

Port-O-Gram

Portage County UW-Extension
1462 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481-2947
715-346-1316



January, February, March 2016



January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 1 Update Article Deadline
Central District Highlights
- 30 Due: Membership List, Affirmative
Action Sheet, Program Planning
Sheet from Secretary's Book to
UW-Extension Office.



February

- 14 Valentine's Day
- 24 to March 4
Learning Center Trip/Nicaragua



March

EVERY FRIDAY - SHOP THE COOP!
See page 4 for Details

- 15 Port-O-Gram deadline
- 27 Easter
- 30 Spring County Day
Host: Stevens Point
Portage County Annex
Rooms 1 & 2
9:00 Gather with Refreshments
9:30 Business Meeting
12:00 Potluck Luncheon (*bring a dish
to pass and personal table service*)
1:00 Educational Program;
Food Label Lingo
by Sherry Daniels,
UWEX Family Living Educator



EOM SPARTA Used Book Sale
Call Nancy Kemmeter
715-344-2598

2016 Program Book Corrections / Updates / Changes ~ Dianne Trzebiatowski

Make the following corrections to your 2016 Program Book

- Add Lorraine's home phone: 715-344-7154 (pg. 8)
- Marge's e-mail is mthiele4950@gmail.com (pg. 8)
- Change 2015 POOL to 2015 Education Programs (pg.18)
- County trip is August 3 (pg. 26)
- North Almond (pg. 34) members:
Nancy Schulze (last name misspelled), add cell no. 715-869-2820
Add Lynne Dernbach, cell no. 715-498-8130

A Message From President Dianne Trzebiatowski



Our hectic pre-holiday HCE activities are behind us. All I can say, is “Job Well Done!” The cookie sale was a huge success thanks to everyone's generous cookie and monetary donations. Thanks also, to those who helped at the Lettie Jensen Center, setting up and selling cookies.

On Wednesday, December 9, we enjoyed eating some of our cookies and sharing a wonderful afternoon at the Christmas Honor Tea hosted by the Amherst Center. Ramona's demonstration on making gingerbread houses was a real treat, and some of you were lucky enough to “win” one of her beautiful creations to take home. Thanks, Ramona! The game we played provided fun, and a present, for all!

This year we honored Rose Haarth as our newest 10-year Wisconsin Bookworms™ reader. Donna Martens, County Treasurer, and Jean Schwirtz, Program Chair, were reinstalled for the coming 2016-2017 term and all other county officers and committee chairs were thanked for continuing as leaders in our organization.

It was great to see and welcome the three new members that are joining the North Almond Club, Lynne Dernbach, Pat Leary, and Nancy Schulze. FLE Sherry Daniels, UWEX Support Staff Denise Rocha and Jean's sister, Judy also joined us for this final HCE activity of the year.

I wish each of you and your loved ones a New Year filled with Peace, Joy, and Good Health.

Dianne

Other Notes From President Dianne Trzebiatowski



- 38 baby quilts/blankets (*collected for Healthy Beginnings*) were given to the Foster Care Program of Waupaca County. (*See page 6 for more info*)
- Toiletries (*and books, if you still have some*) continue to be collected and given to the Salvation Army. Drop them off at the Extension Office.
- Please go through your cupboards and take any surplus items and things you'll never use to a food pantry near you.
- Our county organization and/or individual clubs should implement a new community project(s) to replace the donations/support we gave the Healthy Beginnings Program. **Any suggestions?**

DO YOU HAVE AN EMAIL ADDRESS?

If so, we want to know! Please
send an email to

Denise Rocha at UW-Extension
denise.rocha@ces.uwex.edu



WAHCE Information ~ Dianne Trzebiatowski



State Conference: The 2016 "76 Trombones Leading HCE" Conference will be held at the Plaza Hotel in Eau Claire September 12-14. Registration will be \$50.00 for members and there will be a \$50.00 late fee charged for late registrations.

