then had to cancel the convention. The same committee will continue for a 2021 convention at the same venue, however the dates are in September for next year.

We have always contributed to ACWW's projects. In May MCEO sent \$494.26 to NVON for WATER AROUND THE WORLD for water filters.



In May our five District Meetings were cancelled this year. Directors are from the West Upper Peninsula, North Central, East Central, Southwest and Southeast. Normally, our Vice-President of Education and President attend each of the District Meetings annually. The programs and meeting topics are informative and very enjoyable.

Volunteer efforts have been limited this year. Groups made masks for various causes. Shorts were made and supplies were provided to a Wellness Camp in the Upper Peninsula. Donations were made to Books for Kids, pregnancy centers, Well Spring Lutheran foster care, veterans' organizations and hospice. Some sat on Election Boards for the 2 primaries and will work on Election Day in November also. We are looking at other opportunities for all members to work on.

NORTH CAROLINA EXTENSION AND COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Shelby Ford, President



North Carolina Extension & Community Association (NCECA) has 151 clubs, 1,852 members, 12 Lifetime members and 12 Emeritus members. Several of our clubs are special interest clubs.

Our NCECA is divided into five districts across our state. Each of our districts has a special annual meeting so that members from the various counties in the district can come together as one. This is a time of business, educational speakers, updates from the state ECA, cultural arts exhibits and judging of cultural arts. The themes for the District annual meetings are quite different. This is also a great time of fellowship.

The Dinah E. Gore Teaching and Research Kitchens at North Carolina State University Extension were unveiled in February. Many of our ECA clubs have toured and taken part in lectures in these very impressive kitchens, Some of our members have participated in cooking demonstrations there.

Our NCECA has worked very hard on the state projects. One project is the Boys and Girls Home of North Carolina. This has been one of our projects for many years. In fact, in October at our State Meeting, one of our hands-on projects was making fleece lap blankets for the Home. Everyone enjoyed participating in this project and

presenting these blankets to a representative of the Home We have also been working on the Project in Common –Double your Influence – Add 2 to 2.



Our local ECA clubs have many projects going on in their local communities, counties and districts. Some of these projects are: visiting places of interest in our state, volunteering in many ways with 4-H youth, teaching lap blanket quilting classes, teaching ladies at our state prison how to quilt, one county knitted and crochet 62 afghans for a nursing home, providing college scholarships; having yard and bake sales as well as other fundraising projects to provide resources for these projects as well as our many other projects.. I could list many, many more projects but this give you a bird's eye view of what we do.

Our 2019 Annual State Meeting was held at Lake Junaluska Retreat Center in the mountains of North Carolina (approximately 25 miles from Asheville, NC.) In 2018, We had over 200 people attending our State Meeting this year. Our theme was "Mountains of Opportunity." Our educational classes, heritage classes and other program certainly made us aware of mountains of opportunities all around us where ever we live.

When Great People Work Together Great Things Happen

SOUTH CAROLINA FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LEADERS

PAT BREZNAY, PRESIDENT



South Carolina Family and Community Leaders started 2020 just like other years with enthusiasm of how we can make a difference in the lives of our members and their families and also to make it the best year yet. Our Board met and discussed plans for the 6 district meetings, the annual meeting and finalized member's work on state projects but we were most excited about the upcoming 25th year celebration of NVON hosted by us in July at the Spartanburg Marriott. Final arrangements were in the *VISION* with final plans for tours, table decorations and treats already made.

Then, a buzz was heard around the world about the COVID-19 virus. Meetings started getting postponed, businesses started closing, "people testing" started for the virus and a nation-wide shutdown was being considered. Sure enough, it was serious enough for six-foot social distancing, individual masking, quarantining and the world was in turmoil.

SCFCL decided to investigate options for keeping in touch with members and it seemed the easiest method was having "Zoom" virtual meetings. During our first virtual board meeting it was decided to cancel our spring district meetings due to our average membership age being 65 years old which is the most vulnerable group contracting the virus.

One of the most pressing questions was about the status of the National Volunteer Outreach Network Annual Conference. After several Zoom meetings between the SCFCL conference committee and the NVON executive committee, it was with great disappointment to cancel the conference and the Spartanburg Marriott let us out of our contract without any fees or costs. What a relief.

