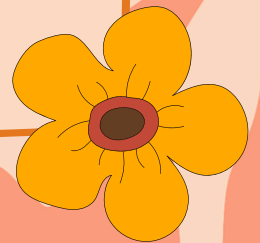
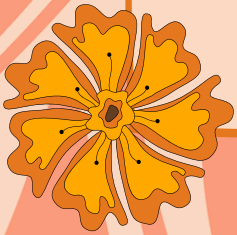


CROSSE COUNTY NEWS

MAY 2024





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mother Nature sure has been playing tricks on us these past couple months, warm on day and cold the next, even some frost in mid-April. Despite all this, trees are budding and flowers are popping up and even some blossoms are showing.

On April 22nd, five members attended West District meeting at the Wisconsin Cranberry Research Center near Black River Falls. Tom Lochner, Director gave a very interesting presentation on cranberry growing and the research they are doing at the center to improve the cranberry crops and study different varieties of cranberries. We took a short tour of the bogs and got an insight as to how the weather affects the growing.

On April 24th, there will be 7 members attending the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner sponsored by Bethany St. Joe's at Piggy's. This proves to be a great experience with delicious food and a program honoring all volunteers.

May 13th will be the Annual Meeting/Luncheon, details are in this newsletter. Also there are details about Fun Day in July, so pay close attention to those events and mark them on your calendar.

State Conference is coming up in September and will be held in Appleton this year September 16-18th. If you receive the Update, all information is in the May issue, it is also on the state website, Wahceinc.org. Motel information is there also. So lots of activities in the next few months, and hopefully the summer will bring us nice weather and time to spend time with friends.

Sheryl Smith



ANNUAL SPRING MEETING/LUNCHEON



Monday, May 13th, 2024

12:00 Noon

Holland Town Hall

*(Cultural Arts Check-in at 11:00 AM)

Lunch will be prepared and provided by the Executive Committee and will be as follows: Chicken Salad on a Croissant, Salads, Relishes, Desserts, and beverages.

Following lunch, we will have our annual meeting and a presentation on "Bee Keeping" by Judy Hoffman whose husband was a beekeeper for many years. Please let Nancy Kuczynski if you are attending so we know how much food to prepare by May 5th. There is no charge and there will be some door prizes.

ANNUAL FUN DAY

Monday, July 15th, 2024

12:00 Noon

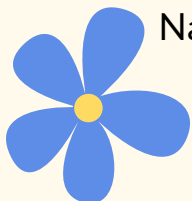
Holland Town Hall

Please bring: Dish to pass
\$5.00 wrapped bingo prize
Non-perishable food for local food pantry

Beverages, plates, cups, and tableware will be provided.

Hope to see you there for an afternoon of great food and fun. Bring a friend if you like.

Nancy and Leann, hostesses



INTERNATIONAL REPORT BY LEAH BORK

Pennies for Friendship due to Sylvia Finch by May Spring Meeting. I will again be putting together a shoe box for the Learning Centers in Nicaragua. If anyone has any of the following they would like to donate, please get it to me by August 1st.

Sewing: Scissors, thread, needles, pins measuring tapes, bias tape, etc.

Gardening: Trowels, clippers, cultivators, gloves, string, row markers, etc.

Cooking: Measuring cups and spoons, wooden spoons, whisks, spatulas, turners, tongs, meat forks, paring knives, etc.

Hair Care: Scissors for cutting hair, clippers, mirrors, brushes, curlers, etc.



WISCONSIN BOOKWORMS

The La Crosse Area Home and Community Education Association has successfully completed the 2023-24 Bookworms program at Headstart. We had nine readers serving eleven classes of 3-4 year olds. With the 2023-2024 school year, Wisconsin Bookworms celebrated its 25th year! During that time, a total of 960,500 books were purchased state-wide, reaching more than 103,655 preschool children.

The Wisconsin Bookworms reading program began in 1998 with innovative grant funding. That year volunteers read books to 1,375 children in 26 counties with 16,500 books being distributed. For the 2023-2024 school year, volunteer readers provided free books to over 3655 children in 33 Wisconsin counties.

Wisconsin Bookworms is a WAHCE sponsored program with educational support from UW Madison-Division of Extension. It is designed to provide free books and an early reading experience to children from limited income families. During the school year, volunteers read a book to the children, engage them in a related activity, provide a bookbag (we sew them here in La Crosse County) and give a copy of the book to each child to take home to help create their own in-home library. Educational activity sheets are also provided for each book.

