



Changing With Today

Columbia County Association for Home and Community Education December 2016

President's Message

Hello to all of my friends,

I am writing the December president's message on November 9th. It is a beautiful sunny day. In the next part of this message I am telling you of an event that happened many years ago. I hope it will inspire you to visit with your neighbors for whatever reason. While you are visiting, just ask them if they would be interested in joining the HCE group. It is not hard to do, I am always asking people if they would like to join. DO YOU ASK?

REMEMBERING THE PAST

Mertis Hartman lived only a short distant from us, and to get to her house the fastest way was to go through the woods, crawl through a fence and then follow the creek. On this occasion, my mother did not go with us; it was to be a grand adventure for my brother and me.



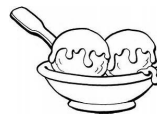
Mother may have asked us to take something over to Mertis, but, whatever the reason, one day David and I found ourselves approaching her house. Her dogs sounded as though they were ready to eat us alive, but since Mertis had told Mother her dogs were tied, we proceeded in spite of all the barking. As we approached, Mertis came out of the house and welcomed us with her big smile.

We were given the royal tour. We saw the new kittens, her flowers, a goose sitting on a nest of eggs, and finally a new calf in the barn. After all this she invited us into her home where we found Ivan, her hired man, who greeted us with a nod. Ivan was a man of few words but

on this day he suggested to Mertis that a dish of ice cream might be in order, and David and I were not about to object.

So we sat down around her big, round oak table and played with the cats while Ivan sat on the porch just watching. Mertis got some rather large bowls from the cupboard, ice cream from the freezer, and proceeded to fill those big bowls with large scoops of ice cream. She then asked if we would like some peanut butter and honey on top. David and I were both a little shy so we just nodded our heads in response to the question.

For what seemed like an eternity, we attempted to eat the ice cream as usual, but the cold peanut butter stuck to the roofs of our mouths and on the way home we were still prying peanut butter from our upper palates. It really was a great treat, just a little difficult to eat. Years later, we are still reminiscing about the day we ate ice cream and peanut butter which Mertis so graciously served us.



Mertis was a member of the "homemakers" group in the neighborhood. As a good member, she would invite my mother to meetings. They were the best of neighbors and the best of friends. SO, NEIGHBORS, ASK YOUR NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS TO A MEETING AND THEN ASK THEM IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO JOIN.



LOOKING FORWARD

I am looking forward to having Barb Kell, a Durward's Glen Club member, fill the position of Membership and Marketing on the Executive Board. BARB, THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

(cont'd p. 2)

Announcements/Dates to Remember

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Circle: Donna MacLeish, Kim Shanks, Eunice Shanks, Beth Zamzow

Durward's Glen: Jan Loeffler, Kehulani Jones

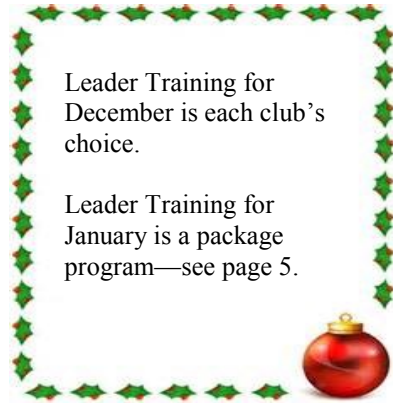
Marcellon: Sharon Bartnick, Virginia Nelson, Karen Stone (reinstated), Rita Wegner

Program books and secretary materials are ready. Stop by the Extension office to pick them up, or let LuAnn know that you would like them mailed to you.

Any corrections/updates to the program book will be posted in this area in future newsletters.

(608) 742-9688 or luann.olson@ces.uwex.edu

It's true, Christmas can feel like a lot of work, particularly for mothers. But when you look back on all the Christmases in your life, you'll find you've created family traditions and lasting memories. Those memories, good and bad, are really what help to keep a family together over the long haul. —Caroline Kennedy



Leader Training for December is each club's choice.

Leader Training for January is a package program—see page 5.

The three stages of life: 1) You believe in Santa Claus 2) You don't believe in Santa Claus 3) You are Santa Claus



- Answers:
- 1) Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, and Rudolph
 - 2) Old silk hat
 - 3) Whoville
 - 4) Red Ryder rifle
 - 5) Will Ferrell
 - 6) Christmas Past, Present, and Future
 - 7) Elvis Presley
 - 8) Eleven pipers piping
 - 9) Twice
 - 10) Under the mistletoe

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT'D)

UNUSUAL EVENTS

Fresh tomatoes in November.