In August when the SCFCL Board used Zoom for another meeting, it was voted to cancel the Annual State Meeting (99th Annual Meeting) but setup an online electronic form to vote on important business i.e. State Officers, Bylaws changes and the proposed Budget. Pertinent materials were mailed ahead so delegates would have time to study and be prepared for the online voting which

would be automatically tabulated and saved for our records.

This has been a year of unpredictability, unusual and not like any other in recent memory, but with dedication, education and service to our community, state and nation, our members will make this year a year not to forget.

As the year progressed, members still volunteered at various locations but in an improvised way. Instead of diapers and pads for Africa, members are now making masks for local workers, businesses and family members. One of our state projects: *SCFCL Gives Hope, Domestic Violence Awareness* is where members collect items for personal use, place them in handmade cloth bags then are given to local women's shelters for those to use if they leave their home in a moment's notice carrying nothing with them. Since this project got a little shortchanged, due to the virus, it will continue in 2021 as are most of our other projects.

The NVON Project in Common, *Double Your Influence... And To/2* emphasizes volunteer retention and recruitment which has been done in spite of the COVID-19 shutdowns. We encourage our members to make new friends and invite them to join as new members and have added 49 new members this year. Great job to our dedicated members for reaching out.

Each year SCFCL donates two \$1,000 scholarships to South Carolina 4-H students who have worked endlessly in their communities and on the state level to achieve one of these coveted awards. Their scholarship goes toward the college of their choice.

Even with the COVID-19 social distancing, our Education Committee selected future Education Lessons for our members. The lessons will be mailed in time to use in 2021 and will be online at: scfcl.com (SCFCL's website.)

We had many members pass away this year and even our oldest member Mary Elizabeth "Beth" Jordan Lambert at 102 years old. She was a dedicated member, active and alert until her death in April. She will be truly missed.



**Don't forget to purchase your Commemorative
25 Year Anniversary Pin
\$3.50 Early Bird Price (purchased by July 1, 2021)
\$4 at NVON Conference
Limited Edition**

WEST VIRGINIA COMMUNITY EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH SERVICE

Connie Wolfinger, President



Greetings from West Virginia Community Educational Outreach and it's more than 2400 members.

The WVCEOS mission is to strengthen individuals and families through continuing education, leadership development and community involvement for the betterment of all.

It is my pleasure to report Celebrate Volunteers Hours (CVH) reported a total of 583,500 volunteer hours, which represents \$13,006,215.00 to volunteer service to our communities.

The WVCEOS Leadership and Enrichment Conference was held October 8th-10th with a theme of "WV Stands for We Volunteer" with more than 150 in attendance. Members were able to attend classes ranging from officer and lesson training to educational committee classes and numerous crafts classes.

Plans were in the process of being finalized when the Coronavirus caused us to seize all plans for the 2020 WVCEOS Leadership and Enrichment conference. Conference for 2021 will be scheduled for October 4th-6th, 2021 at Jackson's Mill, Weston, WV.

VCEOS members participate in several community service projects. Volunteering at county fairs, donating lap robes (300) to hospice and the Veterans, collecting unwanted Barbie dolls which then received a complete makeover and were given to CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), hosting books drives for children and collecting more than 5000 books, more than 100 blessing bags were collected for foster children with age appropriate items. Other service projects but not limited were cleaning and replanting flower beds at Jackson's Mill, Community buildings and maintaining a local cemetery's flower beds.

Members also raised over \$50,000 in support of breast cancer by having fashions shows, purse auctions, elimination dinners and over \$8000.00 for Relay for Life.

Members contributed to Fire departments, school libraries, and food pantries.

WVU Extension agents authored lessons for 2020. Some titles were:

"Famous Tree and What Makes Them Famous"

"It's electric—What is Instant Pot and How Does It Fit into Your Cooking Style:"

"West Virginia Authors Ten and Now"

"Covered Bridges of West Virginia"

"Communication Between Generations"

Peter Christian Dreher Pozo WVU Extension Service CEOS International Student for 2020 is from Ecuador and is studying Electrical Engineering. Peter has written a lesson and presentation lesson on his country to be shared with the CEOS members.

Due to the coronavirus and pandemic Peter was unable to travel to the various counties as planned. Peter therefore made a video on his presentation.

This year, WVCEOS awarded four scholarships to college students majoring in nursing and family and consumer sciences.

Members of West Virginia CEOS believe in our mission and purpose of strengthen families, promoting lifelong Leadership development and community involvement.

