



HCE CONNECTION

Wood County

Home and Community Education

February 2021

President's Message



This is a farewell letter from President Pat Klein.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. What a year it has been. Sadly we were not able to meet for our events, board meets and convention. It is bitter sweet that I am ending my reign as Wood County President. Handing the reins over to Diane and Jim Nickel. They will do a phenomenal job I am sure. Jim is a whiz on the computer and Diane is full of ideas. Together they will motivate us all to be the best members we can be in these difficult days. Hopefully, we will be able to meet again soon.

Please note that Club 51 would like to invite any members that do not belong to a club to join us when we can meet again.

I am sad that we lost Rita Janz to cancer this year. She was a wonderful and talented member. Also Julie Carlson has relinquished her tenure as Wisconsin Bookworms Coordinator for Wood County. But not all is lost, Christine Goodness has graciously agreed to take on the job. She will be the perfect fit. Thank you Chris.

Thank you all for being so accepting of me to be your president for the last two years. Hoping that we will be able to get back to normalcy soon. But in the meantime we will see and hear each other on Zoom and telephone.

Yours Truly,
Pat Klein

Letter From The New Presidents.

Hello,

We are Diane and Jim Nickel, your new Presidents of Wood County HCE. First of all we would like to thank Pat Klein for her two years as President of Wood County HCE. She did a marvelous job during her term. We will continue to rely on her as we start out the new year.

Due to COVID, the Wood County Board has made some changes to HCE so members can still stay connected and informed. We will not be publishing a booklet as in the past. Instead, we will be publishing the Connection newsletter every other month to help keep you updated on the events, cancellations and changes of HCE throughout the many levels of HCE.

So... Welcome to the new Connection format during COVID. Each edition will have an updated calendar, Board Minutes, flyers from state and district and articles provided by you, the members or professionals of Wood County. Thank you to all the members who provided articles for this edition. Please feel free to submit your articles for the next edition by March 30. We have tried to provide you with a wide variety of topics to help you throughout this time of staying safe and at home. If you would like an article on a specific topic, call us at 715-886-4230 or e-mail us at denickel@solarus.biz or mail us an article at Jim & Diane Nickel 365 Peckham Road, Nekoosa, WI 54457. Please Do Not send articles to the extension at the court house because they have very reduced hours due to COVID.

Presidents Diane & Jim Nickel

Cultural Arts Corner by Marilyn Counoyer

HCE Ladies and Jim (of course!),

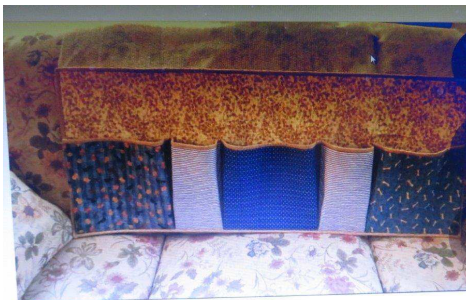


These have been very unusual, unexpected, and trying times since March of 2020. It seems like we can all recall what our normal lives were like back then, and how it all turned around on a dime. Our HCE club's haven't been able to meet, and our County Day Cultural Arts were put on hold till 2021.

As all good HCE member's, we probably have all been keeping ourselves busy, using our time wisely during these times. Like me, you may have either finished projects started some time ago, started other projects that you always wanted to do, or maybe cleaned those closets, or basement shelves that have been staring at you for a LONG time. I reserved many books and videos from the library. I spent a lot of time at my sewing machine, while still listening to the movie on the TV set up near my sewing machine. Love when I am able to multi task and still get projects completed. I have found time for taking walks with friends, sending cards / letters, or more phone calls more often than I normally would have done prior to COVID. The one thing that I miss the most is giving and receiving "HUGS" – for those who know me, "I am a HUGGER!!"

We all now have the opportunity to think outside the box, and learn new way to hold a meeting, or perhaps attend a craft presentation via ZOOM. This may seem intimidating to some, but what a great opportunity to learn something new. Our son is a high school teacher and has really experienced how his students have evolved since first using Zoom. The students first felt uncomfortable and would not look at the screen during a class period, and now are having fun learning in a new way. They have even learned to read a recipe and prepare that recipe together over the web! He is a very hand on teacher and has not let that stop that experience even through COVID.

I made bedside pockets (with 5 pockets each) for 4 of our grandkids for Christmas.



Does anyone else have projects that they would like to share with our HCE member's?

In the past we have made needed items for the Marshfield Clinic Health System – Home Project Opportunities. I have been looked on their website and found the most updated list of needed items. For those of you that have access to the internet, please visit: <https://marshfieldclinic.org/giving/volunteer> and when you reach the site, look for and click on the HOME PROJECT LISTING on the right hand side. This will bring up the most recent and priority items needed for them. For those of you who are sewers, and have some extra time and materials to complete some of these needs, this would be very much appreciated by them. Directions, sizes, etc. are listed next to each item and are fairly easy to complete. If you do get some projects done, call or text me at 715-323-3769 and I can make arrangements for pick up from you and delivery to the clinic.

