

**KEHA BLUEGRASS AREA
ANNUAL REPORT
Nov 2020**



Old Friends Farm

**By: Carol Dziubakowski
Bluegrass Area President**

BLUEGRASS AREA ANNUAL REPORT

SUMMARY:

The Bluegrass area includes nine counties:

- Bourbon
- Clark
- Estill
- Fayette
- Harrison
- Madison
- Nicholas
- Powell
- Scott

The Bluegrass Area Homemakers have had a great, productive, and rewarding year in spite of the Covid-19 virus. Our Homemakers are learning new ways to communicate and grow our organization.

Our members have been busy making a difference in the community by volunteering for:

- Recipe for Life and nutrition programs,
- Holiday foods programs,
- International Month, including T-shirt dresses, shorts, & eco bricks
- Tea parties for Ovarian Cancer
- Other Ovarian Cancer programs,
- Backpack programs for students,
- Senior citizen's center support,
- Food for County Jail,
- Veteran programs,
- Quilts of Valor,
- Military Missions,
- Diapers and wipes to a local diaper bank,
- Providing luggage and tags for foster children,
- Homeless programs and shelters,
- Recovery pillows for breast cancer, and
- Money for Ronald McDonald House,
- 4-H camp scholarships,
- 4-H programs,
- Coins for change,
- Homemaker scholarship funds,
- Health fairs,
- County fairs and state fairs,
- Community Day programs,
- Assisting at nursing homes and assisted living,
- Making figit mats for Alzheimer patients,
- Sewing programs including facemasks,
- Making quilts and blankets for hospitals,
- Buddy dolls for hospitals,
- Making bears and critters for area hospitals,
- Blood drives,
- New member auction and
- Many more organizations for each club's individual choice.

We participated in our area annual meeting in Fayette county in October 2019 with 194 people present. The program was "Votes for Women; Remembering the Movement in Story and Song." Area training for leaders was held in Fayette County in August 2019 with Karen Hill, KEHA State President, who give us a great presentation.

Our area annual scheduled for October 2020, to be hosted by Harrison County was rescheduled for 2021 due to Covis-19. Please make plans to attend.

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Respectfully submitted, *Carol Dziubakowski*, President, Bluegrass Area Extension Homemakers
Bourbon County:

Bourbon County Annual Report
2019-2020

Our theme for this year has been ***The Sun Shines Bright on Bourbon County Extension Homemakers!*** We have 234 members and our largest club is Nifty Needles.

September was a busy month as each club began regular meetings again. We hosted a luncheon for the benefit of ***Ovarian Cancer Screenings*** (raised \$422.) at the Parish Hall of the Episcopal Church, with a very special guest speaker, Elizabeth McCord Florence who shared her personal experience with cancer, emphasized ***Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*** and encouraged membership growth. ***Recipe for Life*** was held and we touched the lives of 289 5th graders in Paris and Bourbon County schools. This is an event both students, faculty, and volunteers really enjoy! As local festivals were held, we had a display table at the events sharing homemaker information for all who were interested. We call this 'Taking It On the Road' as we promote membership growth.

October, we attended our ***Bluegrass Area Extension Homemakers Annual Meeting*** hosted by Fayette County. Our theme was Votes for Women: Remembering the Movement in Story and Song. We celebrated ***Homemaker Week, Oct 14-18*** with a special proclamation given us by Bourbon County Judge Williams. As part of this celebration, we hosted a reception in our courthouse rotunda with cake and punch, and shared information about Homemakers with each person who stopped by.

November brought another county favorite, ***Holiday Foods!*** We encouraged all to VOTE as we do each year. We joined with our local Rotary Club to honor our Veterans with a special night for them that includes a meal, music, and special recognition for some. Two of the men are well into their 90's and are a great inspiration to us.

December is always a special month. On December 16th, we hosted Holiday Open House and Leadership Recognition at our Extension Office and we all enjoyed the event as we honored retiring Mary Ellen Hedges for her many years of service to Bourbon County Extension

2020 arrived quickly and we hit the ground running. We held a Swedish weaving class, air fryer classes, and first heard the words Corona Virus.

February is always a special month as we think ***International!*** Our country this year was Viet Nam and Bonnie Sousley shared photos and stories from her recent visit to the country. Our International meal was held at a local restaurant, owned by a native Vietnamese, so our food was very authentic!

