

GREEN RIVER AREA HOMEMAKERS 2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



The Sun Shines Bright

PRESIDENT: EDNA MCCRADY

VICE PRESIDENT: MECHELLE ARNOLD

SECRETARY: GINA BROWN

TREASURER: BRENDA PAYNE

**INCLUDES: DAVIESS, HANCOCK, HENDERSON, MCLEAN,
OHIO, UNION, AND WEBSTER COUNTIES**

GREEN RIVER AREA HOMEMAKERS

2019-2020 REPORT

The Green River Area Homemakers (GRAH) is made up of the following seven counties in Kentucky: Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Ohio, Union and Webster. Out of the seven counties we have only two (2) F.C.S. agents.

GRAH had our first council meeting of the year in September. We made plans for the new calendar year and looked forward to our annual meeting in October. At the meeting, Karen Hill mentioned the State 2020 Census Quilt was now on display, and we looked forward to seeing it at our KEHA State meeting in the Spring.

The GRAH was honored to have had 3 members chosen to attend the Leadership Academy planned for March at Blue Lick Battlefield State Park.

Our annual meeting, with 71 in attendance, was held in Henderson County. The theme of the meeting was “All American Homemaker,” and we collected \$550.00 from sales of raffle tickets for The Ovarian Cancer Fund.

By March, COVID-19 had become a reality in our area and all over the country. Many activities, meetings, and fund raisers were canceled due our inability to meet. Although we couldn't have actual meetings, many homemakers were busy at home with charitable projects. Members began to make masks for hospitals, nursing homes, and family and friends because of the shortage of manufactured protective personal equipment. After that crisis was covered, and at the request of Kentucky's First Lady Britany Beshear and the Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, we began to make masks for Kentucky Schools in preparation for the beginning of the school year.

COVID-19 was not finished interrupting our agendas. By the end of 2019-2020, when we started our 2020-2021 year, the monster was still around. Let's see what is ahead for KEHA!

Respectfully submitted by

Edna McCrady, Pres. GRAH

DAVIESS COUNTY HOMEMAKERS

2019-2020 REPORT

Seven clubs of Daviess County Homemakers totaled 106 members. Five of the seven clubs prepared details of their goals reached. All met their goals plus additional support of serving as representatives on Council, attending lesson training sessions, and, despite the Covid-19 pandemic, all met 6 sessions to give emotional support to members/spouses who have been affected in some way from health or physical conditions.

The outreach to community through Ovarian Cancer Research was 100%. Multiple skills plus items reached Camp for Courageous Kids at Scottsville, and cards/notes and clothing met needy veterans' essentials. The purchased note cards advertising homemakers' connections to Barn Quilt Trails publicized Daviess County Homemakers with proceeds going to our scholarship fund. We provided assistance to the LEAP program for home-schooled kids. Many non-profit organizations were supported on monthly donations: Buddy Bags, Backpack ministry of lunches, Goodfellows, children's books to Daviess County Jail, Hayden Girls Home, Boulware Center, Help office, Care Net, Fresh Start, and Humane Society built up neighbors' requests for help throughout our short year.

Great response was received to the International project in February plus donation of \$50.00 to the "Water for All" project.

We recycled and re-purposed much like the Suffragettes did who prepared our communities to vote one hundred years ago!

Daviess County women proudly served the schools, church ministries, food banks, and special courageous kids with money, foods, clothing (capes, masks, aprons, & pillowcases) and thousands (8,956.5) of volunteer hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Jones, President Daviess County Homemakers

2019-2020

HENDERSON COUNTY HOMEMAKERS

2019-2020 REPORT

August started with preparation for the new homemaker's year. Our volunteer hours reported were 30,974, which showed a 124% increase from previous year, and thirteen members reported over 500 hours for the year.

September, homemaker members served snacks at the Senior Expo to those who attended.

October was a busy month. KEHA week was October 13-19 with a proclamation presented by Henderson County Judge Brad Schneider. Presented pamphlet and a card with Werther's candy attached. "Don't know Werther we told you about Henderson County Homemakers." They were pasted out at the Housing Authority Health Fair. We hosted the Green River Area annual day. The theme was "All American Homemaker." Ovarian Cancer fundraiser basket will be "Red, White & Blue." The guest speaker was Eddie Price from Hancock County, "Homemaking on the Frontier."

In November we hosted the 13th annual Taste of Homemakers. Our theme was "Old Fashioned Holidays." The attendance was down from previous years, but the used cookbook sales were good.

In January and February we observe International Month by eating various foreign cuisines. This is the last month that most of our clubs met due to the Coronavirus Pandemic.

March saw events cancelled: Sit & Sip, 42420 Day, and our Annual Day "A Joyful Adventure." Also, the KEHA State Meeting was cancelled.

In April we were busy making masks for hospitals, Farmers Market, The Gathering Place, several other organizations, and Churches. By June we included the schools.

We continue donating items to a local nursing home for bingo prizes and supporting the culinary department at the local high school by donating kitchen gadgets and kitchen tools, 4-H, World Food with donations to the local pantries, and knitting and crocheting items.

