



# National Volunteer Outreach Network

## VISION

### Thoughts from President Stephanie Jerabek

#### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

VOLUME 7 ISSUE 6

OCTOBER 2021

#### Special Points of Interest:

- President's Message
- 2021 Conference Photos
- State Reports
- Project in Common Bee-Cause

[www.nvon.org](http://www.nvon.org)



What a year it has been! Since the start of my term as president, we have lived through a pandemic, a presidential election and new administration, a riot at the Capital Building and an anniversary of a terrorist attack. That's just the big stuff and That is a lot to handle! If you are like me, some of those thoughts don't creep into my mind until there is a news report or, something else that is equally taxing, is brought to my attention. Yet others have those trying thoughts that disturb them all of the time.

Balancing our mental health is just as important as exercising or eating right—it is all good for our mind and body. Distressing thoughts can physically strain the body as well as the mind. And if the cause for that distress is out of our control, the stress gets even worse.

One thing that I do know is that, when I feel that things or circumstances start to overwhelm me, it is always of great comfort to have someone come along side of me to lend a hand, share their time or just offer a smile or a hug. It doesn't take much to comfort someone and we may never know how much they need those kind gestures. I try daily to tell someone that they are doing a good job, offer a smile or a hello to a stranger, a quarter for their cart, open a door or help load groceries. Sometimes just the steps that you save someone in returning their cart may be a blessing to them. We all have burdens to carry and some are more visible than others. Why not share the load? Making a difference can happen in a group setting or with an individual. No act of kindness goes unnoticed or unrewarded. It is when we fail to act that the damage may occur.

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

**Mother Teresa**

Stephanie Jerabek, NVON President

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#### Making a Difference

**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 23.

Making A difference can come in many forms so this day is wide open for participation.

Volunteer in your community or for an organization with merit.

Celebrate your volunteers with a special treat or event.

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 recognize by the multitudes. Even small acts make a difference in someone's life.