Diane had sent out the info below on the Cultural & Textile Arts Show 2021 Guidelines in an earlier mailing. I still have the forms from those of you who entered projects last year. Again you will be able to enter them this year, but note that you may not enter a project which is in the same # / letter of a category as in 2020. The form for the 2021 entries should be included along with the newsletter sent out by Diane. If you do not have PINK paper, just send in your registration with the 2 bottom portion's

filled out completely – WITH SIGNATURE ON THE BOTTOM. Don't forget the #20. Bonus Category – “Reach for the STARS with HCE”!! It is always fun to see what our imaginations come up with when HCE is given a challenge.

The Cultural & Textile Arts Show 2021 Guidelines for County Chairs is out. I have included this in attachments in this document. Please print on **pink** paper and distribute in your county. Please read carefully. Some things to understand:

- All items submitted must be clean, (no animal hair, dirt, etc.) or they will be disqualified.
- All participants may submit items made for last year's competition, plus items made for this year's competition because we had to cancel last year's state conference. HOWEVER; each person may only enter 1 item per sub-category. So if someone made a quilt for last year's competition and another quilt for this year's competition, both may be entered this year as long as they are in different sub-categories, so, not the same letter sub-category under quilts. (Confusing, I know! If you need help call me)
- A county may still only enter 12 items to the State Conference for judging. The items must be from different sub-categories, so, you may enter all 12 quilts but they must be from different sub-categories. (letters under quilts) (I like to use quilts as the examples) Confusing, I know! Call me if you need Clarification.

- All registration forms HAVE TO BE ON PINK PAPER!
- All registration forms must be signed!

Cultural Arts registrations due to WAHCE Cultural Arts Chair before August 1, 2021 sent in by the County Cultural Arts Chair

Please read the top portion of the registration form for more details.

Stay safe and I hope you are all keeping busy with your crafting ideas. We don't know if we will be able to get together for Cultural Arts Day in May, but hope that we can still figure out a way to get our project entries entered, judged, and sent onto state in the fall. We will keep our fingers crossed!!!!

Marilyn Cournoyer, Cultural Arts Chairperson

Telephone Tip:



For those of you that are subscribers to Solarus for their telephone service, here is a little tip.

When you leave your house, you can forward calls that would go to your house to your cell phone. To do this pick up the landline telephone and press *72 and then dial your cell phone. Once your cell phone rings, answer it and then hang up on both phones.

When you return home, pick up the landline telephone and press *73. Your telephone is now set to receive calls to your house.



WAHCE Web Page

If you are looking for forms, calendars and anything else associated with HCE. Go to the state web page: www.wahceinc.org Once there you can hover over Contacts and it will drop down a list for 2021 Officers, 2021 Committee Chairs and WAHCE Counties. Clicking on Counties will take you to a page listing the counties by District. There are links to almost all of the counties. Click on the county and it will take you to their page. On Wood County you will find minutes, calendars and officers. On the Home page there are categories for Forms and Documents, Scholarships, Wisconsin Bookworms, State Conference information. Check it out.



UW-Madison Division of Extension's Life Span program presents the Wise Wisconsin Winter Series. Connect with others from around the state as you learn how to increase joy and satisfaction in your life during these cold, snowy winter months. Grab a hot beverage and join us! For more in-depth description of the session, visit:

<https://go.wisc.edu/b4z2s8>

Wise Wisconsin WINTER SERIES

February 3rd through March 10th, 2021

Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m. on Zoom

Register for the sessions you wish to attend at:

<https://go.wisc.edu/8s973c>



Extension
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON



Cultivating Optimism

February 3, 2021

Optimism can help us meet challenges with a positive mindset even in challenging times!

Money by the Heart

February 24, 2021

Consider your values and emotions (and your partner's) in setting and reaching financial goals.

Social Connections

February 10, 2021

Learn about yourself, those you love, and how to really connect with "your people."

Retirement Refinement

March 3, 2021

Some people never retire. Think about this next phase of life as a refinement with new opportunities and purpose.

Finding your Joy

February 17, 2021

Rediscover the keys to happiness that will inspire you to find joy and build resiliency in your everyday living.

I'm Absolutely, Positively Aging!

March 10, 2021

Successful aging includes a healthy lifestyle, a positive attitude, valuing friendships, and so much more!



Contact Life Span Program Manager, Sara Richie at sara.richie@wisc.edu with questions or for special accommodations.

An EEO/AA employer, University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title VI, Title IX, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act requirements.