For a short year, I do believe Henderson County Homemakers have made a difference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Watson, Henderson County President

OHIO COUNTY HOMEMAKERS

2019-2020 REPORT

This 2019-20 KEHA year, we the Ohio County Homemakers, were honored to receive the KEHA Development Grant for our Literacy Program that focuses on the preschool aged children in our community. We were also honored to win first place in the “Family & Individual Development Contest 2019-22 Nurturing Families” for our county wide Fidget Blanket project. This project involved all clubs and reached out to the three local nursing homes and one assisted living facility. The members made around 60 fidget blankets to be used by Alzheimer’s patients and others in need at the facilities. The Fidget Blanket project was started pre-pandemic and most were given out to local nursing home residents before awareness of COVID-19 came around. The other blankets that were not distributed are still awaiting distribution.

During the pandemic, our members have enjoyed making masks for area hospitals, friends and family. They have spent their time working on projects to impact the community such as: Fidget blankets for local nursing home residents and a sensory quilt project for a Celebrate the Baby event. All projects were enjoyed while staying healthy at home.

WEBSTER COUNTY HOMEMAKERS

2019-2020 REPORT

The Webster County Homemakers consist of three clubs.

The clubs participate in a Webster County Relay for Life. They also did Christmas Angels for Webster County.

They held their 2019 annual meeting.

Due to COVID-19, the Webster County Homemakers ceased activities in March, and haven’t yet gone back to holding meetings.

Union County Homemakers Presidents Report

2019-2020

Union County Homemakers have been very busy throughout the year of 2019-2020. The homemaker groups have volunteered in several Extension Service endeavors as well as in their own programs, civic and community groups.

They started out with an energy surpassing no other years as they are all dedicated and committed members. Happy Day Homemakers hosted the luncheon for the annual Distinguished Young Women's event. The event held at the Union County Extension office was for the judges. They served a Surfer Salad, which was a recipe of a member who passed away in 2019.

In November the Union County Homemakers, consisting of Happy Day, Morganfield Young and Uniontown Club, participated at the Christmas Open House at the library to promote extension homemakers. There were 120 blended spice samples from the lesson "Spice It Up." Each visitor at the booth received a sample bottle and the lesson information to make their own spice blends. There were 122 who registered for the door prize of a one year mailbox membership and a three-spice jar sample from the lesson.

In December, Happy Day Homemakers conducted a sing-a-long and served ice cream, cookies and punch to residents of Breckinridge Place. In December each of the clubs remember their deceased members and make donations to Ben's Place, an adult day care.

In March the coronavirus hit and caused the world to stop. Members were quarantined and meetings were canceled for several months. During this time homemakers kept busy with at home projects. One member learned how to crochet through the YouTube channel. A few more took advantage of lessons they had learned including the lesson on birds. Several members put out feeding stations, bird baths and started learning about the local birds and watching them. Other members built raised container beds and planted a hummingbird and butterfly mix of zinnias, and other blooming flowers, to attract butterflies, hummingbirds and bees. There were a couple of members who discovered caterpillars, chrysalises and watched them evolve into monarchs and black swallowtail butterflies.

While some members enjoyed the outdoors through flowers, birds and butterflies, there were many more who spent time in their vegetable gardens and reaping what they sowed. There were close to 400 quarts and nearly 150 pints of produce preserved. There were also many ears of corn frozen on the cobs.

While some members were sowing and reaping, others were sewing and ripping! There were almost 500 masks sewn by several members to distribute to hospitals, medical teams, and their patients.

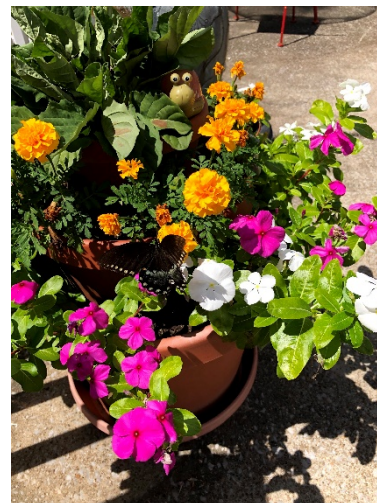
Along with the masks county members gathered and filled gift bags with snacks, mini notebooks, pens and items from the extension office and donated them as thank you gifts to 100 first responders.

Members not only preserved food for their families and sewed and made crafts for themselves, they also took advantage of the local farmer's market held every Saturday during the summer. They had fresh vegetables as well as soup bowl cozies for sale.

Each year around Mother's Day the Union County Homemakers would serve hot tea and cookies to the residents at Breckinridge Place in Morganfield. The variety of teas would be served in real tea cups and saucers with homemade cookies. This year the annual Tea wasn't possible so members wrote special thinking of you notes for each patient and the staff of Breckinridge handed them out.

Our members are number one in our hearts when it comes to volunteering. We have members who are regular volunteers at the local hospital, nursing homes, in their churches and for their families. Of course this year's numbers were quite different in past volunteer hours, but our members are so ready to get back into their communities to serve.

Hopefully the pandemic and the coronavirus will be over soon and the homemaker clubs in Union County can get back to serving within their communities.



Photos were either taken before COVID-19 or taken with COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions in place