

CROSSE

COUNTY

NEWS



MARCH 2025



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I would like to welcome our two newest members to LAHCE, Gretchen Chalsma and Carol Halpaus. I hope these ladies find being as member as rewarding as I do.

On February 22, we will be participating in Clover College in partnership with 4-H. There will be 6 of us teaching some new crafts, the first will be button art, the participants will be glueing buttons on a small canvas to create a picture to hang on their wall. We have collected a wide variety of buttons for them to use. The second class will be diamond dotz, I ordered a kit from Amazon and each child will be able to make one or two refrigerator magnets.

We have also partnered with WINN and supplied needed items to the homeless population, purchasing hand warmers and Crystal Light drink packets for them. With donations from Dawn's Dollar Deals, they have also been given t-shirts, hoodies, and blankets which they really need since we are having some bitter cold weather.

The third services of love project is helping Amy's Closet, collecting children's books which they will distribute at Easter time. If anyone has any gently used or new books to donate, just let me know. I will also be collecting more blankets for the homeless. Our stitches of love project started on January 22nd when several of us got together and cut out and started sewing the walker/wheelchair caddies. I would like to have at least 50 to distribute in March or early April.

April 28th, we are hosting the West District Spring meeting. Members of the executive board are making the nut breads for the registration refreshments. The ladies of the West Salem Presbyterian Church will be making and serving the meal. Cathy Onsager and I met with Diana Engel and decided on the menu and the arrangement of the room. The registration form will be in this newsletter, it would be great if we have a large turnout from our county.

Recently we made a trip to visit our grandson's and attended a show choir competition in Waukee, Iowa. In the lunch room there were signs hanging from the ceiling and one impressed me greatly. It is as follows:

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others". This was stated by Mahatma Ghandi and is a good reminder of our purpose.

Sheryl Smith, President

WEST DISTRICT SPRING MEETING

When: Monday, April 29, 2025

Where: West Salem Presbyterian Church
625 West Franklin St. West Salem, WI.

9:00 AM Registration with refreshments.

9:30 AM Welcome and Introductions

9:45 AM Business Meeting and Committee Reports

10:15 AM Short Break

10:30 AM Speaker: Terry Visger, Professional Storyteller

Terry takes on the role of a clammer's wife and explains how mussels were harvested, and how they were made into buttons. She will also talk about the valuable pearls that were found. Then she will talk about mussels and the clamming industry. Terry weaves stories for all ages and engages her listeners, educates & take them on a journey of the imagination.

11:30 AM Business Meeting (cont).

12:00 PM Lunch

1:00 PM Chair Yoga with Jean Mengelt

2:00 PM Wrap-Up: Invitation to Fall Meeting and Door Prizes

Meal will be pulled pork on buns, salads, veggies and dip, desserts and beverages (Please let us know if there are any dietary restrictions).

Name_____

Phone #_____

Number Attending_____X\$15.00=_____Enclosed

Make checks payable to **La Crosse County HCE**

Mail to: Sylvia Finch, 210 Schaller St, Tomah, WI 54650

Sylvia@thefinchfamily.com

Registration deadline is April 15, 2025

(Registration transferable but not refundable)

WINN



Our MISSION

WINN

WINN Inc. lovingly cares for our un-sheltered neighbors in the Coulee Region with empathy, compassion and understanding and accepts individuals as they are, where they are.

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Hello Sheryl,

Would you kindly share this note with your group and/or include it in your newsletter? Thank you so much!

Dear Friends at La Crosse County Association for Home and Community Education,

Thank you for your generous donations of blankets, handwarmers, drink mixes, etc for your un-sheltered neighbors. WINN is serving a record number of people without housing or shelter this winter. Our two shelters - Salvation Army and the Winter Warming Center - are at capacity. We are doing our best to help people survive in the cold. Your gifts are needed and appreciated. We are helping people survive until housing and shelter are available to everyone.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Susan (Sue) Graf

Executive Director, WINN, inc.

whatineednow.org

Phone: 608.738.7406

Floyde's Senior Moments

Learning and entertainment for older adults



Select Wednesdays
at 10 a.m.