A Big Thank You To All The Readers



I'd like to tell you how I was introduced to Wisconsin Bookworms. Linda O'Donnell had approached one of our club's members and told her that HCE needed a new person to take over Wisconsin Bookworms. None of us had ever heard of it. She thought maybe we could run it as a club. I was president at the time, so I called Phyllis Haas to find out what Wisconsin Bookworms was all about. She explained about reading at Headstart and giving each child a book to take home. She asked if I would like to go with her the next time she read. So I met her at the West site and we read. On our way back to my car, she said she had some things in the trunk of her car for me. She proceeded to hand me boxes of books and a tablet with some instructions. I'm thinking that there's obviously been some sort of miscommunication! I brought everything home and looked it over. At our club's next meeting, I told everyone that I would take care of it. So it is now 13 years later! At this time we were still called First Book. Then Wisconsin decided to rename our involvement.

As most of you know by now, my cancer has returned with a vengeance. I regret that I have had to resign from my position as the coordinator. Christine Goodness has graciously volunteered to take over. I'm sure she will do an excellent job.

I want to thank all of you who have read with me all these years. You have made my job so much easier. Spending time with you and getting to know you has enhanced our friendship. I know you will also make the transition so much easier for Christine.

For the past several years, we have been reading to 138 - 140 children in total between Biron and the West sites. When I started, we read to 204. The Vesper site closed and the Biron and West sites started to take in infants for child care. Our funding also dropped, so the only thing I could do was to divide the children into 2 groups and read to each group every other month. That way, we could stay involved in the program. Each group receives 4 books instead of 8.

Because of the COVID pandemic, there are only 61 children in total this year, so they will each receive all 8 books this year. And of course, we could not read this year.

Lynn Marcks, the state coordinator arranged to have the children read to virtually. She set up a link which I forwarded to the Director of Wood County. I have checked in with her from time to time and she said she and the staff sort of tweaked it and they are doing great with it.

I certainly hope that by next fall, things will get back to normal.

Again, thanks to all of you and I cherish the time we've had together.

Julie Carlson



Hi,

My name is Christine Goodness. I live in the rural area of Nekoosa. I have been married to my husband Allen for over 43 years. We have 3 grown children and 10 grandchildren. I have been a member of HCE for 31 years. Children have always been a part of my life; I have worked and taught early childhood for many years. I liked working with the youth in 4-H, Boys Scouts, sports associations and religious classes. I enjoy camping, fishing, gardening, and doing

family activities.

I have an Associate degree in nutrition, Associate degree in Early Childhood and a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood education. I have recently retired from teaching and HCE has asked me to take on Wisconsin Bookworms as Julie Carlson has asked to resign her position. Julie has done an excellent job promoting literacy for early childhood. She has organized and promoted reading to the youth in our county for many years. I used to be a “reader” before working full time. My own class room has benefited from having Julie read and share books with them.

Wisconsin Bookworms is a building block of reading and writing for early childhood children. It proves age appropriate books that will increase vocabulary and knowledge of the world. By reading books to young children they learn how to listen, speak, read and write effectively.

I have big shoes to fill, but with Julie’s help I will continue the program she has developed and promoting the love of reading in our youth.



WISCONSIN/NICARAGUA
PARTNERS of the AMERICAS

History of the partnership between WAHCE and Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners

Ardith McDowell, 1996 Chair of the Wisconsin

Homemakers International Committee worked with Ellen Mauer from Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners to develop what is known today as the W/NP Learning Centers in Nicaragua. Ardith worked with the Homemakers to collect and send hundreds of boxes of sewing materials to get Sewing Centers started so women could learn skills and then earn income to care for their families. The Sewing Centers later transitioned into Learning Centers as more classes beyond sewing were incorporated.

Since that time, the relationship between W/NP and HCE has continued with HCE members significantly supporting the growth and development of the Learning Centers. In 2021 there are 42 active Learning Centers that will be receiving supplies sent through Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners. Some HCE groups and individual members provide finances so supplies can be purchased, others donate, transport, or pack sewing machines, craft supplies, fabric & notions, and still others travel and share time teaching in Nicaragua. Following her retirement as a Home Economics teacher, Lynda Pracht, another HCE member traveled to Nicaragua in 1998 on a W/NP sponsored Learning Center Trip in search of new ways to fill her time and share her knowledge. The excellent embroidery and design skills she saw, the enthusiasm of the Nicaraguan women, their spirit, and their strong desire to become self-sufficient inspired her to find a niche market in the doll dress trade. Lynda taught Nicaraguan women from the W/NP Learning Centers to sew beautiful dresses, now known as Chica Nica Doll Dresses! <https://chicanica.org/> The Nicaraguan women are paid for their work before the dress leaves Nicaragua. Purchase of these lovely dresses provide income to the home, often the only money coming into the household to support the family. Women can stay in their community, earn income, learn a skill, and live with dignity. Sadly, Lynda passed away on April 24, 2012, but her legacy lives on as she significantly improved the quality of life for many women living in Nicaragua by sharing her time, resources and skills. Today several HCE members and groups help with sales of these dresses, over 10,000 have been sold to date thanks to many people joining in and helping where they can.

