

## Boone County Extension Homemakers

### President Report 2020-2021

In spite of 2020 being a rough year, Boone County Homemakers kept busy by having Zoom meetings and even meeting in parking lots with masks and social distancing.

School supplies were collected in memory of a past member Freda Carlin.

Donations were made to the Walton Verona Food Pantry, Brighton Center, Woman's Crisis Center, Ockerman and Collins School Resource Centers.

Hope House was given \$250 to purchase winter coats for children along with donations of coats and money from clubs.

Jewelry was donated to the Covington Ladies Home for prizes for games.

Old greeting cards were given to the Bridgepoint Nursing Home to use for craft projects.

1,893 medicine bottles were collected to donate to Matthew 25 Ministries. Since the start of this project, 4,415 bottles have been donated.

\$100 was given to the "Shop with a Cop" Program.

2 "Quilts of Valor" were made and given to 2 servicemen.

500 pairs of socks were given to Hope Ministries.

\$600 was added to our Mary Hood Lutes Scholarship Fund with a pizza fundraiser. Clubs added another \$150.

Sewing lessons were given to community members.

Our 21st Century Club added 11 new members.

Boone County Homemakers are looking forward to a great 2021-2022 year.

President  
Barbara Seiter

**Grant County  
President's Report for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021**

Grant County has had to make many adjustments to our homemaker activities during the past year. Due to the pandemic most all of us have had to rearrange not only our public life, but also our lives in our homes and community.

This year we all learned a new skill – “How to do Zoom.” Even though many were not comfortable with Zoom it was a lifesaver in that we did not have to completely cancel everything. We could meet even though not in person.

A Weight the Reality series was held in June with social distancing and limited capacity.

We started a county book club. Our first book was “Enchantress of Numbers” by Jennifer Chiaverini. The book talk was conducted via Zoom.

Many classes were offered by the various counties in which anyone could participate that wanted to on Zoom.

Our homemakers made masks for the school and community. We also were able to donate items to a school that needed small bean bags in order to do home PE classes.

We participated in leader lessons including “Backyard Butterflies;” “Buzz About Bees;” “Urine Not Alone;” and a series of lessons about “Beautiful You” taught by Jeanne Badgett, Senior Extension Associate for FCS;”

We also had a series of lessons on “Growing to Cook” that included growing, harvesting, preparing, storing and cooking different types of produce.

We also had a classes on Macramé’ 101 and Charcuterie Boards, Air Fryers, One Pan Meals, and dried floral arrangements.

Homemaker Week was promoted in October by hanging signs around the community and spotlighting various homemakers in the community newspaper.

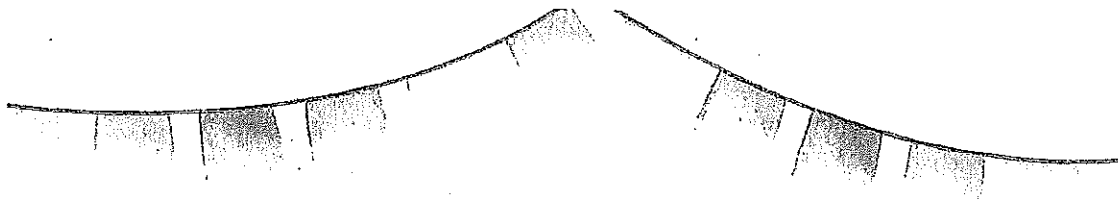
Lots of recognition was given to our Grant County Ladies who compiled the census quilt that had a block from every county in Kentucky.

Some of our ladies helped organize favors and also attended the National Volunteer Outreach Network meeting in Kentucky in July.

Approximately 15 ladies went to the Markey Cancer Center in Lexington in May 2021 for Ovarian Cancer Screening.

Grant County Homemakers received recognition in the “Stage Right Theater” brochure for advertising for the theater at Main Street Gardens.

Our homemakers continue to be a part of the Veteran’s Flag detail. They volunteer on a rotating schedule to display flags on the route to the Kentucky Veteran’s Cemetery North when there is a funeral of a veteran.



**Owen County President's Report**  
**Submitted by: Debbie Primeau**  
**Owen County Extension Homemaker Activities for 2020-2021**

Owen County Extension Homemakers work with all other extension programs. We also work together with a variety of programs within our community. We have 127 members. With all of the restrictions of COVID-19, Owen County Homemakers was put on hold for many events.

Some of our members participated:

Monthly Door Hangers-each month many participated in painting their own door hangers for each month.

We had one homemaker work with one 4-H'er complete their Sewing Project.

The Owen County Extension Homemakers purchased clothing for 3 children in need in Owen County through the Owen County Christmas Project.

Emma Miller, one of our own Owen County Homemakers received the Martha Lee Stamper Scholarship. She is attending Morehead State University.