## NATIONAL VOLUNTEER OUTREACH NETWORK BOARD

### Executive Committee

**President**

**Jan. 1, 2020 - Dec. 31, 2022**

**Stephanie Jerabek**

4944 N Rangeline RD

Huntington, IN 46750

Phone: 260.344.0012

E-Mail: ssjerabek@gmail.com

**President Elect**

**Jan. 1, 2022- Dec. 31, 2022**

**Jane Chapman**

936 Hollyhock Road

Coulterville, IL 62237

Phone: 618.317.2727

E-Mail: ejanec50@gmail.com

**Vice President Elect**

**Jan 1, 2021- Dec. 31, 2023**

**Karen Bell Fox**

5120 Hwy. 212

Rison, AR 71665

Phone: 870.325.7238

E-Mail: karenbellfoxaehc@yahoo.com

**Secretary**

**Jan. 1, 2020- Dec. 31, 2022**

**Patricia Weitzmann**

23485 Eagle's Nest Road

Antioch IL 60002

Phone: 847.395.6255

E-Mail: pweitzmann5@gmail.com

**Treasurer**

**Jan. 1, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2023**

**Nancy Jo Prue**

4604 W. 1200 S.

Kentland, IN 47951

Phone: 219.474.5378

E-mail: nancyjo59@hughes.net

### State Presidents

**Arkansas Extension**

**Homemakers Council**

**July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2022**

**Cheryl Stewart**

4318 Highway 348

Rudy, AR 72952

Phone: 479.461.7381

E-mail: c.d.stewart4848@att.net

**Kentucky Extension**

**Homemakers Association**

**July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2022**

**Karen Hill**

2656 Irish Ivy Lane

Henderson, KY 42420

Phone: 270.826.5291

E-mail: khillrd@yahoo.com

**South Carolina Family and**

**Community Leaders**

**Jan. 1, 2020 - Dec. 31, 2023**

**Pat Breznay**

6 Valhalla Court

Columbia, SC 29229

Phone: 803.736.6535

E-mail: pbreznay@sc.rr.com

**Illinois Association for Home  
and Community Education**

**March 2021 - March 2024**

**Angela Hicks**

500 Moraine Hill Drive

Cary, IL 60013

Phone: 847.516.1529

E-mail: angelahickshce@gmail.com

**Michigan Community**

**Education Outreach**

**Apr. 30, 2021- Dec. 31 2022**

**Kristine Mueller**

11 Riverview Drive

Lapeer, MI 48446

Phone: 810.356.5497

E-Mail: worshiperlmm@charter.net

**West Virginia Community**

**Educational Outreach Service, Inc.**

**Jan. 1, 2019 - Dec. 31, 2021**

**Connie Wolfinger**

1515 Sycamore Road

Clarksburg, WV 26301

Phone: 304.623.0615

E-mail: wolfsinwv@yahoo.com

**Indiana Extension**

**Homemakers Association**

**July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022**

**Jan Gogel**

3757 S 75 E

Huntingburg, IN 47542

Phone: 812.639.2665

E-mail: magogel@psci.net

**North Carolina Extension and**

**Community Association, Inc.**

**Jan. 1, 2021 - Dec. 31, 2022**

**Cathy Holmes**

200 Wells Drive

Forest City, NC 28043

Phone: 828.247.0965

E-mail: godscash@bellsouth.net

**Wisconsin Association for Home**

**and Community Education**

**Jan. 1, 2019 - Dec. 31, 2021**

**Donna Zarovy**

6207 203rd Avenue

Bristol, WI 53104

Phone: 262.857.7502

E-mail: zarovy@frontier.com

**Appointed - Advisor**

**Jan. 1, 2020 - Dec. 31, 2022**

**Marilyn Daughetee**

1133 Center Drive

St. Louis, MO 63117

Phone: 217.251.4903

E-mail: marilyn5162@att.net

**Appointed - Webmaster**

**and Parliamentarian**

**Jan. 1, 2006 - Dec. 31, 2022**

**Pamela Hanfland**

105 Woodcock Trail

West Columbia, SC 29169

Phone: 803.348.2820

E-mail: phanfland@gmail.com

**Appointed - Editor**

**July 23, 2019 - Dec. 31, 2022**

**Kaye Green**

770 Moores Church Road

Rison, AR 71665

Phone: 870.692.5695

E-mail: kayegreen@yahoo.com

# STATE DUES

January 1 - 15, 2022

No earlier or no later!

State Treasurers are asked to send a check for \$100 payable to NVON January 1 thru January 15, 2022.

Please use the NVON STATE MEMBERSHIP REPORT FORM that is available at [nvon.org](http://nvon.org).

Mail to: **Nancy Jo Prue**  
4604 W 1200 S.  
Kentland, IN 47951

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.

Any person who is from another state is welcome to be an individual member. They can submit \$15 dues using the Individual Membership Form (for non-NVON states) and subscribe to get the VISION for \$18 to Nancy Jo Prue, NVON Treasurer.

If you have any questions please contact Nancy Jo at  
219.474.5378  
[nancyjo59@hughes.net](mailto:nancyjo59@hughes.net)



Thank you **KENTUCKY** for a wonderful 2021 NVON Conference!  
Meetings, Venue, Food, Sights, Tours & Fellowship!



*Michigan*



*North Carolina*



*Arkansas*



*South Carolina*



*Illinois*



*Indiana*



*Wisconsin*



*West Virginia*

### *Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council*



In June of 2020, we had to push our state meeting “EHC Enriching Home & Community” back 2 times in the hopes that the pandemic would dissipate. Little did we know we would be dealing with the pandemic for at least 10 more months! In the middle of August, we finally got to have a smaller but effective meeting to elect our officers. We were able to have a Cultural Arts Display as well as selling AEHC products. One speaker was under the weather but spoke to us via Zoom! We were three to a table but got our business finished. Having three to the table actually let us visit “with masks” and get to know one another better!

At our 3 District Rallies in October our theme was “Reconnect to EHC”, which was not easy with all the masks and Social Distancing, but we did it! We even had a guest speaker on “Connecting the Dots: Loneliness & Social Isolation during COVID 19. The Silent Auction was a great success. Our 25-year members were honored with a certificate and a lapel pin. We were able to locate larger facilities that allowed for social distancing.

Through the winter months we had many Executive Zoom meetings to keep business up to date and to prepare for our Spring Education Meeting as well as our State Meeting.

Our Spring Educational Meeting was “Breathe Life into Arkansas”. We had an informative presentation from an AR State Parks Field Interpreter (via Zoom as they were not allowed in person). We had around 160 in attendance! With the Corona Virus still going strong, our members were asked to bring a few canned goods to help our Food Banks all over Arkansas. Once again, our members rallied to the call, we donated almost 1000 pounds for food! The Arkansas Food Bank sent their CEO Rhonda Sanders to collect the donation.

At our State Meeting in June 2021 we honored our 50, 60, 70 and even 80 years plus members that were able to attend, including a 98-year-old member! We had many education classes that attendees could participate in. There were 200 in attendance at this meeting.

Our clubs were able to meet with 10 or less members as long as we socially distanced. Our members are involved in so many community service projects, from food drives to making teaching dolls for hospitals to sewing masks. The best part is that the clubs decide on their own service projects that can best benefit the communities in which they live. They see a need and they find a way to help.



*Cheryl Stewart, AEHC President*

### *Illinois Association for Home and Community Education*



IAHCE began 2020 with high hopes. Many counties had begun their volunteering, presenting lessons/programs, and started fundraising activities. The 2020 Annual State Conference happened in March and as our members were driving home they were faced with the news that the pandemic was real and our state was shutting down. Illinois HCE members could have just given up at this point – but there were still needs in the communities throughout Illinois.