Wisconsin Bookworms Donation Request

Fundraising efforts for Wisconsin Bookworms is under way for the current school year. Once again, Wood County HCE members who are able, are asked to support this worthy cause by purchasing a set of books for the 2021—2022 school year. Each set contains eight books at a cost of \$25.00.

Wiggly is my name! Reading is my game! Let me tell you what I'm all about.

W is for **Wisconsin Bookworms**

I is for **Interest**. I'm interested in all kinds of books.

G is for **Good**. Be a good listener when someone reads to you.

G is for **Great**. Books can be great friends.

L is for **Love**. I love to read.

Y is for **You**. I love all of you!

Submitted by: Faith Kettner Wausau, Wisconsin

To make a donation, make check payable to **Wood County HCE** and mail to:

**Wood County HCE
c/o Christine Goodness
1194 Kimball Avenue
Nekoosa WI 54457-1556**

You can purchase a set of books in honor of someone. We will send them a notice of your donation. Include your name and the name and address of the person you are honoring.

A notice of your donation will be sent to them.



YES! I would love to support the Wisconsin Bookworms project by purchasing a set of books for the 2021—2022 school year. I have enclosed payment of \$25.00.

Name: _____

In Honor of: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Simple Exercises to Prevent Falls

Carl's Corner



Do these strength exercises for **two sets of ten three times a week.**



1. **Front Knee Kicks** - Seating in a chair, straighten out one leg at a time.

Helps to build thigh strength and ability to shoo away the annoying neighbor dog.

2. **Side Hip Raises** - Stand tall while hanging onto a table and raise a leg out sideways.

Builds hip strength and trims the hips for swimsuit season.



3. **Heel Raises** - Stand up tall holding on a chair and come up onto your toes.

Helps calf strength for walking and is good practice for wearing high heels.

4. **Sit to Stands** - Sit on a chair and stand up and down slowly. Use your hands as little as possible.

Helps keep ability to stand up and ability to jump up after Packer touchdowns.



Bonus Facts:

- Interesting fact: A fall itself isn't a problem. How many times do toddlers fall when learning to walk? The problem is an injury from a fall or not being able to get up from a fall.
- If you can still get up and down from the floor safely and easily, make a point to do it every day! Barring anything catastrophic, you'll never lose the ability to get up if you find yourself on the ground unexpectedly.

Carl is a physical therapist from Roberts Physical Therapy in Wisconsin Rapids. He is also a high school wrestling coach, competitive obstacle course runner, and dad of a fluffy Pomeranian.

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

December 8, 2020



Opening: President Pat Klein opened with Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Nickel led the Homemakers Creed.

Minutes: Secretary's minutes from the Board Meeting of December 2019 were not read due to time constraints and we have not met for quite some time.

Present: Jackie Carattini, Diane Nickel, Jim Nickel, Darlene Schumacher, Linda Hobbs, Judy Steinert, Pat Klein, Wendy Young, Connie Eisch.

WAHCE Conference: Hold this till the end of the meeting if there is time. Darlene mentioned that 60 to 80 people have registered and the WAHCE 2020 Conference was cancelled due to COVID-19. Diane thanked Darlene for her work for the WAHCE Conference. The 2021 Conference is in Stevens Point from September 20 to 22, 2021. Some tours have already been set up. If anyone needs help, contact Pat Klein or Diane Nickel.

Membership Dues: Diane Nickel put this on the agenda. Other organizations have carried the membership from 2020 to 2021 without having them pay for 2021. All members and clubs would remain the same as 2020. For those that did pay dues for 2021, the money will stay in the Wood County treasury and will be addressed in 2022. We would still have to pay \$1 to the state and \$1 to West District. The idea is that there were no meetings or events in 2020 so why should they pay for 2021. They thought they would rather drop out. By keeping the status for 2021 the same as 2020 they would still be members and all clubs would still be intact. Two clubs have already started the disbanding process, but everyone feels that it is still possible to reverse the process. A discussion followed about the status of the budget. Diane and Jim said that they would not be submitting for state expense. This money could go elsewhere in the budget. We have been operating for several years at a deficit. If this continues Wood County HCE will be in the red in two years. The consensus of people contacted about dues already paid, they would like to see dues stay in the budget as a donation and not be returned. Motion made by Diane Nickel that this year, 2021 only, that due to the COVID-19 that no dues would be required, four clubs would be retained as members, but the county could pay the \$1 to state and \$1 to West District. Judy Steinert said that the motion sounded great and "We have to take a breath". She seconded the motion. With the passing of this motion, all clubs and members will be retained. Discussion followed. Connie Eisch said that no money has been transferred from the disbanding clubs, so the process has not been completed yet. At this point we went to the budget report. We then came back from the Treasurer's Report. A vote for the membership dues was taken. There were four in favor and two against. The motion is carried. Jackie will pass on the information to Wendy.