We emphasized ***Heart Health Issues, Black History*** and this year we especially emphasized our ***CENSUS!*** Some of our members were busy sewing "Buddy Builders" and cutting out Courageous Kids Super Hero Capes for our little ones who spend time in the hospital.

March changed our world! Bourbon County was fortunate enough to get in one event – our annual fund-raising event providing food for the annual farm machinery auction. Following this event, our activities were all canceled.

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We reported 40,000 volunteer hours and 720 books read. We continue to build our Heavenly Tea Party curio as we honor club members who pass away during the year by placing a tea cup from their collection with their club info printed on a display card.

Several of our clubs donated to Coins for Change and our local backpack program.

We awarded a \$1,000 Scholarship to Bourbon County Student Hart Foley who is attending med school at University of Pikeville.

Submitted by Bette Edwards, President
Bourbon County Extension Homemakers Association

Clark County:

Clark County Annual Report
2019 – 2020

In August 2019, Clark County Homemaker officers and chairpersons attended leadership training in Lexington, KY at the Fayette County Extension Office. In turn, the Clark County Homemakers held their local training for officers and chairpersons in September 2019, which was well attended.

We provided a \$500 scholarship to a deserving Clark County High School senior who met academic criteria and expressed an interest in homemaking activities.

In October 2019, the Clark County Homemakers held an open house. The purpose of this first-time open house had two purposes. One to welcome members back after the summer break and to recruit new members from the community. Each club decorated their table according to the history of their club and some clubs displayed activities such as crafts that they completed. Visitors were able to visit each club's table and decide if they wanted to become a member of that particular club, or just a mailbox member. We gave away free memberships drawings. We were able to recruit several new members that evening.

We developed a Facebook page dedicated to Clark County Homemakers. It serves as a communication and recruitment page. We encourage members to like and share this page. Also, leader lessons are accessible via YouTube on this page.

One of our clubs sent Ale8's to active duty servicemen from Clark County at Christmas. Others clubs made masks for use in the pandemic.

One of our members is enrolled in the KEHA Leadership Academy held at Blue Licks Battlefield State Park and is receiving continuing training.

The pandemic has curtailed many activities that we would have conducted in 2020 such as our Annual Meeting; our participation in Truth or Consequences with the local high school including participation with community leaders; our coordination of the craft, floral hall and baking items at the county fair; our coordination of the judging of the annual Beer Cheese festival in Winchester and many other local activities.

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The Homemakers Council is meeting via Zoom at this time and gathering ideas to keep our members engaged and informed. Our clubs are meeting by Zoom, telephone, and in person under the guidelines established by the extension office and State of Kentucky.

Submitted by Carol Price
Clark County Extension Homemakers President

Estill County:

No report,

Fayette County:

Fayette County Annual Report
2019 – 2020

- Membership of 467.
- Collected \$577 to benefit our Ovarian Cancer Screening project.
- Volunteered 35,237 hours (valued at \$787,240) in community leadership volunteer service hours in Homemaker clubs, neighborhoods, schools, churches and civic clubs.
- Sewed 75 *Reach for Recovery Pillows* for breast cancer recovery patients.
- Collected 100 lbs. of pop tabs. The monetary value per pound of aluminum is donated to the Ronald McDonald House.
- Contributed \$236.25 to Coins for Change.
- Supported Military Missions through volunteer service, donations, and \$125 for postage.
- Presented 14 Quilts of Valor to military veterans.
- Donated 500 diapers and 500 wipes to a local diaper bank.
- Collected 40 pieces of luggage for Foster Children Project.
- Collected items for the Family Care Center “Mommy Store”.

Submitted by Alyce Emerson, President
Fayette County Extension Homemakers

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Harrison County:

Harrison County Annual Report

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

- Membership dues paid for 232
- 11 individual clubs and 1 special interest club (Quilt Club)
- Six clubs submitted end-of-year reports.
- Cultural Arts: Clubs reported reading 35 books from the Book List; 19 members logged 34 places/events in the Passport; 13 members took the Swedish Weaving lesson with 2 projects completed.
- Environment, Energy & Housing: 12 members implemented water saving practices; 3 adopted new landscape practices; 20 members preserve foods, 4 members participate in a seed/plant swap; 1 participated in a community beautification project; 15 members implemented landscaping practices to attract bees, birds and butterflies; and 1 taught a class on habitat for bees, birds & butterflies.
- Family & Individual Development: 2 members from 1 club donated time & money in support against family/community violence; 22 members participated in book reading activities; 1 member teaches adulting to teenagers; (77 children and teens reached); 1 member utilized FitBlue App; 44 members participated in physical activity for mind & body lesson; Nu30 members participated in mindful chair yoga; 7 members donated 13 fidget mats to support aging individuals.
- Food, Nutrition & Health: 24 members had annual check-ups; 20 members had mammograms; 5 members had Ovarian Cancer screenings; 12 members had diabetes screening; 3 members participated in blood drives; 5 members participated in local health fair; 25 members donated to the local food bank; 2 members volunteer at the local food bank; 2004 children served by a local “backpack for hunger” program; 14 members exercise regularly; 9 members report an overall improvement in health due to physical activity; 27 member increased their knowledge & made healthy food choices; 18 members buy fresh foods from a local farmers market; 16 members supplement their diet with healthy food produced or preserved by themselves.
- International: 10 Eco Bricks made; 50 T-shirt dresses made; 45 T-Shirt and shorts sets made. Sustainable Development Goals were achieved in No Poverty, Zero Hunger, Good Health & Well Being, Quality Education, Clean water & Sanitation, Responsible consumption and production.
- Leadership: 34 club members, county officers, and education chairmen trained.
- Volunteer hours reported: Extension 2,676.25 hours, 661 persons reached; KEHA 306.75 hours, 285 persons reached; Community 7,159 hours, 3,903 persons reached; Personal 2,762 hours, 262 persons reached; 12,904 total hours reported, 5,111 total persons reached.
- Management & Safety: 17 members learned to manage holiday expenses; 20 learned to maximize profits/savings through yard sales & consignment shops; 6 implemented strategies to downsize their home; 12 utilized methods to evaluate health insurance

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needs/options; 3 developed an estate for digital assets; 19 gained knowledge about international travel.

- 4-H & Youth Development: 39 members worked with youth, reaching 3,053 young people; 1 scholarship of \$150 was donated enabling 1 person to attend 4-H Camp; Taught sewing, quilting & knitting (4-H sewing & textile projects); mentored children & youth at church, 325 youth reached.
- General:
 - July 2019, 12 Homemakers set-up and took down the exhibit building for the Adult exhibits for crafts, flowers, sewing, quilting, knitting, crochet, food preservation, baking, etc. Checked exhibits in and out.
 - October 2019: “Stylin’ For The Fall” event combined a style show from local clothing stores and holiday foods. Over 100 people attended. Two Homemaker members served as models. Sponsored by the Environment, Housing & Energy Committee and the Holiday Foods Committee. Very successful, hope to try again in future.
 - November 2019: Harrison County Extension Homemakers hosted a Showcase. Clubs participated with displays of club activities, members and craft projects. Open to the public. Not successful from a public participation aspect.
 - Harrison County Extension Homemakers held 3 training sessions for club officers & education chairmen in August 2019; held Advisory Council meetings in August 2019 & January 2020. Sponsored Blood Drives in October 2019 & January 2020.
 - Harrison County Extension Homemakers participated in the “Coffee Break” show at WCYN Radio Station, in July & September 2019, promoting Homemakers.
- Harrison County Extension Homemaker’s President, Linda Fryman, represented the organization to the local Cooperative Extension Council in August & November 2019 and February 2020.
- Beginning March 9, 2020 Homemaker meetings and activities were cancelled due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Submitted by Linda Fryman, President,
Harrison County Extension Homemakers Association

Madison County:

Madison County Annual Report
2019 – 2020

The 2019 – 2020 year has been a very different year. It started out with lots of activities, then came to a halt with the virus.

The Homemakers have persevered with many activities for “a Brighter Day the Homemaker Way”.

- At Area meeting, 30 exhibits entered with 16 Blue Ribbons
- 10 Homeless mats donated to Salvation Army
- Over 600 Care Bears were made and donated to hospital and area places
- Many Lap and Quilts were donated to CASA

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- Many Hats, Scarfs, and Lap Quilts were donated to Cancer care patients
- Many people made Face Mask and donated to UK Children's Hospital
- 2 Classes on Swedish Weaving were well attended
- International Dinner was given at ECU with 40 students from 18 countries attending
- Many holiday craft and food classes were offered
- Homemaker Scholarship was awarded to Andy Northern

The new president and vice president were elected by mail ballots for the 2020 – 2022 years at the end of July.