Conference Cultural Arts Show: Each county is allotted twelve (12) entries, one must be in the written category. The Bonus Category for 2016 is "Let's Make Music". The size restriction for each entry is as follows: Base (L X W) no larger than 10" X 10" with a maximum height of 20". Please direct any questions to Veronica Sustar, 608-847-1140 or va914@yahoo.com.

International: The State Board voted to distribute the 2015 donations to International as follows:

- \$1,600.00 for cinder block stoves (Nicaragua);
- \$1,100.00 to NVON for water filters;
- \$1,650.00 to Heifer International for 1 camel, 1 heifer, 2 sheep,
2 flocks of chickens, 1 flock of ducks
- \$ 104.71 to W/NP for shipping boxes to Nicaragua.

Mark Your Calendars:

2017 WAHCE Conference: Sept. 10-13, Glacier Canyon Lodge, Lake Delton

2018 WAHCE Conference: Sept. 17-19, Country Springs Hotel, Pewaukee

2018 NVON Conference: July 14-17, Country Springs Hotel, Pewaukee, WI

GET INVOLVED

Be a volunteer and reap the rewards

Volunteers are needed to help review and revise our County By-laws and Portage County HCE brochure.

Please contact Dianne at 715-366-7685 if you can help!

"No one has ever become poor by giving."
Anne Frank

From the W/NP Office of Amy Wiza



WISCONSIN/NICARAGUA
Partners of the Americas, Inc.

A donation from WAHCE in honor of Betty Ann Tubin's retirement was designated to build a stove for Carmen's neighborhood.Here are comments from Isabel who coordinates this project:

"Her full name is Carmen Amalia Lopez, she is a hard working woman, lives just a few blocks from my house, that is why I can witness what she does for a living, laundry and ironing.



When I was named by the WNP to coordinate Stove Project, I started choosing the right people to learn the job. The first person I thought of was Carmen. I knew she would want to learn something in which she would change her way of making a living as well as keeping in mind gender equality. So

her excitement of being part of the team is obvious, is very handy when the 2 or 3 men are making the kind of construction work of the stoves.

Her specialty is making the concrete mixture and checking all measurements on the stoves pieces."

Thanks so much to Betty Ann who is making a great contribution to one of the Nicaraguan women who deserves a chance.", Maria Isabel Moraga, Stove Project Coordinator





WISCONSIN/NICARAGUA *Partners of the Americas, Inc.*



2015 A year to celebrate WAHCE and W/NP
(Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners of the Americas)

The Nicaraguan W/NP Learning Center participants are immensely grateful to WAHCE members all across Wisconsin that share in various ways to help this project continue. Some 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. Each and every expression of support, so generously given, is vital, appreciated and important.

In looking at the history of WAHCE, it's no wonder a solid connection has formed...

The first meeting to consider the formation of a state Home Demonstration Council was called by State Leader, Blanche L. Lee in 1939 during Farm and Home Week on the UW-Madison campus. Advisory Committee met June 13, 1939 to elect officers. The first official meeting of presidents of county Home Demonstration Councils was held January 30, 1940, 22 counties were represented. The purpose of the council was to:

- Provide representation of rural women on state committees concerned with issues which affect home and families in rural communities.
- Develop an awareness of national and international interests and needs.
- Develop leadership abilities of rural women.
- Facilitate statewide acquaintances of rural women.



Amazing how this is exactly what is happening on the local level in Nicaragua with the W/NP Learning Center program!

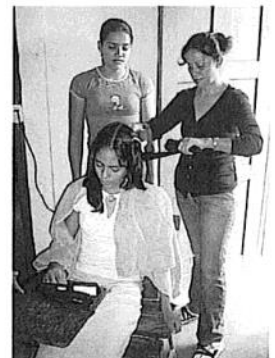
Comments on how the Nicaraguan women are involved with the Learning Center Program:



Gloria Ocon Santamaria, Guadalupe LC from Managua *She has been involved with the WNP LC Program since five years ago. Her involvement started with a request of materials to help the church she attends to. Even though she didn't receive any support at that time, she decided to come to the office to check the courses being taught. When she came she saw a woman doing smocking on a dress and that fine job really caught her attention she says. That was her motivation to be part of the LCs. Her interest has been to learn to train other people. She has taken four different courses and has taught two. She likes the diversity of classes and the way they're taught.*

Besides working with WNP, she also volunteers with another NGO training adults and children that have AIDS so that they feel useful in life and also have a tool that opens doors for them as far as job opportunities. She feels grateful for all the supplies and for all the knowledge she has gained being part of this organization. It has made her life worthwhile.