Treasurer Report: Connie Eisch reported dues have been paid by 22 club members and 12 at members at large. A discussion followed to redistribute the budget funds for 2021. The WAHCCE Conference budget would be dropped to a minimum amount just to keep the line item in the budget. The state dues line item was reduced to \$1 per person due to COVID-19. A motion was made by Pat Klein to approve the re-adjusted budget. Seconded by Judy Steinert. All in favor. Non opposed. Motion carried.

County President: Pat Klein said that she wanted Diane and Jim to step in at this point because we would not be doing anything before the end of the year. Diane stated that they have been working with Pat over the last couple of months, but Pat will continue to be our president until the end of the year. Diane thanked Pat for the job she has done. Diane and Jim will take over at the beginning of 2021 and still continue to communicate with Pat on procedures and advice.

Connection: The Connection needs to be brought back but with more frequency to keep members in the loop. We need to communicate with the members to let them know what is still available to them. Diane is asking the board to have the Connection go out every other month so we can get documents and information that members need to know about. This information could then go out with the Connection. Diane and Jim would get the information to Wendy. There also could be a section devoted to what members have been doing during this COVID-19 situation. Other members then would have some insight as to what is out there to do in a safe manner. We do need to have content in The Connection. The budget line item for the Connection will need to be increased to cover this additional cost. Jackie would do a "Self-care" piece and a "What's Happening in the Community" piece in the Connection. Many members complemented Jackie on what she has been doing for the club and the community. Articles would be due by the 1st of the month the issue will go out. The Connection will now go out in February, April, June, August, October and December. Articles need to be sent to Diane & Jim Nickel.

The address: Diane & Jim Nickel

365 Peckham Road

Nekoosa WI 54457-1556

Or e-mailed to denickel@solarus.biz

Diane & Jim will send a reminder e-mail to those that have an e-mail account to submit articles for the Connection. Diane & Jim would like a member roster with e-mails, telephone numbers and address.

Wisconsin Bookworms: Julie Carlson let Jackie know that she will be stepping down from the Wisconsin Bookworms. Julie stated to Jackie that when she started there were 200 children in the program and this year because of COVID-19 there are now 61 children. Because of the funding they had, instead of ordering four books, she has ordered the complete set of 8. Carol Dorn will deliver the books to the children. Diane talked with Julie. Wisconsin Bookworms in Wood County is going virtual this year. Diane requested that the Wisconsin Bookworms checkbook for Wood County be kept with the County Treasurer (Connie Eisch). The County treasurer would pay all Wisconsin Bookworms bills. A motion was made by Diane Nickel to have the Wisconsin Bookworms account to be transferred to the treasurer. Seconded by Pat Klein. All in favor. None opposed. The motion is carried. We need to search out a candidate to take over the Wisconsin Bookworms project. Connie suggested that the County show their appreciation to Julie Carlson for all of her work. Connie said she will take care of it with a basket from the Cranberry Connection and a card. Diane would like to have a card program set up for Julie Carlson.

Secretary: Nicki Jarosinski will continue to be the Secretary for Wood County HCE.

Calendar: Pat, Diane and Jim sat down and came up with a calendar for 2021. We at least need a calendar so we can cancel events if need be. The calendar booklet would not be published. The complete yearly calendar would go out in each Connection and could be updated as needed. A discussion followed to determine the dates. Most of the dates have been determined for state and district events.

Board Meeting: January 19, March 16, May 18, August 17, September 28, November 16. Board meetings will be held at 9:30am by zoom. Each member will receive a zoom invitation. Any cancellations of a board meeting, we will send an e-mail to all members having an e-mail and the five members that do not have an e-mail will get a letter in the mail.

Creed: Pat led the Homemakers Creed.

Scholarship: The scholarship for 2021 has been cancelled due to COVID-19. We need to pass a resolution to suspend the 2021 program because of our by-laws. A motion was made by Diane Nickel that we postpone giving a scholarship for 2021 and we will reassess this in 2022 according to our budget and COVID-19. Seconded by Judy Steinert. All approved. The motion is carried.

Adjourned:



**Wood County
Association For Home & Community Education
Officers & Coordinators**

Name	E-Mail	Position	Telephone
Carol Grorich	grorichf@tds.net	Marketing Scholarship Babcock President	
Connie Eisch	ceisch@boku.net	Treasurer	
Darlene Schumacher	darleneschumacher41@gmail.com	WAHCE State Conference Registrar	
Pat Klein	kleinnailcare@gmail.com	Club 51 President	
Agnes Langeberg	langberg@wctc.net	Rudolph Pines President	
Marilyn Cournoyer	hikville@wctc.net	Cultural Arts	
Jackie Carattini	jackie.carattini@wisc.edu	Family Living Educator	
Sandra Oleson	roleson@wctc.net	Family & Community Outreach	
Christine Goodness	acgoodness@yahoo.com	Wisconsin Bookworms	
Denise Mancl	deedeemancl@gmail.com	Membership	
Carol Dorn	gld@tznet.com	Scholarship	
Diane & Jim Nickel	denickel@solarus.biz	Wood County President	
No E-mail:			
Judy Steinert		Family & Community Outreach	
402 North Section Street Nekoosa WI 54457-1556			
Mary Weber		Scholarship	
8136 Hollywood Road Nekoosa WI 54457			
Nicki Jarosinski		Secretary	
5580 County Road F Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494			
Linda O'Donnell		Program	
5096 Creamery Road Nekoosa WI 54457-1556			
Sandra Deering		Historian	
610 South Biron Drive Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494			
Lorraine Hoffman		Historian	
1430 23rd Street North Wisconsin Rapids WI 54494			