Of the 70 counties in IAHCE, 52 counties reported volunteer hours. Within these counties a total of 1,463 members reported a total of 287,585 volunteer hours of which 72,076 were HCE hours and the balance was other volunteer hours! Members continued to give scholarships, support their Extensions, and charities by giving donations, sewing and donating many items. A few were food, mittens, scarves, clothing, toiletries, cards, Christmas stockings, book bags, books, blankets, luggage for foster children. Many counties reported physically volunteering at food pantries, with 4H, church, homeless shelters, and the home bound. Some counties communicated with their members by phone, newsletters, emails and video conferencing. One county HCE Board established an old-fashioned calling list and vowed to call every member every month until the pandemic was over and yes they accomplished the goal! A handful of counties managed to squeeze in a fundraiser.

Illinois HCE members made 29,477 masks amassing 20,451 hours of time spent making masks which was counted separately from the aforementioned volunteer hours!

It is also important to share that IAHCE members were given the opportunity to receive University of Illinois Extension lessons via “Zoom”! Our members adapted to this way of learning, which for many was a learning experience in of itself!

At the close of 2020, IAHCE reported a total membership of 4,528. Even though we lost 3 counties and 743 members, we can confidently say we gained 171 new members even during a pandemic!

Many of our members are of retirement age, they are resilient and willing to take on the challenges of the world as presented to them. We learned we need the social aspect of our organization as well as receiving quality educational programing!

Know that HCE members are not to be underestimated, we continue to encourage our members to build enthusiasm and membership in IAHCE!



*Angela Hicks, IAHCE President*

### Indiana Extension Homemakers Association



Beginning in February 2020, we revised and updated the IEHA Handbook. The Handbook is available in the member's section of the IEHA website. Thanks go to those serving on the committee; Linda Lowe, Stephanie

Jerabek, Jean Hitchcock, Charlotte DeVille, Tena Jakubowicz, and Jeanine Arnett.

March 2020 started off with spring district meetings. All Fall District meetings were canceled. We canceled the Home and Family Conference. The State Board members all agreed to remain in their current positions for an extra year. The State Board did hold their July and October meetings and worked diligently to keep doing what we could to support the membership and keep going amidst all the adversity and uncertainties of the time.

The spring 2021 meetings were virtual meetings on ZOOM. The Terre Haute District held a hybrid meeting and the Madison District held an in-person meeting. When the numbers were tabulated, a total of 425 members attended the spring district meetings. Program emphases at the spring meetings were on opioid abuse awareness, chair yoga, the hazards of too much sugar consumption, and how important laughter is to our daily lives. The Michigan City members in any district could watch the meeting later if they could not attend.

During the spring, counties embarked on a statewide "cruise" to collect funds for cancer research. The idea was to collect donations for Purdue Cancer Research Endowment Fund. The endowment fund was created in 2020 and had reached over \$224,000. A total had not been tabulated as of the writing of this report.

A new program, Promoting **L.O.V.E.** of Families was started in 2019 and continued throughout the next program year. The intent was to give clubs, counties, and districts a framework to use for program ideas and activities. Each letter in the word LOVE stood for a topic on which to focus. "L" stood for Literacy, "O" for Opioid Abuse Awareness, "V" for volunteerism, and "E" for Education.

Many State Board meetings were conducted using the ZOOM format. The President's Blue Book, the Directory, and the HHS Educators/County Presidents Book were put online for Board members, County Presidents, committee chairs, Educators, Past State Presidents and members to access. was a redesign of our website, [ieha-families.org](http://ieha-families.org), to make it more user friendly. And the Presidential Pointers newsletter is now available online for all to read and by having it online, saves our organization money by reducing printing and mailing costs.

Programs we were able to continue with were, Our First Books for Kids, Riley Children's Hospital and "Threads of Compassion" for the Indiana Donor Network.

Anne Moore, IEHA President ending June 30, 2021



Jan Gogel IEHA President

### Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association



We had our State Meeting with the theme of "Adventure Awaits" and there were over 300 people who attended. After not being able to see our KEHA friends for over a year the halls and rooms were filled with laughter and smiling faces all day and night.

Our Board learned a new meaning of the word "Zoom" which allowed us to have virtual meetings and conduct business when we could not meet in person.

Even in the middle of a pandemic we have been busy volunteering our time and talents for our organization and in our communities. Even when we could not get out in the community, we still managed to help them. When our local hospitals needed cloth face masks, surgical caps and gowns who did they turn to first? Our local Homemakers. Once we started making these needed supplies, we did not know how to stop, and many other community organizations reached out to enlist our skills. Those who couldn't sew delivered supplies safely and helped to get them to their destinations. The First Lady of Kentucky reached out to our organization to partner in the Coverings for Kids initiative, so we made thousands of masks or purchased masks for use by the schools across the state.