Many of our homemakers volunteered during the 2021 Owen County 4-H Fair & Horse Show during the entry for the exhibit hall.

Crocheting and making items for the Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes.

The Owen County Extension Homemakers are ready and eager to start back enjoying events.

## PENDLETON COUNTY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS

This past year has certainly been an unusual year for Homemakers as it has for everyone. COVID-19 has caused many changes. We began in September by having the 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting by Zoom. Monthly club meetings were first in-person with masks and social distancing but then were canceled for several months until we could meet safely in-person again. Council meetings were held by Zoom for all meetings this year until August 2021. And of course, the biggest change for all our meetings was ...no food! COVID affected just about every activity in which the homemakers participated. The cake auction and funnel cake booth at the Youth Fair, Woolfest, Winter Wonderland, Recipe for Life were all cancelled. So, from mask wearing, to social distancing, to having no food, to having no activities, we had to make adaptations and adapt we did! We learned to do things virtually. Meetings were held by Zoom, cooking classes were done in front of a computer, and book discussions were held talking to each other on a screen. We "lived, learned, and laughed" this year even through the hardships we encountered. Homemakers are an incredible group of people!

There are eight areas of work designated by the Kentucky Extension Homemaker Association and our officers and chair people have led our clubs and members in doing good work in each of these areas.

In Cultural Arts, three Pendleton County homemakers had cultural arts projects entered at the state level with one winning first place. The Mt. Auburn Club won an area award for its patriotic quilt project. Homemakers participated in the lessons on various weaving techniques. All clubs used the KEHA recommended reading list with members reading suggested books from the designated categories as well as other books of interest in those categories. Homemakers participated in the Pendleton County Extension Book Club as well as the KEHA Big Blue Challenge Book Club.

In Family and Individual Development, all clubs participated in generational events and lessons on nurturing self. COVID caused the cancellation of activities and limited the interaction in others. As a result, there were more people working at home and children doing virtual school at home. More meals were prepared and eaten at home and more families participated in games and activities with each other. There were both positives and negatives from these situations.

Homemakers sewed 2,675 masks for the community, organizations, and Children's Hospital. Some homemakers reported that sewing face masks helped reduce their stress as they helped others. Many members reported an increase in outdoor activities such as walking, hiking, swimming, kayaking, rowing, and the 4/H 5K.

Homemakers donated money to the Miracle Point Playground. They also made fidget quilts for special needs students at three schools and lap quilts for St Elizabeth cancer patients.

In 4/H Youth Development, homemakers were not able to participate as usual because many of the 4/H activities were held virtually. Homemakers did participate in the annual 4-H sponsored 5K Run/Walk and helped with a service project for the Fairgrounds before the Youth Fair in July.

Environment, Housing and Energy chair reported lessons taught on the 3 Bs in Landscaping. Members reported that they had implemented landscape practices to attract bees, birds, and butterflies. Others reported planting raised bed gardens and participating in plant/seed exchange as well as sharing produce from their gardens with others. Many also reported increased physical activity when working in their gardens, flowers, and lawns as well as walking and hiking.

## PENDLETON COUNTY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS

In International, homemakers collected money for the Eco Brick project and the program for clean water and sanitation in villages in Ghana. Homemakers continued to collect Coins for Change but since many meetings were held virtually, the money collected will be submitted with the funds collected this year. There was no International Program held locally this year due to COVID.

In the area of Food, Nutrition and Health, keeping healthy during this past year has been a high priority for all with more people working from home and eating at home. Virtual cooking classes offered by our Extension agent and guest cooks have been an important source of information and learning. Homemakers learned new cooking techniques, tried new recipes, as well as gained knowledge of nutrition and healthy food choices. An increased number have raised fruits and vegetables, purchased from our local farmers' market, and participated in the Fitness for Produce Hikes.

All clubs participated in a Homemaker Food Service Project for Our Daily Bread, a soup kitchen and social center in Cincinnati, by assembling bags of specified food items for weekend meals for those needing food. A group of homemakers delivered 228 weekend food bags! Extension office workers also donated 150 sandwiches that were also delivered at the same time. In addition, homemakers donated and volunteered at other local food pantries and the kids backpack for hunger feeding program.

Homemakers continue to have their annual physicals. Most have received their COVID vaccine. Several have had diabetes screenings and mammograms. All club members have donated to the ovarian cancer drive.

In Management and Safety, homemakers had lessons on scams and frauds. The University of Kentucky and the Health Department provided information on safety for gatherings, mask safety, and food safety because of COVID. Other lessons included ways to save money and time by using apps, estate planning for digital assets, and holiday budget and cost saving strategies.

In Leadership, our chair reported that our members did over 36,000 volunteer service hours for activities for homemakers, Extension, community, and personal. While COVID restrictions caused some categories of service to be lower, other avenues of volunteer service opened. Volunteering increased in the personal area with many helping children and grandchildren with virtual learning, donating and volunteering at food pantries, and providing technical assistance to others in learning Zoom and communicating virtually.