Nicki's Thoughts

Co-President Diane has asked me to write a little something for our newsletter. The other day, my granddaughter Morgan, who just turned 21, had asked me to make her a cookbook of all my recipes. Especially her favorites! So that led to another project. Time to sort through all my cookbooks and recipe cards. Needless to say it may take me awhile. I may even become a tad bit organized in the process (I hope). It would be nice to pass on the recipes to another generation!

Having all this at home time is in someways a good thing. Things that needed attention are now being taken care of due to the fact we have the time now to do them. As my Grandma always said, "everything happens for a reason".

Because of the virus we stayed home this winter. Yes we are enjoying a true Wisconsin winter again. I enjoy shoveling snow and seeing the winter birds at the feeders. We have several cardinals and at least one of them sings to me whenever I'm shoveling! What a beautiful sound he makes!

My crochet hooks have been busy. I find it's cozy to make afghans while watching TV in the evenings. My sewing machine has been busy making masks and I plan to finish a quilt I started years ago.

Stay healthy, wear a mask! Stay 6 feet or more apart, get vaccinated and hopefully we can be together again soon! I'm sure you all miss our events as much as I do!

P.S. The last time I wrote a column for a newspaper was high school. It was called "Fads & Fashions".

Submitted by Nicki Jarosinski

Volunteers Needed For 2022 WAHCE State Conference



To all Wood County Members

As you all know, La Crosse County will be hosting the 2022 Conference. It will be held September 18 - 21 at Stoney Creek Inn in Onalaska, WI. They have secured the motel and signed a contract locking in the space needed and the costs. The theme chosen is "Rollin on the River with HCE".

La Crosse county is asking for at least 3 members from each county to be on the planning committee, and will be holding a Wisline with these members in February. The keynote speaker has been secured, and she has a website if anyone is interested in more information about her. It is: www.lisadavidolson.com.

There is already a committee for working with the motel and caterer to plan the meals. La Crosse county will need a committee to plan the tours, you can get assistance from the La Crosse Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Jackson County has volunteered to take care of speaker's gifts. La Crosse county will need quite a few speakers, so if you know of anyone you think would be appropriate or any topics that would be good, let Cheryl or Cathy know. They have already been writing some down that they have thought of. Please let them know who from each county will be on the committee so they know who to send the Wisline info to.

Sheryl Smith email: rosh927@charter.net or phone 608-317-2411


Cathy Onsager email: catw3764@gmail.com or phone 608-397-8194



With many challenges that 2020 has brought, a call for help was placed. With many groups not meeting because of restrictions, the donations for baby hats/blankets to our local hospitals has decreased over the months. I responded to the request and many have participated by either offering to help make the hats and blankets or to donate the yarn so others can create them. It has been a wonderful joint effort to give back to our community.

If you are interested in donating supplies or are able to help knit/crochet please reach out to Michelle H. at 715-572-4435, or email me at shelby0313@gmail.com.

Here is a simple basic pattern that I've been using it allows for multiple sizes based on your preference.



CARON TEENY WEENY CROCHET CAP | CROCHET

CROCHET | SKILL LEVEL: BEGINNER

SIZES
Preemie 3-4 lbs (Preemie 5-6 lbs - Newborn 7-9 lbs - 3 months 10-12 lbs).

To fit head circumference:
8½ (11-12½ -14)" [21.5 (28-32-35.5) cm].

GAUGE
 14 sc and 15 rows = 4" [10 cm].

INSTRUCTIONS
The instructions are written for smallest size. If changes are necessary for larger sizes the instructions will be written thus (). When only one number is given, it applies to all sizes. For ease in working, circle all numbers pertaining to your size.

Note: Chain (Ch) 2 at beginning (beg) of round (rnd) does not count as stitch (st).

Beginning (Beg) at crown, chain (ch) 3.
1st round (rnd): 8 half double crochet (hdc) in 3rd ch from hook. Join with slip stitch (sl st) to first hdc.
2nd rnd: Ch 2. 2 hdc in each hdc around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 16 hdc.
3rd rnd: Ch 2. *2 hdc in next hdc. 1 hdc in next hdc. Repeat (Rep) from * around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 24 hdc.

Size 3-4 lbs only: 4th rnd: Ch 2. *1 hdc in each of next 3 hdc. 2 hdc in next hdc. Rep from * around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 30 hdc.