I discovered I can drive to Wisconsin Dells, through all the roundabouts, without turning the wrong way. GREAT!



WILD GATHERINGS

I have not been out there gathering lately. I did look for wild grapes, and did not find enough to even think about.

(see p. 5 for a recipe from Kay)

Kay MacLeish
Columbia County HCE President

PARDEEVILLE CENTER NEWS

CASTLE BUILDERS have eight members in their group. They meet at various places, usually at 1:00 p.m. Their Christmas party was held at Tivoli. They have made donations to the Columbia County Care Center, the Giving Tree, Cream Puff fund, and the Badger Honor Flight. The club enjoyed dining at the Corner Pocket and Capri. They follow the lessons offered through HCE for their meetings.

MARCELLON HOMEMAKERS meet at the Marcellon Town Hall, having a potluck at noon. They have 16 members. Three ladies had articles entered at the State Convention—one receiving a medallion. Some made prayer shawls individually. The ladies have also made seven fleece blankets and given them to River Haven, along with children's books in a basket, gave lap robes and quilts to the VA Hospital in Madison and Tivoli, donated to the Town of Marcellon, River Haven, Bookworms, and the Youth Encouragement Fund. In December members baked cookies and delivered them to shut-ins. This is a busy club.

PLEASURE HILL has eight members. One of their members, Helen Ring, received a 65-year membership necklace at the 2015 Fall Council meeting. She was also honored by her club with a donation to Bookworms for her 90th birthday. The club talked of starting new clubs in assisted living centers with different HCE area clubs volunteering to take a meeting for the month. They have enjoyed dinner outings and potlucks during the year. A garden tour of one of the member's homes was held before one of their meetings.

SEW AND SO'S have 10 members and now meet in the afternoon at different homes. They have donated to Bookworms and River Haven. They attended the Rendezvous as a club. At their planned Christmas dinner, they exchange a \$5 consumable gift. Subjects for education were: car headlights/three types, soda pop, chocolate, robocalls, and River Haven. Interesting topics.

Margaret Sanderson, Center Chair



POYNETTE/LODI CENTER NEWS

Poynette Country Women did not have any meetings this year. The club is down to four members. It is a challenge to figure out days that the group can meet, as one of our members babysits two days a week (Monday and Wednesday). On Thursdays two people have other commitments. The club will be meeting with two former members in December for a lunch. At this point the four remaining members will discuss meeting with the New Settlers and do a combined meeting, if that works with them. On a sad note, one member passed away this fall —Vivian Hillestad. She had been a member for many years.

New Settlers (9 members): The club met in January 2016 and made smoothies from their lesson for that month. They also learned to make greeting cards that day. Robin Kinnunen brought the supplies and explained the application and procedure for making the cards. Four members were present and each made a couple of cards. February they discussed finding a new meeting place, but decided to stay with the Dekorra Lutheran Church if it was okay to do so. They discussed making lightweight blankets for infants and teenagers. They also discussed things they could get involved in for the Christmas season. They had several ideas but decided each member should do something on their own.



MEMBERSHIP/MARKETING

Hi! My name is Barb Kell. I am a newish member of the Caledonia/Portage Center: Durward's Glen club. I have three purposes listed in the membership/marketing position. I paraphrase my job description as: to promote and grow groups through information through the groups to the public and to increase members. I thought I would start by sharing some ideas about membership using the analogy of a garden.

You can have lovely flowers in prairie grass, but if you want a garden that has flowers and no weeds, there are a few things that you need to do and keep doing. In a garden you have: gardeners, flowers and weeds.

Gardeners: The gardeners are the leadership team. They are responsible to keep the garden going. They help the flowers bloom by fertilizing, watering, and pulling the weeds. What would that look like in an HCE group?