In partnership with West Virginia University Extension Service, we pledge to be productive contributors in meeting the needs of our changing and diverse society.



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plus the upcoming release of the NVON Handbook

Make checks payable to:

National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.

Send to Kaye Green, NVON Editor listed on back page

WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION FOR HOME COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Donna Zarovy, President



This has been a year full of challenges due to COVID-19. The year started out normally with meetings and events, but then COVID-19 hit in mid-March.

Meetings have been cancelled, our 2020 WAHCE State Conference was cancelled and we have resorted

to other means to communicate with each other. Zoom and conference calls have become the new norm. We are waiting to see what happens for the rest of the year to decide what to do about upcoming district meetings and activities.

Wisconsin would have celebrated its 80th Anniversary at our annual conference in September. It was difficult to make the decision to cancel it. We will move that celebration to our 81st conference in Stevens Point in 2021. All voting for the annual meeting will be done via mail.

WAHCE gives annual awards for education and service projects. Despite COVID-19, clubs have submitted projects like “Partnering with Future Members thru Volunteerism” where members partnered with 4-H and FFA members to create book bags and tie quilts. Others held a crafty learning day with 19 classes and 78 attendees taught by 12 non-HCE members. A creative group conducted a small animal rabies vaccination clinic. Days for Girls will receive 40 completed kits thanks to HCE members. There were also presentations using the two educational programs from the 2019 WAHCE Conference attended by over 50 people.

In March of 2020, our long-time University of Wisconsin Division of Extension liaison, Shelley Tidemann, decided to retire. Her position has changed with Sara Richie becoming our new Extension Point of Contact. Unfortunately, the University Division of Extension’s budget cuts and reorganization have brought about a decrease in the number of Extension people serving our organization. Over 15% of our counties receive an extremely limited support and some none. We are learning new ways of doing things and partnering with others to accomplish our goals.

Wisconsin is divided into six districts: Northeast, Northwest, Central, Southeast, Southwest, and West. As of July 1, 2020, there are 277 clubs in the 48 counties. We have a total membership of 2,767. Despite the lack of meetings and events, members remain determined to see WAHCE survive and grow.

“HCE Springs into Action” (the theme for my three-year term) is very prevalent. Our WAHCE ladies have been making thousands of masks, collected and distributed food at food pantries, helped in community gardens, provided books to kids, and helped those in need.



Wisconsin Bookworms is a WAHCE educational program with support from UW Madison-Division of Extension. The program is designed to provide free books and an early reading experience for children from limited income families. Seven or eight times during the school year volunteers read award winning books to the children, engage them in a related activity, give them the books to take home and provide educational activity sheets to do with their families. This year we donated some of those books to the kids without reading them. The project is now starting its 23rd year for the 2020-2021 school year. Wisconsin Bookworms reaches on average 5,300 children annually. As of May 2020, we have read 886,655 books to students.

Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners is true and dear to the hearts of WAHCE members. The program focuses on agricultural/natural resources, cultural diversity, health, humanitarian assistance, women and families and youth. Donations of items such as clothing, baking supplies, hospital equipment, furniture, books, and hundreds of other items are donated each year. These donations go to the warehouse in Stevens Point where volunteers sort the items and prepare them for shipping to Nicaragua and other countries in Central America. These donations promote the independence of women as they become bakers, seamstresses, beauticians and teachers.

Members in Wisconsin have been generous with their Pennies for Friendship. In July we sent about \$625 in funds to Nicaragua Partners for shipping, collected \$1,754 for water filters, contributed to Days for Girls, Heifer International, Ventures in People and Zero Challenge in Haiti, five ACWW projects, and other funds to be designated shortly to the tune of about \$7,000 totally.

Best wishes to everyone from Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education. We also welcome Michigan to our NVON family. Stay safe and see you soon!



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July 20-22, 2021

Order Form

_____ Number of Pin(s) requested @ \$3.50 each if received at NVON \$_____

Add \$2 Mailing Fee for 1-5 pins, \$4 for 6-10 pins, if mailing is preferred

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Mail order form with check or money order to:

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152 Cherokee Hills Ct
Lexington, SC 29072
(803) 413-4005 or bchinnners@sc.rr.com

If not receiving pin(s) at NVON, Mail Pin(s) to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip code _____

Meet your new NVON Officers!