Luz Marina Hernandez, leader of San Gabriel LC in Valle Los Aburtos in Managua. *She received three boxes of fabric from which she is going to make tote bags and sewing supplies, baking pans, school supplies for children who don't attend school, who are mentally ill, and deaf. She has always had the inspiration to help others in her community. She doesn't keep to knowledge to herself, instead is shared with others that have the initiative to learn. They teach basic skills and offer services that demanded by the community. Her LC was created since 2001 and so far she has around 50 active women working with her teaching different skills. She is very thankful with WNP for the donation received, although is not much she has enough creativeness to make anything out of tiny piece of fabric. Is all very well received and useful for the LC. Thanks a lot!*



Ronald McDonald House Thank You! ~ Donna Martens



November 3, 2015

Dear HCE,

Thank you so much for the children's pillowcase. Your kindness brings comfort to those in need. Your time and talents are truly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Cindy
Evening Manager

Tomorrow River Christmas Cookie Sale ~ Jean Schwirtz

HCE members Betty Daberkow, Jill Rosenow, Dianne Trzebiatowski and Ramona Romundsen are ready to start selling cookies at the Tomorrow River Christmas sale. The cookie sale fundraiser was a huge success. Thank you to everyone that contributed and worked that weekend. These funds will certainly help keep us going another year.



Quilt & Blanket Donation Thank You! ~ Jean Schwirtz

Dear Portage County HCE,

I just received the wonderful donation of blankets for children and youth in foster care.

I wanted to thank you so much as I can only imagine the amount of time that went into making them all. They will certainly be put to good use, especially around the holidays.

We are very thankful for each and every blanket. Thank you again.

Respectfully,

Angie Reynolds

CSW Foster Care Coordinator



Pictured: Jean Schwirtz delivering our donation quilts to Chris Machamer from the Waupaca County Department of Health and Human Services. Chris will be delivering them to the Foster Care program.

Feed Bag Totes ~ submitted by Lynn Isherwood

The Bag - Instructions for making a tote bag from a feed bag
(Kathy Campen, our District Cultural Arts shared this with us)

Choose a bag of your choice (sometimes you need to buy feed for your neighbors animals to get just the bag you want) Just make sure your bag has a woven nylon finish on the inside

Cut the bottom off – cut close to the sewing

Turn the bag inside out

Wash and dry. Keep the bag inside out !! All the way to the finish

Mark the top and bottom of the picture you want to show when finished

Draw a line across the bag at your bottom line (the bottom of the picture)
(this is the folding line)

Draw another inches 2 inches below your first line (this is the sewing line) Do not sew yet!

Draw another line $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch below the sewing line (this is the cutting line)

Cut off at this line.

Mark a 2 inch square in the corner above the sewing line (this will eventually make a 2 inch squared bottom, increase if you want a wider bottom on your bag)

Starting at the bottom of the bag cut through the sewing line and cut out the square – your cut out square now will include below the sewing line.

Done at the bottom for now – Do not sew yet !! It is all marked and the bottom cut off.

Now at the top of the bag –

Draw a line 2 inches above your picture line (this becomes your top fold line)

Draw a line 4 inches above this fold line. Using this line cut off the top of the bag (Save the cut off pieces, top and bottom)

Fold down 2 inches – again fold down 2 more inches

The top of your bag is now at the top fold line

Handles – Using your saved cut-off sections, cut a strip 2, 3 or 4 inches, whatever you have

Cut it to make one long piece – fold in 3rds lengthwise and sew down the center

Cut in half to make 2 handles

One handle on each side of the bag, Careful, not two on the same side

Tuck your sewn handles way up under the folds

Placing them about 2 inches off the center of the bag or more if desired

Making about a 4 inch space between each handle connection

Sew around the bag at $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the bottom of the fold

Sew around the top of the fold, about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the top

Top Finished

Now back to the bottom

Sew across at your sew line

Using your fingers press open that sew line

Match your sew line to the center of the bag

Sew across this area to make the square bottom corner ..