We also provided more than 500,000 volunteer service hours with 190,000 going just to community efforts and over 40,000 in 4-H Youth Development supporting positive youth development. Last month we presented a check for over \$27,000 to the UK Ovarian Cancer Screening and Research Program.

We provided over \$51,000 in scholarships for higher education which were awarded through KEHA clubs, counties, and areas.

These are just some of the ways we contribute to our communities across the state.

Like many of you, our membership is down due to the pandemic. We are reporting 10,747 members. We, like all of you, hope to increase our numbers in the coming years.

Lastly, in March of 2020 we held the very first KEHA Leadership Academy to train, mentor and guide the KEHA membership to support the mission of volunteerism and leadership now and into the future.

Kentucky Homemakers are very busy and enjoy everything we can contribute to our community.



Karen Hill, KEHA President 2021

## Michigan Community Educational Outreach Service



Michigan Community Education Outreach (MCEO) started the spring of 2020 hopeful that the pandemic would wind down and we could proceed normally later in the year. However, District Meetings were cancelled. Convention plans continued until September, when we had to cancel that as well. Most groups did not meet for most of 2020.

Our annual raffle, our biggest money-maker, was put off until 2021, though we had acquired our license. In the fall our State Board did meet twice in person in 2020, using protocols for the virus.

We held an election and the membership voted on our new By-Laws and new Mission Statement by mail. Our Editor printed three newsletters for the year, keeping our members updated.

The new year brought more challenges. Our President-Elect was unable to take over as President due to major health issues. The current President continued until the spring. We are proud of the following accomplishments, despite the pandemic.

In 2021 we held District Meetings in four of our five districts. Our Vice-President of Education presented her educational lesson at all the meetings titled "What Floats Your Boat", on women's hobbies. Each District also had speakers on an additional topic for afternoon sessions.

MCEO hired a graphic artist to create a logo for the organization. Our website has been updated by our Editor/Webmaster. The State of Michigan renewed last year's raffle license for 2021, so the raffle goes on this year. We offered fourth graders the opportunity to participate in the annual Art and Essay contest with monetary awards using CHARACTER COUNTS! and the SIX PILLARS OF CHARACTER with permission from that organization. Three newsletters will be produced this year.

We have held face-to-face Board and Convention meetings. The convention for 2021 was held in September. NVON's President, Stephanie Jerabek, agreed to be the Keynote Speaker. This will be a mini convention lasting only a day and a half. We hope that the format will allow good participation during this difficult time. It is hosted by East Central District in Bay City, Michigan.

Most importantly, most of our groups throughout the State, began holding their local meetings once again. For many these meetings are lifelines for social contacts and friendships. MCEO thanks you for your support and encouragement throughout our transition period and for your welcoming spirit.

Submitted by Sheri Drake, President, ending June 30, 2021



Kristine Mueller MCEO President

## North Carolina Extension and Community Association



NCECA is divided into five districts across our state and has 141 clubs, 2,050 members, 12 Lifetime members and 12 Emeritus members. Many of our clubs are special interest clubs.

In March 2020 when the pandemic shut down the world, the work of NCECA came to a brief halt, but as evidenced by our 108-year history, our members quickly rose to the challenges presented. We quickly learned new skills related to ZOOM and our meetings continued virtually. Our 2020 State Conference, *ECA: Together at Home!* was reset to a virtual conference, complete with guest speakers, introduction of a new partnership, a tour of Boys & Girls Homes campus (a NCECA project for over 50 years), and celebration of the accomplishments of our members!

NC State Extension called for face masks for distribution at farmers markets, food distribution sites, etc. Extension provided the fabric and elastic and NCECA members across the state made over 30,000 masks. Once the Extension project was complete, members continued to make masks for friends, family, health care workers, childcare facilities, nursing homes and schools.

We were offered an awesome opportunity to partner with Alzheimer's Association to be trained as Community Educators. We have a pilot group that attended online training, shadowed seasoned presenters and have started delivering presentations on their own. Soon, any NCECA member that would like will be added to the program.

In the past few years, NC State Extension developed The Extension Master Food Volunteer (EMFV) program which is designed to engage residents in food and nutrition programming in their community and train volunteers to further expand the reach of N.C. Cooperative Extension. FCS agents to train volunteers to support their food and nutrition programming and promote local food, thereby building their capacity to deliver high quality, evidence-based interventions. These volunteers have increased our membership numbers, as they are enrolled as NCECA members.

These are statewide programs and projects. Our members continue to be leaders in their respective communities by identifying needs and rallying the people and resources to meet those needs. Last year, members volunteered over 270,000 hours, thereby contributing \$6.7 Million to North Carolina.