This collaboration has been very successful. In 2010, Wisconsin Bookworms was the recipient of the UW-Extension Chancellor's Award. In 2011 and 2018 WAHCE received grants from the Green Bay Packer Foundation.

Thanks to the La Crosse Community Foundation and the Franciscan Sisters of Adoration who have been financial supporters of Bookworms, to the LAHCE Bookworms coordinators, Sheryl Smith and Cathy Onsager, the ladies who sew book bags and to the readers who make this program possible.



WISCONSIN BOOKWORMS AT HEADSTART






CULTURAL ARTS

Time is running out, I hope all of you who have used your crafting skills have been able to bring to life the piece or pieces of art you plan to submit for competition. There have been some changes to the categories this year, so I have added the list to the newsletter, it can also be found on the state website, wahceinc.org. Be sure to follow the guidelines carefully, especially with size of quilts, wall hangings, and table runners. Also, if anyone is making a bonus category item, it cannot be larger than 10 ½ inches square.

When you bring your entries to the Spring Meeting/Luncheon, include the category page with a circle around the category for your item. I will have the registration forms to be filled out that need to be sent to Darlene. Good Luck and see you then. Any questions, feel free to call me at 608-769-9856.

Linda Gillmeister, Cultural Arts Chair



Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc. Cultural Arts and Textiles Contest & Show – 2024 Categories				State Registration Deadline: August 1, 2024	
1* - PAINTING		9 – HERITAGE SKILL		15 - SEWING	
1A*	Oil	9A	Hardanger	15A	Children’s Wear
1B*	Acrylic	9B	Tatting	15B	Adult Wear
1C*	Watercolor	9C	Woodworking	15C	Useful Item
1D*	Alcohol Ink	9D	Basketry	15D	Purse or Tote
1E*	Other	9E	Spinning/Weaving/Dreideling	15E	Pillow
2* - DRAWING		9F	Felting	15F	Item made from Recycled Matls
2A*	Pencil	9G	Wool Applique	15G	Wearable Access (apron, hat, etc)
2B*	Charcoal	9H	Rug Making	15H	Other
2C*	Other	9I	Rug Hooking	16* - BED QUILT	
3* - PHOTOGRAPY		9J	Quilting	16A*	Tied Quilt
3A*	Color – Landscape	9K	Other	16B*	Hand Quilted
3B*	Color – Waterscapes	10 – CONSTRUCTED ORIGINAL ITEM		16C*	Pieced-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
3C*	Color – Plants	10A	Clay/Pottery	16D*	Other-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
3D*	Color – Animals/Creatures	10B	Wood	16E*	Pieced–Machine Freehand Design
3E*	Color – People	10C	Fabric/Felt	16F*	Other-Machine Freehand Design
3F*	Color – Skyscapes	10D	Other	17* - SMALL QUILT	
3G*	Other	11 – PAINTED OBJECT		17A*	Tied Quilt
4* - CRAFT		11A	China	17B*	Hand Quilted
4A*	Cards – Paper Only – 6	11B	Glass	17C*	Pieced-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
4B*	Cards – Mixed Media – 6	11C	Fabric	17D*	Other-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
4C	Scrapbooking	11D	Wood	17E*	Pieced–Machine Freehand Design
4D	Craft Made from Recycled Matl	11E	Ceramic/Kiln Fired	17F*	Other-Machine Freehand Design
4E	Handcrafted Doll/Toy	11F	Other	17G*	Not Quilted
4F	Glass Craft	12 - KNITTING		18* - QUILTED WALL HANGING	
4G	Diamond Dot (Full)	12A	Wearable Item	18A*	Hand Quilted Fabric
4H	Diamond Dot (Part)	12B	Wearable Access (hat, scarf, etc)	18B*	Machine Quilted Fabric
4I	Other	12C	Afghan	18C*	Other (ie. Embellishments)
5 – JEWELRY		12D	Other	19 – QUILTED TABLE TOPPER/RUNNER	
5A	Bracelet	13 - CROCHETING		19A*	Hand Quilted
5B	Necklace/Pendant	13A	Wearable Item	19B*	Machine Quilted
5C	Set	13B	Wearable Access (hat, scarf, etc)	19C*	Not Quilted
5D	Earrings	13C	Doily/Dresser Scarf	20* - BONUS CATEGORY “The Magic of HCE” (Open to Artist Interpretation) Please see Entry Requirement Criteria Sheet for size restrictions and entry requirements for categories marked with an (*). All entries that do not meet the entry requirements criteria will be disqualified!	
5E	Other	13D	Afghan		
6* - POEM		13E	Other		
7* - PROSE		14 – HAND STITCHING			
7A*	Non-fiction	14A	Needle Point		
7B*	Fiction (Short Story)	14B	Embroidery		
7C*	Other	14C	Cross Stitch		
8* - ORIGINAL PUBLISHED BOOK		14D	Other		



Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc
Cultural Arts & Textiles Contest & Show - 2024 Entry Requirements (* explanations)



1. **Painting (1A,1B,1C,1D,1E):**
Artwork Must be framed or canvas wrapped.
2. **Drawing (2A,2B,2C):**
Artwork Must be framed or wrapped. Please spray charcoal or pencil drawings with fixative to avoid rubbing off onto other artwork.
3. **Photography (3A,3B,3C,3D,3E,3F,3G):**
Size Requirement: Must be an 8" x 10" print. (Unmatted and Unframed and placed in an 8 ½" x 11" sheet protector.)
4. **Craft (4A and 4B only):** Up to 6 cards without envelopes must be mounted as a group on a flat, sturdy display board.
Size Requirement: No larger than 14" x 22".
6. **Poem (6)**
The writer must have Two Copies typed (12 pt font) which must accompany the registration form.
Entries must NOT be framed or in book form.
Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page.
The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.
7. **Prose (7A,7B, 7C):**
(7A): This Must be an original **Non-Fiction** piece of writing written or published in the current year. (Aug 2023 to Aug 2024)
Written piece must be 3000 words or less.
The writer must have Two Copies typed (12-point font) which must accompany the registration form.
Entries must NOT be framed or in book form.
Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page.
The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.
(7B): This must be an original **Fiction** Short Story which has a beginning, middle, and end.
Piece will need to be written or published in the current year. (Aug 2023 to Aug 2024)
Written piece must be 3000 words or less.
The writer must have two copies typed (12-point font) which must accompany the registration form.
Entries must NOT be framed or in book form.
Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page.
The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.
(7C): Other
This must be original piece of writing written and/or published in the current year (Aug 2023 to Aug 2024)
Written piece must be 3000 words or less.
The writer must have two copies typed (12 pt font) which must accompany the registration form.
Entries must NOT be framed or in book form.
Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.
8. **Original Published Book (8):**
Copy of Book must Accompany the Entry
Book must have been published in the current year. (8/2023 to 8/2024)
16. **Bed Quilt (16A,16B,16C,16D,16E,16F):**
Size Requirement: Must be Larger than 60" x 80" (4800 Square Inches) Measurement must be written on entry form and be confirmed by County Cultural Arts Chair.
A 4x6 picture is required for this category. (The picture must be placed inside of a plastic bag along with the entry form and then attached to the right, bottom corner of quilt with a safety pin)
17. **Small Quilt (17A,17B,17C,17D,17E,17F,17G):**
Size Requirement: Smaller than 60" x 80" (4800 Square Inches) Measurement must be written on entry form and be confirmed by County Cultural Arts Chair.
A 4x6 Picture is required for this category. (The picture must be placed inside of a plastic bag along with the entry form and then attached to the right, bottom corner of the quilt with a safety pin)
18. **Quilted Wall Hanging (18A,18B,18C):**
Size Requirement: Must be no Larger than 50" square.
One Item only allowed. Must be submitted WITHOUT frames.
20. **Bonus Category (20):**
Bonus Category Theme: "The Magic of HCE"
Directions: This category is open to the artist's interpretation. Artists are encouraged to collect ideas from fellow club members. People can use any medium to create their one-of-a-kind pieces. Only one entry per county can be chosen to enter at the state level. This category will be judged on originality and how unique and creative the concept is along with how well it has been crafted and designed.
Size Restrictions: 10"L x 10"W x 20"H. Sizes must be measured by the County Cultural Arts Chair and then written on each entry before it will be judged at the state level.



Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc.
Cultural & Textile Arts Show 2024
Guidelines for County Chairs



ALL items, including Bonus Category, must be pre-registered. Registration is due August 1, 2024. Any items NOT pre-registered will NOT be judged or displayed. Only one (1) entry on each registration form. Send all forms together immediately after the county show including written entries. A County may enter a total of 12 entries, plus one Bonus Category 20. A County cannot have duplicate entries in any lettered sub-category. The County Cultural Arts Chair must include a self-addressed postcard or email address to verify receipt of registration forms. If you do not receive verification within three (3) weeks, please call or email the WAHCE Cultural Arts Chair.