1. The fertilizer are those things that will make the group grow. That is encouragement, good programs, and care of the people. You might informally assign an "old" member to a new member which may be as simple as sitting next to them during the meeting and whispering what the Sunshine fund is or picking them up the first year to go to all the meetings.
2. Watering is something done regularly. Leaders lead by example. If you want your group to grow, you need to grow personally and ask people to come to your group or any group. Asking is key. How did I get this position? Kay MacLeish asked me. Who can say "no" to her enthusiasm and love of HCE? It is also how I became a member of our HCE group.
3. The weeds are those things which inhibit growth. That would be assuming everyone knows what is going on. It is assuming that everyone knows how to get in contact with people. It is assuming that everyone knows where the homes are and not sharing in advance those things "we have always done." It is also not finding ways to incorporate new ideas.

Flowers: The flowers are the members. They are responsible for their own growth and propagation.



1. If you miss a meeting, find out what happened. Ask that the minutes or a summary be shared every month on e-mail or snail mail. Keep informed. Speak up if you don't know what is going on. You joined for a reason so be excited about finding out more about this amazing group of people you are now part of.
2. You joined for a reason, so once a week share with someone the joy of your HCE group and ask that person to join you as a guest and maybe a member.

Weeds: I am good at the beginning of the growing/planting season. I weed and water and then we have vacation, and other things come into play. By August my garden is a mess. Weeds happen to everyone. We forget. We get distracted. Life happens and we get busy. Once a month comes around so fast it can make your head spin. Good intentions are just on your "to do" list. Leaders and members are responsible for the weeds.

Groups grow by everyone caring for the group people and process. Good luck and good gardening. If you have ideas you want to share about how your group is growing or ask for topics to be discussed here or ask for information that will help you grow, email me revskell@gmail.com or call my cell 608-370-0156. Thanks for reading, Barb

LEADER TRAINING

Package program available for your January 2017 club meeting

Looking for a topic for your January 2017 club meeting? Your Education Program Committee recognizes that January isn't a great month for going out and about so they are making available a "package program" that your club can use. A package program is a set of materials that can be shared and discussed at your club meeting, including handouts for club members.

The 2017 January package program was created by Sue Nagelkerk, Family Living Educator in Sauk County. The title of the package program is "Creativity with Mason Canning Jars." Many of you know about using Mason Jars for canning food, but these materials will introduce you to many new ways to use these

jars, such as fun food gifts, lighting, storage, candle holders...and more! The materials are sure to get your creative juices flowing.

If your club would like to use the package program, please have one person from your club contact LuAnn at the UW-Extension office and request the package; let LuAnn know how many members you have. Individual members are also encouraged to request the materials. Make sure to plan ahead so LuAnn has time to make the copies and send them to you prior to your January meeting. You can also ask LuAnn to hold the copies at the Extension office to be picked up by a member of your club. LuAnn's contact information is 608-742-9688 or luann.olson@ces.uwex.edu.



At our last local meeting I served the following recipe. It was suggested I put it in the message, so here it is.

Goey Mixed Nut Bars

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
3/4 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon butter or margarine, chilled, divided
1 cup butterscotch chips
1/2 cup light corn syrup
1 can salted mixed nuts

Heat oven to 350 degrees. In medium mixing bowl, combine flour, sugar and salt. Using pastry blender, cut in 1/2 cup butter until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press mixture evenly into ungreased 11 x 7 inch baking pan to form base. Bake for 15 to 18 minutes, or until edges are light golden brown.

In 2-quart saucepan, combine remaining 1 tablespoon butter, the chips and corn syrup. Cook over medium heat until chips are melted, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir in nuts. Spread mixture evenly over the base. Bake for additional 10 to 15 minutes, or until edges are bubbly. Cool completely before cutting.

Source: Cookies! A Cookie Lover's Collection. Torment Publications Inc. Montreal, Canada. 1995



MESSAGE FROM FAMILY LIVING EDUCATOR

Hello Columbia County HCE Members,
 As I prepare to retire at the end of December I'd like to assure you that your HCE organization will continue to receive support from our Extension office through the efforts of two outstanding people. The first person you know: LuAnn Olson, Administrative Assistant, will continue to work with HCE on such things as the monthly newsletter, keeping track of changes in your clubs/club member-

ship, Barn Quilts, and other tasks as appropriate. The other person is most likely new to you: Pat Wagner, the Columbia County 4-H Assistant, will be taking on some additional roles on a short-term basis, including being available to work with the HCE Executive Board and Board committees, helping out with the Leader Training logistics, and supporting other aspects of HCE as identified. You are all leaders and are doing great things in your com-

munities – LuAnn and Pat will help support your efforts.