Submitted by Wanda Denning, President-Elect



Cathy Holmes NCECA President

## South Carolina Family Community Leaders



January 1, 2020 we had plans set in place for 3 board meetings, 6 district meetings, an annual meeting, projects to complete and a year filled with promise for our 700 members. THEN before we could get started, word came out that the world is in lockdown due to COVID-19 pandemic and to a virtual standstill.

We began searching for ways to communicate without person-to-person meetings. We started to ZOOM, an internet meeting service. It has allowed for us to have computer state board meetings and take care of business as needed.

Local clubs don't use ZOOM to meet but some use teleconferencing. Social distancing and staying in place became the new norm. Projects were put on hold; then meetings were cancelled and our organization came to an almost halt. But you can't keep our members down for long. Masks were needed for emergence services so members pulled out their old dusty sewing machines and got to work using some of that fabric hiding in cabinets and closets. Each county coordinated their making and distributing. SCFCL members always come to the aid when there is a need. Thousands of masks were made and donated through our volunteer efforts.

Our spring district meetings were coordinated by the Extension Health and Nutrition agents. With their professional expertise, we were able to include an education lesson "Know Diabetes by Heart" into our meeting. Attendance was light but in the future, we hope more members will be able to participate.

Our state project SCFCL Gives Hope, Domestic Violence Awareness had limited participation since most shelters were not accepting items, the project has been extended for another year.

WALKSC is a 12-week online program allowing participants to virtually walk trails across South Carolina while staying in the comfort of their communities. Over the course of the 12-week program, participants receive emails with a weekly walking challenge, health tips and brief videos. The program covers topics including walking pace, proper walking footwear, nutrition, hydration, blood pressure and history of the Palmetto Trail, a 500-mile cross-state hiking and bicycling segmented trail from the beautiful blue ridge mountains to the sunny sea shores of the coast.

Lexington County planned to host the 2020 Annual Meeting but due to the pandemic, the meeting was postponed until October 2021. Since June 7, 2021 was the date South Carolina was organized, Lexington County has graciously accepted to host the Annual Meeting and celebrate our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary together.

Membership is slightly down but dedicated members are hoping to meet face-to-face in September 2021 to continue with the long tradition of improving the quality of life for individuals, families and communities through dedication, education and service for South Carolina.



Pat Breznay, SCFCL President

## West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service



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 6<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> with a theme of "A Spring Patchwork of Proud People" with 250 registered. Due to COVID restrictions our conference was held via Zoom/Virtual. Classes were held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Members were able to attend classes ranging from officer and lesson training to educational committee classes and numerous crafts classes. As a result of virtual conference we gained fifty new members. We advertised in the newspapers, radio and did television spots.

Plans are in the process for WVCEOS Enrichment and Leadership Conference in October 5<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> again via Zoom/Virtual due to COVID restrictions.

WVCEOS members participate in several community service projects volunteering from home by making over 10,000 masks to distribute to police and fire stations, doctors' offices and hospitals. Members made tray favors for nursing items, collected much needed items for CASA and the Veterans Medical Center and donated food to the various food pantries.

Members also raised over \$20,000 in support of breast cancer by raffling Quilts and selling take out dinners.

WVU Extension agents authored lessons for 2020. Some titles were: "Tia Chi for Health", "Natures Plate Edible Greens", "West Virginia Wild and Wonderful State Park", West Virginia Authors Then and Now: and Covered Bridges of West Virginia.

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. The video is available on YouTube.

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*.



Connie Wolfinger, WVCEOS President

*Wisconsin Association for  
Home and Community Education*



My theme while President of Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education has been "HCE Steps Into Action". People are still making dresses for Nicaragua, menstrual kits for Days for Girls, sewing thousands of masks, working at food distribution sites, collecting tons of items for Nicaragua, and many other projects.

We held Zoom meetings for state board, districts, counties and local clubs, met in parks with plenty of social distancing, and also held conference calls.

At our annual meeting we celebrated our 80th conference in Stevens Point in September 2020. New officers were installed, and attendees participated in about 40 different workshops. Awards for service projects, education events and membership were given out.

Our membership is 2,449 as of May. In 2020. 32 of our counties reported that they have granted \$25,150 in scholarships to family members.

In 2021 WAHCE awarded a scholarship of registration fees and meals to the Presidents in our 47 counties to attend the WAHCE Annual Business Meeting and Conference.

We have a program called HCE Member Contribution Report where we tally the amount of time spent doing things for HCE and the amount of money and other items we have collected for various things. During the reporting time we volunteered and fundraised for a total of over \$750,000.

Wisconsin Bookworms is a WAHCE literacy program with educational 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. Volunteers read books to the children, engaged 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 the books to the school kids. Wisconsin Bookworms reaches on average 5,300 children annually. As of May 2021, we have read almost 900,000 books to students.