Sizes 5-6, 7-9 and 10-12 lbs only: 4th rnd: Ch 2. *2 hdc in next hdc. 1 hdc in each of next 2 hdc. Rep from * around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 32 hdc.


Size 5-6 lbs only: 5th rnd: Ch 2. *1 hdc in each of next 7 hdc. 2 hdc in next hdc. Rep from * around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 36 hdc.

Sizes 7-9 and 10-12 lbs only: 5th rnd: Ch 2. *1 hdc in each of next 3 hdc. 2 hdc in next hdc. Rep from * around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 40 hdc.

Size 10-12 lbs only: 6th rnd: Ch 2. *2 hdc in next hdc. 1 hdc in each of next 3 hdc. Rep from * around. Join with sl st to first hdc. 50 hdc.

All sizes: Next rnd: Ch 2. 1 hdc in each hdc around. Join with sl st to first hdc. **30 (36-40-50) hdc.** Rep last rnd until Hat measures approx **3½ (4-4½-5)" [9 (10-11.5-12.5) cm].**

Next rnd: Ch 1. 1 single crochet (sc) in each hdc around. Join with sl st to first sc. Fasten off.



MATERIALS

Caron® Simply Soft® (6 oz/170.1 g; 315 yds/288 m)

Sizes	3-4	5-6	7-9	10-12	pounds
Soft Blue (39712)	1	1	1	1	ball

Note: 1 ball will make approx **15 (10-9-6) Hats.**

Size U.S. 7 (4.5 mm) crochet hook **or size needed to obtain gauge.** 1 stitch marker.

ABBREVIATIONS:

Approx = Approximately	Hdc = Half double crochet	Sc = Single crochet
Beg = Begin(ning)	Rep = Repeat	Sl st = Slip stitch
Ch = Chain(s)	Rnd(s) = Round(s)	St(s) = Stitch(es)

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TEENY WEENY CROCHET CAP | CROCHET 1 of 1

Available Scholarships

There are a couple of scholarships that are available to members of Wood County HCE. In the Wood County Calendar there is a deadline of June 1, 2021 for the Ardith McDowell International Scholarship and a deadline of June 30, 2021 for the Memorial Leadership Scholarship. Below is a description of each scholarship and who is eligible. The description is for 2020. We have not heard if they are offering these for 2021, but they are listed in the 2021 calendar for the HCE West District. Check them out and maybe this might be the boost you need to enhance your HCE experience.

Ardith McDowell International Scholarship

Purpose: The Ardith McDowell International Scholarship was established to honor Ardith, a long-time member of the Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education, Inc. (WAHCE), as retiring Letter Friend Coordinator for Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) for eight and a half years. During that time Ardith matched 648 women to write to each other from 230 societies in 42 countries all over the world.

Eligibility: This scholarship is available to WAHCE members only, for travel to a WAHCE supported international project. It may be received only once in three years and is to be used for travel expenses.

Requirements: Complete the personal data and the questions on the application form. This application should be no longer than two pages. Upon completion of travel, recipients are to report to WAHCE on this experience.

Stipend: The stipend will be awarded upon return by submitting a letter to the WAHCE Treasurer and a copy to Scholarship Chairperson.

Deadline: Application must be postmarked by June 1, 2021, and mailed to Scholarship Chairman: Marcelline Protheroe, N6131 22nd Drive, Wild Rose, WI 54984. Email: proth@centurytel.net

Memorial Leadership Scholarship

A memorial from the Betty Hilbert estate and monies from the WAHCE Legacy Fund are being used to fund this scholarship.

Purpose: To encourage members of WAHCE to seek leadership training, so they may become capable, willing and enthusiastic leaders in the organization and their communities.

Eligibility: This scholarship is available to WAHCE members only, for registration to leadership training, i.e., WAHCE State Conference. Members of the WAHCE State Board are not eligible.

Requirements: 1. Complete the personal data and questions on this application form. 2. Attach a copy of the completed registration form for the workshop/conference you will be attending. This application should be no longer than two pages. 3. After attending, recipients are to submit a report to WAHCE on their experience.

Deadline: Application must be postmarked by June 30, 2021.

Payment for Scholarship: Payment of scholarship will be made after proof of attendance at workshop or WAHCE State Conference registration has been submitted to the Scholarship Chair, Marcelline Protheroe, N6131 22nd Drive, Wild Rose, WI 54984, proth@centurytel.net.

The applications for these scholarships can be found at the WAHCE web site:
<https://wahceinc.org/wahce-scholarships/>

Check them out. If you have questions regarding these scholarships, contact Diane & Jim Nickel at (715)886-4230.

RUTH B. SAYRE SCHOLARSHIP

This Country Women's Council USA memorial scholarship of \$500 is offered for the purpose of fostering educational development of women.