Vice President Karen Bell Fox, Arkansas

Karen has been a member of AEHC and Cleveland County Extension Homemakers since 1997. She served as AEHC State President July 2018-August 2020. She has served as AEHC President Elect, Vice-President Ouachita District Director, Parliamentarian and EIN Coordinator. Her county offices have been President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer where she is currently serving.

She has been attending NVON Conferences since 2012. She has served on the budget and nominating committees. For the 2019 NVON conference she planned the Education and Craft Classes.

She has directed county programs on Flag Etiquette and How to Dispose of a Flag. ARSAVES Stroke Program, EHC 100 Year Sign at the entrance of Rison and the Memorial Board and Plaque for deceased county wide EHC members which is located in the courthouse.

Karen is a board member of the Cleveland County Fair Association where she takes care of food activities, commercial and educational booths as well as coordinating the Students Fair Day.

In her "Y" Community where she resides she has coordinated Ice Cream Socials, Chili Suppers, the annual Tree Lighting, and raised funds and secured grants for planting and building on the local Fire Department.

Prior to moving back to Arkansas from Texas Karen taught commercial real estate classes for CENTURY 21 of North Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma. She served as Executive director of the Texas Association of Landscape Contractors.

Karen and her husband George live and work on a poultry farm. They also raise cattle and are in the timber business. They worship and are active in the Church of Christ in Rison, AR.



Treasurer Nancy Jo Prue, Indiana

Nancy Jo has been a member of Indiana Extension Homemakers since 1972. Her club will celebrate 100 years in 2025. She has served as NVON treasurer since 2018. Being a NVON officer provides her many opportunities to travel and meet many NVON members. She was first elected NVON Treasurer at the July 2017 Conference and took office January 2018. In January 2021 she will begin another 3-year term that ends December 2023.

She is a farmer's daughter and farmer's (retired) wife, married to Robert Prue in September 1968. They have two grown and married daughters, Tama and Tonya, and five granddaughters.

Right out of high school she was hired to be a teller and bookkeeper at the local Community State Bank of Brook. She has lived in rural Newton County, IN all her life, except for a short time in Logansport, IN to work at a bank there. Other jobs always included bookkeeping or handling money until she was Family Nutrition Program Assistant for Purdue Extension and taught low income mothers how to cook, eat healthy, and create a budget.

She joined the Northwest Jefferson Extension Homemaker Club in 1972 and was soon club president and county treasurer in 1976. She has been county president four different terms and attended eleven National Extension Homemakers Council Conferences beginning with Columbus, Ohio 1982. She has served on many committees for Indiana Extension Homemakers Association and was District Representative, Vice President, and President and has attended twelve NVON Conferences and three ACWW Triennials.

Between 1980 and 2013 she arranged and escorted charter bus tours for the community to see Broadway plays, dinner theaters, Purdue Christmas shows, and Cubs ball games. In her spare time she enjoys the daily newspaper puzzles, exhibiting baked goods at county fairs, flower gardening and is a master of crocheting. In April she began making fabric face masks for herself and her family and has now reached her goal of 200 masks. With the COVID-19 pandemic continuing, she will sew more for friends and essential workers in the community, until they are no longer needed.

Joyce Kluttz - NVON Vice President “Double Your Influence-Add 2”



“Double Your Influence-Add 2” membership incentive for this year has had no numerical response from member states. I did receive information from four states on their ongoing membership campaigns. With that being stated, we all know too well the underlining reason. NVON organization did welcome Michigan this year bringing our total to nine member states.



According to our Treasurer, these are the 2020 state membership numbers: Arkansas-3,655; Kentucky-13,435;

Illinois-5,403; Indiana-7,113; Michigan-175; North Carolina-1,650; South Carolina-732; West Virginia-1,976; Wisconsin-2,975 for a total of 37,114.

North Carolina and West Virginia had brochures you could print. Indiana posted “Ideas for Recruiting New Members”. Kentucky has a great “Marketing & Recruiting” page for items to purchase with their logo embroidered on fabric, plus information on their continuing membership campaign, reported last year. Wisconsin’s goal is to gain two new members per county, sponsor an event to include the entire family, and encourage each county to have a membership chair. Congratulations to South Carolina! The ONLY STATE to have information on NVON projects in common (Membership and Water Around the World).