Wisconsin Nicaragua Partners is a program that focuses on agricultural/natural resources, cultural diversity, health, humanitarian assistance, women and families and youth. Donations of items such as clothing, baking supplies, barber and beauty shop supplies, books, and hundreds of other items each year. 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 funds to Nicaragua Partners for shipping, collected monies 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 \$6,000 in 2020 and \$3,000 so far in 2021.



Donna Zarovy, WAHCE President

These State Reports are abbreviated.  
Find the full reports at [nvon.org](http://nvon.org).

**CWC**

Loy Walker Country Women's Council Chairman



My theme for this term is "Women Walk the Talk for a Better Tomorrow". I just read in the National Geographic Magazine an article suggesting women's foot prints were discovered walking together in groups 10,000 to 19,000 years ago. It is not a new idea. In the past, I have held various types of walks. The walks have

been held in public county parks or just around a meeting room displaying themed table centerpieces of shoes or tea pots or world globes. The Ruth B. Sayers Scholarship applications have been received and judged. Three or four scholarships will be given depending on funds available.

I have chosen the Charity "Smile Train" as a special project during my three-year term. The Smile Train Charity repairs Cleft Palates and physical deformities causing poor nutrition and poor health in general. Fixing a child's smile raises his self-esteem. Adults look and feel better about themselves, and so does their community. Read more about the project in the future.

Climate change is inevitable whether it is natural or altered by humans. I feel fossil fuel energy is the number one climate issue. How we use natural resources is something everyone can help save and restore. I am open to any ideas from members about how we can help change. The ACWW, WE Fund, deserves to be promoted through more membership. In this issue you will find information about membership. Any woman may belong to ACWW with an individual membership. Give a gift of membership to a friend or daughter. Membership information is printed in this News Sheet. May our walk and talk the next three years benefit women all over the World.



NVON Officers at CWC 2021



Fall Decos



Dancing Fun



Incoming CWC Secretary Karen Bell Fox



CWC Business Meeting Stephanie Jerabek & Pam Hanfland



Find more 2021 Conference Photos at:  
<https://nvon2021.shutterfly.com>



2022-2024  
**PROJECT IN COMMON**

Many fruits and vegetables, nuts, oilseed crops, herbs and spices, animal forage, medicinal plants and ornamental plants benefit from insect pollination.

The produce section of grocery stores would be rather empty without the hard work of bees, birds, butterflies, bats, and other pollinators. More than 80 percent of the world's plants need pollinators to survive, including many that provide the food we eat. But today, many pollinators are in trouble.

Somewhere between 75% and 95% of all flowering plants on the earth need help with pollination – they need pollinators. Pollinators provide pollination services to over 180,000 different plant species and more than 1200 crops. If we want to talk dollars and cents, pollinators add 217 billion dollars to the global economy, and honeybees alone are responsible for between 1.2 and 5.4 billion dollars in agricultural productivity in the United States. In addition to the food that we eat, pollinators support healthy ecosystems that clean the air, stabilize soils, protect from severe weather, and support other wildlife.

#### **What do we know about their status?**

Pollinator populations are changing. Many pollinator populations are in decline and this decline is attributed most severely to a loss in feeding and nesting habitats. Pollution, the misuse of chemicals, disease, and changes in climatic patterns are all contributing to shrinking and shifting pollinator populations. In some cases, there is not enough data to gauge a response, and this is even more worrisome.

#### **Pollinators by Numbers**

Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollinators to reproduce.

There are 20,000 different types of bees in the world, with an estimated 4,000 bee species native to North America. Along with the famous European honey bee we know and love, many of these native bees can help increase crop yields. Some scientists estimate that one out of every three bites of food we eat exists because of animal pollinators like bees, butterflies and moths, birds and bats, and beetles and other insects.

#### **How Animal Pollination Works**

Pollinators visit flowers in their search for food (nectar and pollen). During a flower visit, a pollinator may accidentally brush against the flower's reproductive parts, unknowingly depositing pollen from another flower. The plant then uses the pollen to produce a fruit or seed. Many plants cannot reproduce without pollen carried to them by foraging pollinators.

#### **Pollinators Are in Trouble**

You may have heard that bees are disappearing, and bats are dying. These and other animal pollinators face many challenges in the modern world. Habitat loss, disease, parasites, and environmental contaminants have all contributed to the decline of many species of pollinators.

#### **Who are the pollinators?**

Solitary bees, bumble bees, honey bees, birds, bats, butterflies, moths, flies, beetles, wasps, small mammals, and most importantly, bees are pollinators. They visit flowers to drink nectar or feed off pollen and transport pollen grains as they move from spot to spot.

Although birds, bats, and other creatures are also pollinators, insects are the animals that do the bulk of the pollination that affects our daily lives. Some of these insect pollinators will be familiar (bees and butterflies), but you might be surprised by some of the others (flies, wasps, and beetles).

