



# CROSSE COUNTY NEWS



MARCH 2024



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Wow! Hasn't this been a different winter, it is almost too good to be true. I just worry what March and April will bring.

Our Stitches of Love and Services of Love projects have come to an end. Ten nursing home/assisted living facilities received mitten muffs, and were all very thankful. Our "buddy bags" have been distributed to multiple places including police and fire departments, Family and Children's Center, La Crosse County Social Services, Catholic Charities, Salvation Army shelter, Tri-State Ambulance, First Responders in both La Crosse and Monroe Counties. We have put together over 300 of these. With both projects, if there is a need for more, we will make an effort to supply them.

The year is speeding by, we are making plans for the Spring Meeting and Luncheon. Cultural Arts items will be judged, and our speaker will be Judy Hoffman, talking about Beekeeping. West District meeting is on April 22 in Jackson County at the new cranberry center, it proves to be an interesting day. Registration form is included in this newsletter.

Looking ahead to September, State Conference will be in Appleton. Motel information is on the state web site and also was in the last issue of the Update. The committee has been working hard securing speakers for the workshops, planning tours, and meals.

I will soon be leaving for a couple weeks in Arizona, originally thinking we would be getting away from cold weather, but only about 20 degrees warmer than here. But, it's time away.

Please read this newsletter carefully and see what is going on with LAHCE.

Sheryl Smith



## INTERNATIONAL REPORT FOR MARCH 2024 NEWSLETTER

2023 Pennies for Friendship distributions totaled \$9561.85.

This is how it was divided:

ACWW \$2000.00

Ventures in People, Haiti (Scholarships) \$1050.00

WI/Nicaragua Partners== Water \$600.00, Bee Keeping \$600.00

Learning Centers \$3593.45

Shipping \$1718.40

Days for Girls \$900.00

Heifer International \$100.00

CWC Project \$300.00

This year our topic will be FOOD INSECURITY in the WORLD.

Nine million children in the United States regularly do not have enough food to foster healthy growth and development.

WAHCE challenges us to give extra to our food pantries and keep a total which will be forwarded along with all of Wisconsin to the 2024 NVON Conference and to ACWW.

So clubs, I am asking that we collect at each of our meetings and I will keep a total. Also, if you give direct to food drives, give me that total. They suggest we donate hearty item, like beef stew, chunky soups, spaghetti with meat, etc. Let's all help with this insecurity!

Lean Bork, International Chair

## CULTURAL ARTS NEWSLETTER MARCH 2024

Hello everyone, I hope you are all doing well. Personally, I am working on a plastic canvas piece as one of my cultural arts entries to be judged at the Annual Spring Meeting. I hope many of you are also working on entries so we have a great show. I enjoy many different art forms, and ideas that we all have. Please share with me any ideas you may have for upcoming workshops.

Linda Gillmeister, Cultural Arts Chair



## 4-H CLOVER COLLEGE

Five LAHCE members participated in the La Crosse County 4-H Clover College on Saturday, February 10th. Sheryl Smith & Linda Gillmeister taught a class on making refrigerator magnets by weaving shapes through plastic canvas. Cathy Onsager, Sylvia Finch & Carolene Neumann taught a class on making snow globe candle holders by repurposing wine glasses and figurines found at rummage sales & thrift stores.

These 'crafty ladies' really enjoy working with UW Extension and the 4-H. The kids are so creative! This year one creative mom joined in the fun & made snow globes with her daughter.







## 2024 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

This year we have 25 members in our La Crosse Area Home and Community Education Association. While we have lost members due to moving to warmer climates, disability or death, we have gained members which is keeping our numbers stable.

We lost one club last year, the Table Rock Club, which disbanded. We currently have 3 active clubs: Happy Hollanders with 11 members, Little Barre with 6 members and Camaraderie with 4 members. In addition, we have 4 members at large.

I would like to encourage you to invite family, friends and neighbors who are interested in doing community service, participating in sewing or craft events, reading to children at Headstart, socializing with a fund group of active people, and helping to educating the community on relevant issues, to check out LAHCE. A personal invitation is the best way to let others know what we are all about.

We are looking forward to a great year. Keep tuned for more information on community service projects, education and social events.

Cathy Onsager, Membership Chair

**SENIOR MOMENTS** at Onalaska library, Wednesday mornings 10:00 (Spring 2024)

**MARCH 6**

Badger Aces by Mike O'Connor, retired librarian from Wausau who researched aviation about Wisconsin fighter pilots during wars 1917-1972

**MARCH 13**

The Aprons of Evelina Grimes from Vesterheim Museum

**MARCH 20**

Dead Lines. George Hesselberg about writing obituaries for the State Journal. A history of ordinary people.

**MARCH 27**

In search of the Wisconsin Sasquatch by Jay Bachochin

**APRIL 3**

Who rode the War Eagle/author Robert Taunt. Story about the steamboat that burned and sank on the Black River.

**APRIL 10**

Green Circle Recycling by Harter's Waste Management

**APRIL 17, SOUNDS OF SPRING, HANS MAYER**

**APRIL 24**

Historic La Crosse Preservation Efforts, Laura Goddem, UWL

**MAY 1**

Booth Girls, Kim Heikkila, author. Information about the home for unwed mothers and adoption of their children

**MAY 6**

Wisconsin Railroads, Arlyn Colby author. A Wisconsin high school teacher who spent years researching railroads around Wisconsin.

**MAY 15**

Senior Fair



## WEST DISTRICT SPRING MEETING “CRANBERRY MARSHING”

When: Monday, April 22, 2024

Where: Wisconsin Cranberry Research Station, W8510 County Rd. O

Black River Falls (Between Millston and Shamrock)

Registration at 9:00 AM with Refreshments

9:30 Welcome and Introductions

9:45 Business Meeting -Committee Reports

10:15 Short Break

10:30 Speaker: Tom Lochner-Wisconsin Cranberry Growers Association

11:30 Lunch or Outside Tour of Grounds

12:30 Outside Tour of Grounds or Lunch

1:30 Entertainment by Pat Carlson with some HCE Jackson County songs

2:15 Wrap-Up: Evaluation Sheets, Invitation to Fall District Mtg, and Door Prizes

2:30 Adjourn

Meal will be Chicken salad with cranberries or Ham salad sandwich on a crescent roll, salads, pickles, potato chips, dessert & drink

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Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed

Indicate sandwich choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Chicken \_\_\_\_\_ Ham

Make Checks payable to: Jackson County HCE

Mail payment to: Linda Nandory, 615 N. 10<sup>th</sup> Place, Black River Falls, WI 54615 linda.nandory@gmail.com

Registration transferable but not refundable.

**Registration deadline: April 8, 2024**



**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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