Pat Breznay “Water Around the World Project”



Recently I received the financial statement from NVON Treasurer, Nancy Jo Prue with the Water Around The World update on donations. We have about \$4,800 in the WATW account. I contacted Lylene Scholtz from Wisconsin for suggestions where they have sent water filters in the past. She suggested Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners. Lylene and Marcelline Prothro went to Nicaragua a couple of years ago to see how their donations were being used. It was an eye-opening experience. No electricity and very primitive but they survived coming back to the USA with a deeper appreciation of what we have here in our country yet enthused to help Nicaragua in any way.



I called WNP and have made arrangements to send them our donation (192 water filters with 2 buckets for \$25 each). They have arranged for a military plane to carry the filters (at no cost to us) and other items to Nicaragua. Their contacts will then distribute to areas in need. Hopefully by November 14 the water filters will be in use.

In the last few months, with the COVID-19 and social distancing all over the world, interest in water filters have dwindled but there are still states whose members continue to support the Water Around The World Project.

Sadly, **December 31, 2020 will end the efforts for NVON to support the Water Around The World Project.** It was decided at the recent board meeting to focus on the current Project in Common and get prepared for the next Project in Common that will be introduced in July 2021 by the new Vice President, Karen Bell Fox of Arkansas. Please make sure your state members and state treasurer send your donations to NVON Treasurer, Nancy Jo Prue by **DECEMBER 1, 2020** so she will have time to calculate the success of this project by the end of December. The last donations collected will be sent to Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners so water filters can be purchased and sent to Nicaragua with their next shipment. After all donations have been made and the figures are finalized, a complete report will be on NVON’s website under Projects in Common.

My most sincere thanks to everyone who has supported this successful project. It has far exceeded my expectations, but most importantly has helped give clean drinking water to so many in need Around The World.

I will submit a final article in the 2021 Vision about the success of this project.

NVON MISSION STATEMENT

“Member organizations working together to promote communication, education, and volunteerism for all people.”

Be sure to check out our website at: www.nvon.org

NANCY JO PRUE - NVON Treasurer

State Dues Due

January 1 - 15, 2021

No earlier or no later!

Anyone who pays membership dues to these nine states:

Arkansas, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Michigan, North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia and Wisconsin are not required to pay individual dues to NVON when they submit \$18 for a 3-year subscription of VISION to :

Kaye Green

770 Moores Church Road

Rison, AR 71665

Any person who is from another state is welcome to be an individual member. They can submit \$15 dues plus \$18 for a 3-year subscription to VISION on the Individual Membership Form (for non-NVON states) to Nancy Jo Prue, NVON Treasurer.

The new dues policy continues: 2021 State Dues will be paid within 2021. State Treasurers are asked to send a check for \$100 payable to NVON January 1 thru January 15, 2021.

Please use the NVON STATE MEMBERSHIP REPORT FORM that is available at nvon.org. The number of members should be as of January 1, 2021.

Mail to: **Nancy Jo Prue**

4604 W 1200 S.

Kentland, IN 47951

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VISION

Kaye Green - Co-Editor
Karen Bell Fox-Co-Editor
770 Moores Church Road
Rison, AR 71665



Member Organizations working together to promote Communication, Education, & Volunteerism

NVON Member State Conferences/Meetings

Arkansas EHC

June 7-10, 2021
Hot Springs
Conventon Center
Hot Springs, AR

Michigan CEO

2021
To be announced

DATES OF INTEREST

NVON CONFERENCE

July 20-22, 2021
Owensboro Convention Center
Hampton Inn and
Holiday Inn
Owensboro, KY

30th ACWW Triennial
World Conference

May 18-24, 2022
World Conference
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Illinois IAHC

March 8-11, 2021
Thelma Keller
Conference Center
Effingham, IL

South Carolina FCL

October 12, 2021
Our Saviour
Lutheran Church
West Columbia, SC

NVON CONFERENCE

2022
Indiana

CWC/ACWW Area Meeting

Country Women's Council USA
ACWW Area Meeting
September 13-15, 2021
Holiday Inn &
Keller Convention Center
Effingham, Illinois

Indiana EHA

June 1-3, 2021

West Virginia CEOS

2021
To be announced

ACWW USA Area Meeting

August 1-3, 2021
Cincinnati, OH

Kentucky EHA

April 27-29, 2021
Bowling Green, KY

Wisconsin AHCE

September 21-23, 2021
Holiday Inn
Stevens Point, WI