#### **What can we do?**

Adding natural habitat areas into farm systems work. Farms that are closer to natural habitat produce more crop yield because they attract more pollinators. Adding habitat to farms systems works too – farms that have turned a portion of their fields into green space have gained back more overall yield. Homeowners can help too! Home gardens can and do attract pollinators, and in many cases suburbs and cities have been shown to have more diverse pollinator communities than nearby wildlands. Pollinators do not seem to be phased by city life. If there are plots and patches of flowers, they will be visited by hungry bees. Pollinator gardening near community gardens also increases urban agricultural yields.

**Karen Bell Fox, Vice President**



**Double Your Influence...Add To/2**  
**NVON Project in Common**  
**2019 – 2021**  
**2021 Report from States**

*Double your influence reporting ends this year*

*But it is so important for each state to continue the guidelines to obtain and grow membership In NVON*

Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council (93259)  
Illinois Association for Home & Community Education-(4528)  
Indiana Extension Homemakers Association (6902)  
Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association (10747)  
Michigan Community Education Outreach (146)  
North Carolina Extension and Community Association Inc. (2051)  
South Carolina Family and Community Leaders (700)  
West Virginia Community Educational Outreach Service, Inc. (2094)  
Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education (2449)



Arkansas



Illinois



Indiana



Kentucky



Michigan



North Carolina



NVON



VISION

All the NVON states did a wonderful job on their displays. The bar is set HIGH for 2022!!!!



South Carolina



West Virginia



Wisconsin



President Stephanie shows meetings can be FUN & PRODUCTIVE!



**Officers: Right to Left**  
Stephanie Jerabek, President  
Karen Bell Fox, Vice President  
Pat Weitzmann, Secretary  
Nancy Jo Prue, Treasurer  
Jane Chapman, President Elect



Sharon Woods  
Co-Chairman



Silent Auction

Beautiful Decorations! Thank you Kentucky!



2021 Meeting



Pages



**Appointed: Left to Right**  
Pam Hanfland, Webmaster  
Kaye Green, VISION Editor  
Marilyn Daughettee, Advisor

**National Volunteer Outreach Network, INC.  
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VISION Subscription is \$18.00 for three years. Nine NVON VISION's  
 Make checks payable to: **National Volunteer Outreach Network, Inc.**  
 Mail to: Kaye Green, NVON Editor  
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## NVON 2021 Conference and Business Meeting Summary

*Prepared by Pat Weitzmann*

*NVON Secretary September 27, 2021*

The Convention Center in Owensboro, Kentucky was a spacious and welcoming site for the National Volunteer Outreach Network's 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference July 20-22, 2021. Be the Sunshine - Make a Difference was the theme. The host society was the Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association. An informative and productive Board Meeting was held July 19 followed on July 20 with interesting tours and craft workshops. The Business Meeting was July 21-22 interspersed with educational seminars, inspirational speakers and toe taping musical entertainment. The silent auction had an extra element this year. There were various items offered from the personal collection of conference memorabilia donated by two past NVON Presidents, Louise Nichols (1995-1998) and Betty Buff (2002-2004) both active in the formation and funding of NVON. Delayed last year due to the pandemic, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NVON was marked by the Working Together for 25 Years historical presentation of the formation, leadership and accomplishments of NVON expertly created and presented by Past-President Pam Hanfland (2005-2007).

At the NVON Conference opening Session and Business Meeting, NVON President Stephanie Jerabek enthusiastically introduced the NVON Officers, Appointees and Delegates gathered in person, yet mindful of the ongoing pandemic. Karen Hill, President of the host society, Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association, warmly welcomed 121 conference attendees. She mentioned, with pride, the quilt to promote the 2020 Census, made at request of the Census Bureau by KEHA members and currently displayed at the NVON conference. Sharon Wood, NVON Conference Chair, and the talented, attentive Conference Planning Committee helped make this conference happily memorable. In year 2020, Michigan Community Education Outreach became a NVON member society, adding its voice as state society reports were given. All member states reached out in service to their communities during these pandemic times. Karen Bell Fox gave an informative call to action presentation about the "Bee-Cause Pollinators Feed the World" new Project in Common 2022-2024. Extensive information is on the NVON website also. Also, she reported on the 2019-2021 Project in Common "Double Your Influence... Add To/2." NVON Secretary Pat Weitzmann presented information on the 2023 ACWW Triennial Resolutions and Recommendations Development project initiated by the NVON Board. The submission deadline is May 20, 2022. VISION Newsletter Editor Kaye Green reported cost saving from switching printers and reducing complimentary newsletter copies. Printed copies of the NVON 2020 Handbook are available at a cost of \$3 each. Webmaster Pam Hanfland encouraged member states to send pictures of their society activities for posting on the NVON website. Reports made at the Conference, the Policy Guidelines, Conference Guidelines and Conference Worksheet approved at the NVON Board Meeting July 19, and conference pictures can be seen on the NVON website. Conference attendees gave generously to the ACWW Pennies for Friendship collection.