Onalaska Public Library
741 Oak Ave S, Onalaska, WI



Generously funded by the
Ben & Floyde Sias Foundation

February

February 12

Brutus the Mini Pig | Jancee Doemel

February 19

Time to Ship Another Steer | Bill Mueller

February 26

Works of Art | Mike Martino, sculptor

March

March 5

Wisconsin Prisoner of War Camps in WWII
Matt Carter

March 12

Fraud & Identity Theft | BMO Bank

March 19

Statue of Liberty | David Jones

March 26

*Letters Home to Sarah: The Civil War Letters
of Guy C. Taylor*
Kevin & Patsy Alderson

April

April 2

WASPs of WWII | Fred Beseler

April 9

Mystery of Migration | Bill Volkert

April 16

Waltraud: Growing Up in Nazi Germany
Tammy Borden

April 23

Wegner Grotto | Norma Schmig

April 30

St. Croix Hospice | Dana Bisteau

May

May 7

Castlerock Museum | Bill Wolcott

May 14

Joe Cody, musician

May 21

Senior Fair



Bangor • Campbell • Holmen • Onalaska • West Salem



Dates and programs subject to change. Visit
our website for the most up-to-date event
information: lacrossecountylibrary.org



Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc.
Cultural & Textile Arts Show
2025 Guidelines for County Chairs



ALL items must be pre-registered. Registration is due August 1, 2025. 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. 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	Northeast – Yellow	Northwest-Light Blue
Southeast – Green	Southwest – Orange	West – Pink

Entry Day: Deliver items Sunday (September 14th) from 2-7 pm or Monday (September 15th) 9-11:30 am. Judging will begin at 11:30 am. Members may view the show after the Monday evening activity until 10:30 pm and after lunch on Tuesday, September 16th. 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: darleneschumacher41@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.

2025 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. 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 printed copies of their written entry to be used by WAHCE as they see fit.

Signature _____

County _____ Date: _____

2025 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: _____



1. **Painting/Drawing:**

Artwork Must be framed or canvas wrapped.

Please spray charcoal or pencil drawings with fixative to avoid rubbing off onto another artwork.

2. **Photography:**

Size Requirement: Must be an 8" x 10" print. (Unmatted and Unframed and placed in an 8 ½" x 11" sheet protector.)

3. **Craft: Cards:** Up to 6 cards without envelopes must be mounted as a group on a flat, sturdy display board.

*Size Requirement: (Diamond Art) No larger than 24" x 24".

5. **Poem:**

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.

6. **Prose:**

(6A Non-Fiction): This Must be an original **Non-Fiction** piece of writing written or published in the current year. (Apr. 2024 to Aug. 2025)

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.

(6B Fiction): 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.

(6C Other): This must be original piece of writing written and/or published in the current year (Apr. 2024 to Aug. 2025)

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.

7. **Original Published Book:**

Copy of Book must Accompany the Entry

Book must have been published in the current year. (Apr. 2024 to Aug. 2025)

15. **Bed Quilt:**

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)

16. **Small Quilt:**

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)

17. **Quilted Wall Hanging:**

Size Requirement: No larger than 50" square. One Item only allowed. Must be submitted WITHOUT frames

Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc. Cultural Arts and Textiles Contest & Show – 2025 Categories				State Registration Deadline: August 1, 2025	
1* - PAINTING/DRAWING		8 – HERITAGE SKILL		14 - SEWING	
1A*	Oil	8A	Hardanger	14A	Children’s Wear
1B*	Acrylic	8B	Tatting	14B	Adult Wear
1C*	Watercolor	8C	Woodworking	14C	Useful Item
1D*	Alcohol Ink	8D	Basketry	14D	Purse or Tote
1E*	Pencil	8E	Spinning/Weaving/Dreideling	14E	Pillow
1F*	Charcoal	8F	Felting	14F	Item made from Recycled Matls
1G*	Other	8G	Wood Applique	14G	Wearable Access (apron, hat, etc)
2* - PHOTOGRAPHY		8H	Rug Making	14H	Other
2A*	Color – Landscape	8I	Rug Hooking	15* - BED QUILT	
2B*	Color – Waterscapes	8J	Quilling	15A*	Tied Quilt
2C*	Color – Plants	8K	Other	15B*	Hand Quilted
2D*	Color – Animals/Creatures	9 – CONSTRUCTED ORIGINAL ITEM		15C*	Pieced-Machine/Computer Patter Design
2E*	Color – People	9A	Clay/Pottery	15D*	Other-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
2F*	Color – Skyscapes	9B	Wood	15E*	Pieced-Machine/Freehand Design
2G*	Other	9C	Textiles	15F*	Other-Machine/Freehand Design
3* - CRAFT		9D	Other	16* - SMALL QUILT	
3A	Cards – Paper Only – 6	10 – PAINTED OBJECT		16A*	Tied Quilt
3B	Cards – Mixed Media – 6	10A	China	16B*	Hand Quilted
3C	Scrapbooking	10B	Glass	16C*	Pieced-Machine/Computer Patter Design
3D	Craft Made from Recycled Matl	10C	Fabric	16D*	Other-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
3E	Handcrafted Doll/Toy	10D	Wood	16E*	Pieced-Machine/Freehand Design
3F	Glass Craft	10E	Ceramic/Kiln Fired	16F*	Other-Machine/Freehand Design
3G*	Diamond Art (Full)	10F	Other	16G*	Not Quilted
3H*	Diamond Art (Part)	11 - KNITTING		17* - QUILTED WALL HANGING	
3I	Other	11A	Wearable Item	17A*	Hand Quilted Fabric
4 - JEWELRY		11B	Wearable Access (hat,scarf, etc.)	17B*	Machine Quilted Fabric
4A	Bracelet	11C	Afghan	17C*	Other (ie. Embellishments)
4B	Necklace	11D	Other	18 – QUILTED TABLE TOPPER/RUNNER	
4C	Set	12 - CROCHETING		18A	Hand Quilted
4D	Earrings	12A	Wearable Item	18B	Machine Quilted
4E	Other	12B	Wearable Access (hat,scarf, etc.)	18C	Not Quilted
5* - POEM		12C	Doily/Dresser Scarf	Please see Entry Requirement Criteria Sheet (next page) for any category marked with an (*). All entries that do not meet the entry requirement criteria will be disqualified!	
6* - PROSE		12D	Afghan		
6A*	Non-Fiction	12E	Other		
6B*	Fiction (Short Story)	13 - HAND STITCHING			
6C*	Other	13A	Needle Point		
7* - ORIGINAL PUBLISHED BOOK		13B	Embroidery		
		13C	Cross Stitch		
		13d	Other		

CLOVER COLLEGE

On Saturday, February 22nd, we participated in Clover College as part of our Services of Love. Sylvia Finch, Linda Gillmeister, Carolene Neumann, Cathy Onsager, and I taught 2 classes of crafts, the first was diamond dotz magnets from kits order from Amazon, and the second was button art, where the participants could use their imagine to create a picture using buttons, markers, and stickers. All the kids had a great time and were proud of what they did.



INTERNATIONAL REPORT



WAHCE Pennies for Friendship 2024 Distributions

ACWW-----\$1900.25 For domestic violence project
Venture in People-----\$1290.00 For 6 children to attend school,
and to help start 4-H clubs
NVON – Bee Keeping-----\$350.00
Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners
Water Projects-----\$973.05
Community Centers-----\$461.85
General---\$5219.54

Total for W/NP \$6204.54 This helps defray the cost of shipping

The total disbursed was \$9745.14

This year's focus will be on the programs going on for ACWW, Wisconsin/Nicaragua, and Ventures in People (Haiti).

ACWW: One project—NO HUNGER and stop Food Waste, continues.

W/NP: Will be doing shoeboxes again. The Learning Centers are now called Home and Community Centers.

VIP: Continue to support education the education of six students and a couple of 4-H groups in Haiti with our donations.

Leah Bork, International Chair

Extension Office Support

SOIL SAMPLING - LAWN AND GARDEN

The standard Lawn or Garden test are \$15 per sample (plus \$3 for shipping) when submitted to the La Crosse County UW-Extension Office. Additional tests are available and cost varies depending upon type of sample testing to be completed

What you get:

- Analysis of current nutrient content of your soil (P,K).
- Current soil pH.
- Recommendation of type and amount of fertilizer to add.
- Allow 2 – 3 weeks for return of results.



What we need:

- A total of 2 cups of air dry soil.
- Samples should contain soil from surface to 6 inches deep.
- Take soil from 3 to 5 places in area to be tested, mix together; submit 2 cups of mixture in a clean plastic bag.



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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