As I look forward to retirement I want to say again what a pleasure it has been to meet so many of you and to work alongside you in order to strengthen home and community life in Columbia County. I wish all of you the very best.

Sincerely,

Patti Herman, (soon-to-be-retired)
 Family Living Educator



It was Christmas and the judge was in a merry mood as he asked the prisoner, "What are you charged with?" "Doing my Christmas shopping early," replied the defendant. "That's no offense," said the judge. "How early were you doing this shopping?" "Before the store opened," countered the prisoner.

Answers on p. 2

CHRISTMAS TRIVIA	
1.	Name Santa's Reindeer.
2.	What magic article of clothing brings Frosty the Snowman to life?
3.	The Grinch tried to take Christmas away from the residents of what town?
4.	Ralphie (in A Christmas Story) only wants one thing for Christmas. What is it?
5.	What is the name of the main character in Elf?
6.	Name the three ghosts that come to visit Scrooge.
7.	Who is most known for singing Blue Christmas?
8.	On the 11 th day of Christmas, my true love sent to me _____.
9.	How many times does Santa check his Naughty & Nice list?
10.	In the song, I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, where were Mommy & Santa?

HOLIDAY IDEAS



Clean & Scentsible

Grape, banana slice, strawberry, mini marshmallow



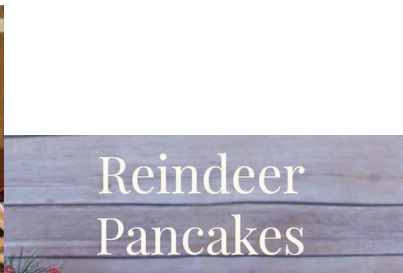
© Roxy's Kitchen



© Roxy's Kitchen



Boiled eggs, carrot slices, peppercorns



365 PINTEREST



© Roxy's Kitchen



© Roxy's Kitchen



© Roxy's Kitchen



Columbia County

Family Living

120 W. Conant Street, Suite 201
Portage, WI 53901
(608)742-9680
711 for Wisconsin Relay

**NON PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 355
Portage, WI 53901**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Agriculture, Extension, Land & Water Conservation Committee provides oversight to UW-Extension:
Mike Weyh (chair) 608-742-2314
JoAnn Wingers (vice chair) 608-348-5837
John A. Stevenson 608-516-1528
Tim Zander 608-948-8216
Steve Attoe (secretary) 608-445-6893

UW-Extension Columbia County Family Living Staff

Patti Herman, Family Living Educator
Phone: 608-742-9686
patti.herman@ces.uwex.edu
Homepage: <http://columbia.uwex.edu>
Office hours: 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., M-F
(call ahead before stopping by to make sure I'm in the office)
LuAnn Olson, Administrative Assistant
Phone: 608-742-9688
luann.olson@ces.uwex.edu



UW-Extension Columbia County Office Staff

Jennifer Evans, Administrative Assistant
Caitlin Richardson, Nutrition Education Prog. Coord.
Kathleen Haas, Community Resource Dev. Educator
George Koepp, Agriculture Agent
Pat Wagner, 4-H Program Assistant
Karen Nelson, 4-H Youth Development Educator

2016 HCE Executive Board

Kay MacLeish, President,
Kris Young, Vice President, President Elect
Margo Holzman, Past President
Helen Ring, Membership/Marketing
Linda Krejchik, Secretary
Carol Beck, Treasurer
Margo Holzman, International Coordinator
Kris Young, Education Program Coordinator
Dorothy Neitzel, "Changing with Today" Editor
Clara Blau, Cultural Arts
Gertrude Stilson, Cultural Arts, Barn Quilts Committee
Bobbie Goodman, Fund-raising
Chris Berger, Fund-raising
Donna Kohnke, Fund-raising
Vi Burmeister, Scholarship
Dorothy Neitzel, Scholarship
Donna Kohnke, Education Community Outreach Coord.
Marie Gabris, Wisconsin Bookworm™
Avis Link, Sunshine
Linda Heckel, Caledonia/Portage and WI Dells/
Lewiston Center Chair
Vacant, Cambria Center Chair
Vacant, Columbus/Fall River Center
Margaret Sanderson, Pardeeville Center Chair
Kris Young, Poynette/Lodi Center Chair