The nine NVON state societies reported a membership of 32,875, adding one individual member from Florida, to put NVON membership at 32,876. Treasurer Nancy Jo Prue gave a positive Financial Report. The Year 2022 Proposed Budget was accepted with minor changes. Revisions to the NVON Bylaws were approved. The Bylaws changes were clarification of the endowment fund name and timing of any deposits, time frame for paying state membership dues, name change for the place where NVON records are archived and updating the Robert's Rule of Order version used by NVON. Jane Chapman of the Illinois Association for Home and Community Education was elected NVON President Elect starting her term January 1, 2022. Karen Bell Fox was selected as the nominee from NVON for Secretary of the Country Women's Council, USA. Subsequently, at the September CWC-USA Conference she was installed as Secretary 2022-2024. Indiana Extension Homemakers Association is hosting the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual NVON Conference July 25-27, 2022 in Evansville, Indiana with the theme Make A Difference-Embrace Change.

### **Bonnie Teeples, ACWW USA Area President**

It has been a short summer with all the family visits, ZOOM meetings, three in-person conferences and some ACWW board meetings thrown in for fillers!

It was thrilling to hold the first ever ZOOM USA Area Conference early August. I hope some of you were able to attend and hear reports from the various National Societies. I am still in the process of combining the reports received and the minutes of that meeting. That report will be sent to all of the National Societies and the ACWW Executive Committee.

I was able to attend the National Master Farm Homemakers Guild conference as well as the Iowa Master Farm Homemakers Guild conference in one week. It was amazing to meet with those women who have been chosen by their peers to belong to the Guild. They are truly amazing women, who do so much for their families and communities and the world around them.

Less than two weeks after those conferences I had the opportunity to attend the Country Women's Council Conference. It was good to meet with like-minded people to hear their reports and learn of the many things the various ACWW societies in the USA are doing.

I had the opportunity to speak during each of those conferences and was able to share a little history of ACWW and the USA Societies. It was humbling to read of what our foremothers did to plant the seeds of our various groups as early as 1797 in Finland and in the early years of the 1800's in North America, Germany and some of the Scandinavian countries. We have a rich heritage of caring for the women in the world around us.

Our great organizations have come so far from the seeds first spouting in the 1790s. We came together from diverse organizations with the same basic needs and desires to meet with other women to give and gain strength with each other. Then to form our individual organizations and join the world-wide organization that continues to build strength in women and families world-wide.

I challenge each of you to share your organizations strengths with others, invite others to join with you, to come together as ACWW Societies and plant seeds of unity, that ACWW and our organizations may continue to grow and get stronger here in the USA.

Visiting with many of you I have been filled with the sweet knowledge that **'Every woman worldwide has the same heartbeat for her family'**.



VISION

Kaye Green Editor  
770 Moores Church Road  
Rison, AR 71665  
kayegreen@yahoo.com



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

### NVON Member State Conferences/Meetings

<b><u>Arkansas EHC</u></b> May 31-June 2, 2022 <i>Wyndham Hotel</i> North Little Rock, AR	<b><u>Michigan CEO</u></b> 2022 Marquette Area Upper Peninsula, MI	<b>DATES OF INTEREST</b>  <b><u>NVON CONFERENCE</u></b> July 25-27, 2022 <i>DoubleTree by Hilton Evansville</i> Evansville, IN	<b><u>30th ACWW Triennial World Conference</u></b> May 17-23, 2023 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
<b><u>Illinois IAHC</u></b> March 15-17, 2022 <i>Thelma Keller Conference Center</i> Effingham, IL	<b><u>North Carolina ECA</u></b> October 23-26, 2022 Raleigh, NC	<b><u>NVON CONFERENCE</u></b> 2023 West Virginia	<b><u>CWC/ACWW Area Meeting</u></b> Country Women's Council, USA ACWW USA Area Meeting September 20-22, 2022 <i>North Little Rock Riverfront Wyndham</i> North Little Rock, AR
<b><u>Indiana EHA</u></b> June 6-8, 2022 <i>Embassy Suites</i> Noblesville, IN	<b><u>South Carolina FCL</u></b> October 21, 2022 Charleston, SC		
<b><u>Kentucky EHA</u></b> May 10-12, 2022 <i>Owensboro Convention Center</i> Owensboro, KY	<b><u>West Virginia CEOS</u></b> October 4-6, 2022 <i>Jackson's Mill</i> Weston, WV		
	<b><u>Wisconsin AHCE</u></b> 2022 To be Announced		