Go to www.wahceinc.org/wahce-scholarships/ and click on the Ruth B. Sayre Scholarship for more Information.



2021 WAHCE Conference

“Reach for the Stars with WAHCE”

The stars are aligning to safely gather this fall to celebrate, spread good cheer and create together. Central District and WAHCE will be hosting the 2021 State Conference at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point on September 20-22. Talk to each other and make a stellar plan to join in the fun. We will shine a light on our HCE achievements. Get ready to twinkle with your cultural arts entries. We have an all-star line-up of speakers, workshops and county activity displays.

Blast off the event with one of our tours or on-site hands-on projects.

Hotel Highlights

The Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center will be our star base. Please make room reservations for yourselves. There are rooms reserved for Sunday night, September 19th if you plan to arrive that day, plus Monday and Tuesday, September 20 and 21. Our Conference Room Rate is \$99.00 for a Standard Room (2 queen beds or 1 King bed plus pullout sleeper sofa). Deadline for room reservations at our conference rate is August 20, 2021. After that the hotel will not be able to guarantee rooms or WAHCE pricing. You may call or book your reservation online 24/7 using the link below.

Contact:

Holiday Inn
1001 Amber Ave.
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Local: 715-344-0200, press #3 or online reservation: [Select a Room \(ihg.com\)](#)

Room Block: WI ASSN FOR HOME AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Group Code: **WHC**

Details and Registration for our 2021 WAHCE Conference will be in the MAY issue of UPDATE or on the website www.wahceinc.org after May 1, 2021. Questions, please contact us via phone or e-mail.

Betty Kastenschmidt, Chair 2021 WAHCE Conference Planning (920)394-2095 or bettykas@yahoo.com

Marilyn Herman, Co-Chair, 2021 WAHCE Conference Planning (920) 596-3594 or mjherman661@gmail.com

District Scholarship available for Conference.

To generate more interest from some counties, the WAHCE Executive Board voted that there will be one scholarship awarded per district for the 2021 WAHCE Conference. The scholarship will cover the registration and meals for one person per district.

For those interested in West District.—We would like to encourage someone perhaps that has never attended because of cost – this would be a great way to experience the State Conference. The person selected will still be responsible for the room cost. The cost of the room is \$99.99 per night. Some counties give money toward the rooms. Some groups share rooms so there are various ways to take that cost down. Please encourage members to send in their name, address and phone number to Joan Staffon, e-mail joanstaff@centurytel.net or, Joan Staffon, N9537 Cty Hwy E, Merrililan, WI 54754. Your name will be place in the drawing along with the names from the other West District applicants by March 1. Be sure they place on their email or note that this is for the drawing. The name will be drawn, and the winning recipient will be notified immediately after the drawing. If per chance that person has decided not to go, another name will be drawn.

Memories From Wood County HCE Members

Carol Grorich—She was a mom with young children when she joined some 60 years ago. She remembers there were around 20 members at that time. Along with many educational programs, there were baby showers, picnics and more. Deanne is the oldest member of the club.

Sandra Oleson— She went to a meeting with her mom as a young child. She has been a member since 1974. Club 51 was named because it was the 51st club to join. The Christmas Party was held at the old Wittenberg School. There was no running water. Everyone brought food to pass. Peggy played the old piano that was left in the school and there was a gift exchange. When guest went to leave, his car wouldn't start and found out the radiator had been stolen! As some ladies would intermittently go outside during the evening (remember, there was no running water!) made them nervous to find out that there was a radiator thief out there!! Everyone looked forward to meetings at Louise's home. She served delicious sponge cake and angel food cake made with flour from Illinois.

Mary Weber— She joined Club 51 in 2013. There were around 10—11 members. She remembers Christmas parties and always enjoyed getting together with other members and being on the Scholarship Committee.

Carol Dorn— She remembers 10—11 members and the Scholarship Committee being a good way of reaching out to the community.

Alvera Kann— She joined Town and Country around 50 years ago. She would bring her three year old son with her. Some of her memories include activities like picnics, trips and Wakely projects. She enjoys water exercise and playing cards and visiting friends and neighbors.

Darlene Schumacher—She was a member in Kimberly in 1964 when her son was born. A successful fundraiser held was a salad luncheon at the Community Center. She moved here in 1983 and joined Town and Country which was then called Jill of All Trades. This was changed for gender reasons. She remembers being president when Wisconsin Bookworms was started.

Lorraine (Mickey) Hoffman— She was a member of the Romemakers around 1983—1984. Met HCE members at exercise classes at Rome Town Hall. Joined Town and Country in 2003 when she moved to Wisconsin Rapids. Remembers craft sales and setting them up and bake sales fundraisers.

I remember meeting Sandy while we were readers for Wisconsin Bookworms around six years ago. Was glad to hear HCE was still in existence and joined Town and Country.

We welcome everyone to share your memories. You can contact me at (715)424-1819.



Submitted by Sandra Deering
Wood County HCE Historian
Town and Country 2021