Turn and you are FINISHED



Christmas Tea ~ Jean Schwirtz

Installation of Officers was held at the Christmas Honor Tea. Pictured: President Dianne Trzebiatowski, Donna Martens Treasurer and Jean Schwirtz Program Chair.



A demonstration on making Gingerbread Houses was given by Ramona Romundsen at this year's Christmas Honor Tea.



Congratulations to Badger Club member, **Rose Haarth** who was honored for being a **Wisconsin Bookworm™** readers in Portage County for 10 years at this year's Christmas honor Tea.

Here's a bit about Rose from her friend Jean Schwirtz.

Rose was born in Chicago, Illinois, July 5, 1935. (Yes, she celebrated her 80th birthday this past summer.) When Rose was 5 years old, her mom, (Rose) and dad (Tony) bought a house in LaGrange Park, Illinois. That is where she lived until moving to Wisconsin in 1990.

Many changes occurred while living there. Rose's mom died when she was just 12 years old. It was very lonely. It was hard without brothers or sisters to make things livelier. At the beginning of her senior year, Rose's best girlfriend set her up on a blind date. One day before high school graduation, she became engaged to Hank. The next day he left for the Army. Hank went to California for training and then left for Germany for 18 months. There were many letters written back and forth. While he was away, Rose took a job at the high school in the bookstore as bookkeeper.

Rose and Hank were married on July 9, 1955. This year they celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. How time flies! Hank and Rose have 4 children, 10 grandchildren, and 7 great grandchildren.

While the kids were growing up, Rose applied for a position at Chas. A. Stevens, her favorite women's department store in town. It started out part-time and sometimes as full-time. She worked in customer service for 18 years until they closed the store. That same year her husband's company, Continental Can, also closed. Hank had been with them for 38 years.

It was time to move. In 1990, Hank and Rose moved to Almond, Wisconsin. It was quite a change for her. She never knew it could be so dark at night. I (Jean Schwirtz) invited Rose to come to an HCE meeting and here she is . . . 25 years later. Rose couldn't tell me no and we're all glad she didn't. We have a nice group of ladies in our Badger Club.

Rose's hobbies include bowling, which she has done for years. She also likes to golf, sew, crochet, cross-stitch and loves her computer. Rose is also hooked on doing genealogy for her family.

Rose worked for Turner's Vegetable Market for about 4 years and now is an inspector and tabulator for any elections held in the Township of Lanark.

Ten years ago Rose began reading at the Amherst's Own Child Care Center to young children ranging from babies to 5 years old. Rose and Hank read once a month and bring a book for each child to keep for their own. Hank is a great help when kids need help turning the pages. The ladies that work there and the kids are so happy to see them. They are so appreciative.

The Badger Club is blessed to have Rose as a member. She volunteered to be our vice-president several years ago. Then moved up to president has been there ever since. Rose is also a great neighbor to me. We switch off watching each other places when someone is gone, getting each other's mail and Rose baby-sits my fish.

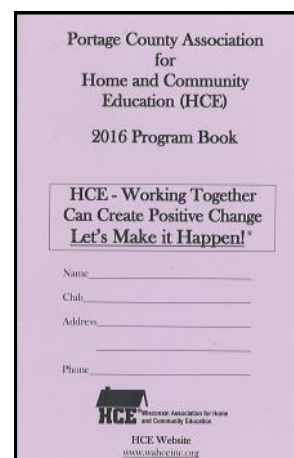
Badger Club is so glad Hank and Rose chose our community to move to.



2016 Program Booklets ~ Jean Schwirtz

2016 Program Books were distributed at the Christmas Honor Tea. Please take some time to check out all the educational and fun opportunities that are planned.

Mark your calendars now so you don't miss anything.