Submitted by, Marylene LeFurgy, New President
Madison County Extension Homemakers

Nicholas County:

Nicholas County Annual Report
2019 - 2020

- As COVID-19 has made a huge impact on our activities and meeting capabilities, we are trying to use the internet, social media and snail mail to retain members. Our membership is down, but we're working to build it up.
- We didn't have a local fair this year so we had no entries.
- Nitwit craft classes are continuing once our county is out of the Covid red zone.
- 4-H sewing classes have been very successful for Nicholas County. We are working to assign a new leader for this group.
- We haven't had any auctions to date but plan to as soon as possible.
- Sadly, so Ovarian cancer screenings have been done.
- Sadly, our State meeting was also canceled.

Sandy Hamilton, President,
Nicholas County Extension Homemakers

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Powell County

Powell County Annual Report

2019 – 2020

- Our members attended the May State Meeting in Louisville and the Fall Meeting in Lexington.
- We attended the Officers' Training in Lexington in August.
- Members attended Art Classes at Berea Homemakers in November.
- Our tour of the Toyota Plant in October was well attended.
- We assisted Estill County acting as judges in August.
- We donated food to the Powell County Jail
- Donated sweaters to the Nursing Home.
- Each member donates \$1 monthly for Ovarian cancer research
- Members donated their time working in the exhibit hall for the Powell County fair.

Submitted by Sue W. Reynolds, President

Powell County Extension Homemakers

Scott County:

Scott County Report.

July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

Scott County Extension homemakers is made up of over 400 members. We have over 20 individual clubs and several special interest clubs including Quilt club, Book club, Quilts of Valor, Crochet club, and Rug Hooking club. Members and non-members are encouraged to attend these clubs as well as our monthly lessons.

- Cultural Arts: Some of our members were active in sewing projects sent to Haiti Our book club members enjoyed many books. They were sometimes recommended to the rest of the club. One book a month was read by all and discussed with some joyous new and wonderful friends. Swedish weaving was another lesson offered with much enthusiasm to our members and friends.
- Environment, Energy & Housing: Several members enjoyed the class given on implementing landscape to attract bees, birds & butterflies. One class taught by our agent; Whitney covered food preservation. Many members and friends attended these workshops.
- Family and Individual development: Many of our Scott County children participated in 4-H sewing classes where many of our homemakers assisted. These were especially popular with beginners just wanting to learn to sew for the first time. Some had never used a sewing machine so there was a great need for our members who were able to come and help. Some classes offered by our agent included yoga and get fit exercise classes. These were very popular with the ladies.
- Some of our quilting members made blankets to which books were added and presented to Elizabeth Village (a home for displaced mothers and children). _
- Food Nutrition and Health: many of our members participated in health screening provided by our local hospital. These included BP checks, blood glucose, mammograms, ovarian

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cancer as well as other screenings. Some of our clubs raised money for cancer research by having yard sales and food fairs. These are all well attended by the public.

- International: In February, our club held their annual international luncheon. It was a very successful day with a slide presentation with questions answered by our exchange student from Germany. The food was prepared by our clubs and included German and American dishes. The speaker was very interesting with many fun facts and tidbits about Germany.
- Leadership: New officer training was a success as we all met and were instructed as a group. Those unable to attend were able to get their information from their leader.
- We also have a New Member Auction in December which is always fun and exciting for new members, as well as those who recruited them. In this way we hope to add to our membership. It has been difficult since our Agent, Whitney, has been gone but the Extension Manager, Alison Johnson, has done a wonderful job!
- Management and Safety: Many of our classes emphasizes safety as in how to use power tools, sewing machines, the new hot pot, and pressure cookers to name a few. All have been popular classes for our members and the general public.
- 4-H Youth Development: Many of our members participate in teaching 4-H sewing and other classes. Others assist with camping and other outdoor activities.
- General: In July 2019, many of our members assisted with the exhibits at the Scott County fair. We assisted in the set up and take down of all the exhibits; as well as taking in projects & giving ribbons at the end. The items consisted of Quilts, crafts, food preservation, baked goods, flowers, knitting, crocheting as well as 4-H items along with others. It was a big success. The children were so excited to receive the ribbons.
- In December we attended and participated in the Scott County Extension Christmas Open House. It was a huge success with beautiful weather and well attended by the public. Our clubs were in attendance and also had special interest booths teaching crochet and answering questions about our membership. This is another way we are able to meet potential members. The day was enjoyed by all with families asking questions about all the ways homemakers help in our community. A very enjoyable day!
- Beginning March 9, 2020 Homemakers meetings and activities were cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Submitted by Joyce P Wright,
President Scott County Extension Homemakers