Part of our leadership area includes scholarships. Although we were not able to have our annual scholarship fundraisers in 2020, the cake auction at the Youth Fair or Winter Wonderland, we were still able to award two Pendleton County High School seniors with scholarships of \$400 each per semester for a total of \$1600. In July 2021, we were able to again have our cake auction from which we raised \$1100 and plan to have Winter Wonderland in November 2021.

Not all our activities are work. We do "play" sometimes. As COVID restrictions eased this summer, some clubs ventured out to restaurants to enjoy a meal together. One club visited the Amish furniture store and other stores in the Maysville area. Another group visited the Butterfly Exhibit at Krohn's Conservatory and the Newport Aquarium.

My heartfelt thanks go out to each homemaker for every thing they have done this past year!

PENDLETON COUNTY EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS

Activities and Events in which Homemakers Participated in 2020-21

Area Homemaker Lessons (by Zoom)

Backyard Butterflies; Managing Holiday Expenses; The Buzz About Honey; Urine Not Alone; Basic Wardrobe Skills; Building a Strong Foundation; Accessories; Color is the Key

Virtual Cooking Classes: Knife Skills; Let's Make Soup; Easy as Pie; Cooking with Cast Iron; Let's Make Hot Cross Buns; The Art of Grilling; Cooking with Herbs.

Book Club: The Dinner List; Born a Crime; The Honey Bus; The Prophets; This Tender Land; The Prayer Box; The Great Alone; Four Winds; The Family Upstairs; Before We Were Yours; The Rural Diaries; Seven Days of Us; The Prayer Box; Small Great Things We Do; The Giver of Stars

Big Blue Book Club: Flipping a Switch; Playing the Hand You're Dealt; Quita Michel Cookbook

Produce for Fitness Walks: Quiet Trails; River Trail; Jacob's Trail; Kincaid Trail; Zumba classes

Funnel Cake Booth

Walkability Study in Falmouth and Butler

Cribs for Kids

Estate Planning

Mental Health and First Aid

Story Walks for Preschoolers

Donating to Miracle Point project, PCEF Golf Outing, Floral Hall Ribbon Sponsor

Doing Life with Adult Children study

Ovarian Cancer Drive

Sewing masks for individuals, community, hospitals

Patriotic quilt project

Sewing project for cancer patients

Fidget quilts for special needs students

Kickin' the Dust 4/H 5K Run/Walk

Service project for Our Daily Bread

Service project for the Fairgrounds

Planting raised bed gardens

Preserving fruits and vegetables

Plant/seed exchange

Landscaping/flower beds to attract pollinators

Physical activities: walking, hiking, swimming, kayaking, paddling

Eco Brick project

Coins for Change project

Lessons on scams and frauds

Helping children with virtual schooling

PCHS Scholarships

Cake Auction

We have had a challenging year and I know we are not alone in this. It has caused us to look back and see what we are doing. Is it important? How does it benefit us and our community? What do we need to continue? What needs to be enhanced? What do we need to bring in new? How do we keep our members connected? We look to University of Kentucky and Kentucky State to guide our agents who in turn guide us.

We have lost members maybe not so much from Covid but rather the fear of Covid and the restrictions that have been given to us. It is as if we were in a chrysalis, a butterfly's cocoon. We are struggling!

As we are trying to leave our chrysalis, we are laboring as we search to create a better and more fulfilling KEHA. We are struggling to learn new ways to cope, while at the same time reaching out to our members and community. We indeed are giving birth!

What an exciting time to be a Homemaker! We have learned how to use our computers for virtual meetings. We learned how to skype so that we could see our friends, children and especially our grandchildren. Birthdays and family events were skype events. We learned new skills and kept going. Some of our homemakers even taught lessons virtually.

Many of our agents taught virtual lessons, some even teamed up with other agents for larger participation. It seemed that no subject was left untouched. We were blessed with agents who prepared lessons, videotaped the lessons and even sent hard copies out to us.

Virtual meetings have become norm. We now have hybrid meetings. This caused a lot of By-Laws to be changed!

We have nine (9) Certified Master Clothing Volunteers in Kenton County. They were able to assist in judging of 4H "Fair" entries. Of course we were unable to taste the special biscuits and desserts created by our 4Hers. (Bummer)

Zoom lessons were able to be received from all over the state of Kentucky. Now can be viewed during Hybrid or regular meetings!

Food Preparation, freezing, canning, drying and processing

Vegetables the Jewels of Health

Sanitary/Safe Kitchens – also use of Slow Cooker, Air Fryer, Ironware

Mental Health Issues

Financial issues, estate planning

Needle work of all kinds also thousands of masks were made and distributed, quilts donated

Gardening and landscaping: Insects harmful or helpful