Portage County Wisconsin Bookworms™ ~ Jean Schwirtz, Coordinator



Badger Club Members Kari Riley and Nyla Peskie are putting labels in the book, "I Like Myself", one of the books we will be reading/giving to students in 2016 for the Wisconsin Bookworms™ project. Members put labels in 5 sets of books totaling 1300 books.

From the Desk of Sherry Daniels ~ Portage County FLE & HCE Advisor

Welcome 2016!

Hopefully 2015 was a good year for you and you took time to reflect on all you have, with gratitude. There are so many opportunities to look forward to in 2016.



As you may know changes are being discussed within the UW System and UW-Extension; I was thinking about HCE and our partnership in the future. I realized I have learned much from the WAHCE organization but even more from our local HCE members. You all work together to bring quality educational programming to our members and to our communities. I found a quote from one of the past Deans of UW-Extension, Carl O'Conner, he said, "This organization represents the spirit of sharing and community involvement that makes Wisconsin a better place to live for all of us." His statement reflects my experiences with HCE and its members.

I look forward to our continued partnership in 2016.

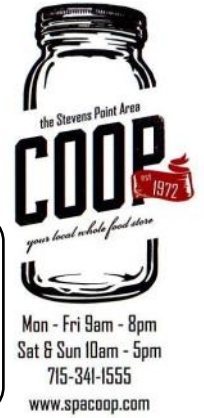
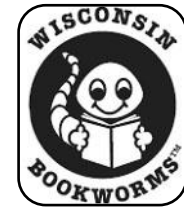


Wisconsin Bookworms™ Fundraiser ~ Jean Schwartz, Coordinator

The Stevens Point Area Cooperative has chosen our Wisconsin Bookworms™ project for one of their 1% Fridays recipients.

The Co-op will donate 1% of March 2016 Friday sales as well as change collected from their spare change jar and reused bag fees.

Please mark your calendar now and remember to shop at the COOP on one or all of the Fridays in March.



Shop the COOP on Fridays in March!

Recipe for a Happy New Year! ~ from www.appleseed.org, author unknown

Take twelve fine, full-grown months; see that these are thoroughly free from old memories of bitterness, rancor and hate, cleanse them completely from every clinging spite; pick off all specks of pettiness and littleness; in short, see that these months are freed from all the past—have them fresh and clean as when they first came from the great storehouse of Time.



Cut these months into thirty or thirty-one equal parts. Do not attempt to make up the whole batch at one time (*so many persons spoil the entire lot this way*) but prepare one day at a time.

Into each day put equal parts of faith, patience, courage, work (*some people omit this ingredient and so spoil the flavor of the rest*), hope, fidelity, liberality, kindness, prayer, meditation, rest (*leaving this out is like leaving the oil out of the salad dressing—don't do it*), and one well-selected resolution.

Put in about one teaspoonful of good spirits, a dash of fun, a pinch of folly, a sprinkling of play, and a heaping cupful of good humor.

I would like to thank Home and Community Education for the corsage and other memorabilia for my 69 years in Homemakers and HCE. I joined in 1946 and have held offices in my Club, the County level as Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer when the county office was combined as Secretary/Treasurer. I resigned as Vice President when I went to work at the Veteran's Home in King, WI in 1969.

I have enjoyed all the years in HCE. We learned a lot of ways of doing our activities, like upholstering chairs, making lampshades, mattresses and making breads, rolls, etc.

Many Thanks to HCE!

Eunice Schultz, North Almond HCE



Thank you, Central District HCE for honoring me as an HCE Homemakers member. The diamond pendant is beautiful.

Eunice Schultz and I were surprised with the beautiful corsages given to us at the Conference.

Though, I don't think I can make 69 years like Eunice has!

Thanks Again,

Violet Kawleski, North County HCE

WAHCE 2016 MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH

In 2013 and 2015 we saw the introduction of some new groups into our HCE family, including a sustainability group, one with former 4-H members, Community companions (disabled adults), and memory care residents. We would like to see this trend continue.

We are asking each county to step out into their communities, and form a NEW HCE group. Look for an educational or common interest need within your communities, and form a group that can meet that need.