IMPORTANT: ALL entrants MUST sign the registration form. Please read and sign below. Entries will NOT be accepted if unsigned. Entrants will not hold WAHCE responsible for any loss or damage to any item submitted for use in the WAHCE Cultural Arts Show. Entrants give permission for their photo, photos of their entry, and/or print copies of their written entry to be used by WAHCE as seen fit. **Judges have authority to put items in the proper category, if needed.**

All work must be done by the entrant and completed after last year's county show. It must receive first place at the current year's county show or fair. All items must be clean or laundered or will be disqualified by the judge. Kits and patterns may be used if the entrant does all the work. All easels must have a securely taped label with name, county, and district.

Color Coding of Registration Forms by Districts:

Central – White
Southeast – Green

Northeast – Yellow
Southwest – Orange

Northwest-Light Blue
West – Pink

Entry Day: Deliver items Sunday (September 15th) from 2-7 pm or Monday (September 16th) 9-11:30 am. Judging will begin at 12:00 pm. Members may view the show after the Monday evening activity until 10:30 pm and during the afternoon and evening on Tuesday, September 17th. The viewing hours on Tuesday will be announced or posted. Times to pick up items will be posted.

Send registration and written entries to:

Darlene Schumacher, Cultural Arts Chairperson

2531 Golf Course Road, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495 Email:
darlenschumacher41@gmail.com
 (715) 741-0503 Cell | (715) 424-2851 Home

Cut on the dotted line and send in the **SIGNED** completed Registration Form and Claim Check **with both parts filled out.**

NOTE: You will receive your Claim Check when you bring in the items.

2024 Registration Form

Registration # and People's Choice Vote #: _____

Category (i.e., 2D) _____

Class (i.e. Acrylic Oil) _____

District: _____ County: _____

Name (PRINT) _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Title/Color/Pattern Description:

Please read and sign: Entries will NOT be accepted if unsigned. Entrant will not hold WAHCE responsible for any loss or damage to any item submitted for use in the WAHCE Cultural Arts Show. Entrant gives permission for their photo, photos of their entry, and/or printed copies of their written entry to be used by WAHCE as they see fit.

Signature _____

County _____ Date: _____

2024 Claim Check Claim Reference # _____

Category (i.e., 2D) _____

Class (i.e., Acrylic / Oil) _____

District: _____ County: _____

Name (PRINT) _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

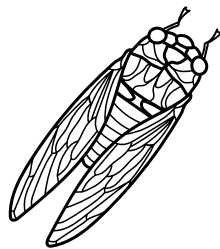
Email _____

Phone _____

Title/Color/Pattern Description:

Extension Office Support

THE BUZZ ABOUT WISCONSIN'S PERIODICAL CICADAS



Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Time: 12-1PM

Location: Online Event

Cost: **FREE**



Our big emergence of periodical cicadas is nearly here in Wisconsin. Join in to learn about the biology and life cycle of these fascinating insects and their role in the ecosystem. We'll also take a look at when and where to expect cicada activity in the state and what it could mean for your own yard.

Presented by PJ Liesch, Director of the UW Insect Diagnostic Lab

This is a free event, but registration is required. Please visit our website to register:

[Wisconsin Horticulture - Division of Extension](#)

THE SCIENCE (AND ART) OF PLANT DISEASE DIAGNOSIS

Date: Wednesday, May 22, 2024

Time: 6:30-8:30 PM

Location: Online Event

Cost: **FREE**



Learn about the fascinating and complex process involved in identifying plant diseases. Learn about how to visually assess for plant disease symptoms, as well as about the range of lab tests that are often needed to confirm the identity of plant diseases.

[Wisconsin Horticulture - Division of Extension](#)





ASK THE EXPERTS: A MONTHLY GARDEN AND LANDSCAPE Q&A SERIES

Date: Monday, May 20, 2024

Time: 1-2PM

Location: Online Event

Cost: **FREE**

Join our monthly online programs in 2024 for an opportunity to connect with plant health experts from the UW-Madison Division of Extension. Each session, held on Monday afternoons from 1:00-2:00 pm, is your chance to ask questions about your trees and shrubs, garden vegetables and ornamentals, and lawn. Whether it's about plant diseases, pesky insects, or the selection and general care of plants in and around your home, our panel of seasoned experts will provide you with insightful answers. Don't miss out on this opportunity to cultivate your knowledge and keep your plants thriving.

These online sessions are free but registration is required for each one that you would like to attend. Upon registration you will receive an email confirmation with the link for joining the session.

[Wisconsin Horticulture - Division of Extension](#)

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
United States Department of Agriculture
University of Wisconsin-Extension
La Crosse County Offices
212 North 6th Street
La Crosse, WI 54601



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