We are looking to emphasize and broaden the educational aspect of HCE by offering our programs to our communities, with the added benefit of increased membership for WAHCE.

I have put together this information to help you begin your journey.

Our HCE Creed says that we pledge ourselves...

- 1 .To Work for the preservation and improvement of home and community life;
2. To strive for healthier minds and bodies and better living;
- 3 To promote the welfare of our boys and girls, the nation's greatest asset;
4. To be true to God and country and of lasting service to our homes and communities.

GUIDELINES FOR STARTING A NEW GROUP

1. Choose ONE of these PLEDGES, and start a new HCE group that addresses the concept stated in the creed.
2. Advertise for, and hold, an informational meeting about your learning opportunity or common interest. Use the attendance at this meeting to form your possible new member list.
3. Hold an organizational meeting. Select a NAME for your group.
4. Use the MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT, and "What is HCE?" to introduce attendees to HCE. The MEMORANDUM is available in the COMMUNICATOR, and both are available online at wahceinc.org.
5. Elect officers for the group. The President should be a current HCE member.
6. Complete forms (listed below) and submit them to your county president, and the WAHCE State Membership Chair.
7. Hold at least one program for your group using extension resources. Remember that your Extension office has many programs for you to access.

Here is a list of suggested resources to use.

WAHCE definition: "What is HCE?"

WAHCE defines Membership

*New HCE Group Organizational Form for 2016

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

*Membership Roll and Photo Release

*WAHCE New Member Information: 2016

*Affirmative Action Information

All resources are available on the wahceinc.org website.

Copies of the starred items must be submitted to your County President and the WAHCE State Membership Chair.

SUBMIT THIS INFORMATION

TO THE WAHCE STATE MEMBERSHIP CHAIR BY AUGUST 15th 2016

This must be a NEW group (form completed), but can have current HCE members also.
Groups formed in 2015 may complete this form, and enter for 2016.

1. Copies of the New Member Information sheets
2. A copy of the New HCE Group Organizational Form for 2016
3. A copy of the group membership roll and photo release form.
4. The additional information below.

NAME OF NEW GROUP: _____

WAS THIS A GROUP ORIGINALLY FORMED IN 2015? YES___ NO___

If yes, how many members were in the group in 2015? _____

COUNTY: _____ DISTRICT: _____

WHICH PLEDGE BEST MATCHES THE FOCUS OF THIS GROUP? _____

DATE OF FIRST ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING: _____

NUMBER OF NEW MEMBERS (FIRST TIMERS) AS OF AUGUST 1, 2016:

BRIEFLY DESCRIBE ANY PROGRAMS THAT WERE HELD : _____

WILL YOU BE BRINGING A DISPLAY TO THE STATE CONFERENCE?

YES ___ NO ___

MAIL TO: KRISTY SAND 963 85TH AVE. AMERY, WI 54001 by August 15, 2016

Portage County UW-Extension
1462 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481-2947
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Cooperative Extension Staff

Connie Creighton, Department Head/
4-H Youth Development Agent
Sherry Daniels, Family Living Educator
Ken Schroeder, Agriculture Agent
Nathan Sandwick, Community Resource Development Agent
Jill Hicks, Administrator, Wisconsin Nutrition Program Education
Mary Higley, Wisconsin Nutrition Program Educator
Joanna Lickel, WNEP, Support Staff
Penny Schmitt, Wisconsin Nutrition Program Educator

Support Staff

Denise Rocha, Agriculture/Family Living/Reception
Ryan Nelson, 4-H/CNRED/Administration

Office Phone (715) 346-1316
Fax: (715) 346-1323
Toll-Free: 1-866-920-2525



HCE Website:

www.wahceinc.org

Portage County Website:

www.portage.uwex.edu

Publications Website:

www.learningstore.uwex.edu

Local Government Websites:

www.co.portage.wi.us
www.stevenspoint.com
www.ploverwi.gov
www.n.villageofalmond.com
www.amherstwi.govoffice2.com3
www.townofamherst.org
www.junctioncitywi.com
www.plainfieldwis.com