Volunteer hours

Our Extension Homemakers Council is one of the largest volunteer organizations in the state. The mission of our organization is to empower individuals and families to improve their quality of living through continuing education, leadership development, and community service. We do this through volunteering our time to serve others. I know the volunteer hours we turned in for this past year did not fully represent all of the time each of you devoted to our EHC mission. So, what counts as volunteer time? Just about everything you do.

You can count your time for all of these activities:

- The amount of time you travel from one place to another
- Club meetings
- Council meetings
- District meetings
- Clean-up days
- Set-up days
- Time you spend shopping for supplies
- Time you spend sending out reminder notices and e-mails
- Leader lessons
- Workshops
- Time you spend working in the kitchen
- Time you spend supervising a building during the County Fair and/or Arts and Crafts Fair

Pretty much everything you do that is related to EHC counts for your volunteer time. These hours can be hard to keep up with. Develop a system for you to make it easier. Write the number of hours you spend on the calendar in your EHC handbook. You can do this every day. At the end of the month, add all of those hours together and turn them in to your club secretary.

Thank you again for all of your hard work and dedication. It takes each and every one of you to make and keep Garland County EHC a success and an envy of other EHC groups around the state.
Presidential Pointers

2013 is almost over, and we have had many successful events, one of them being the Round Robin Special Interest Workshop in November. It was great to see so many attend and learn to make the crafts. There was a lot of visiting and laughter as we tried to learn some new skills from very patient instructors!

2014 promises to be more of the same. There will be an SOS class on Thursday, January 23 featuring bread making. This has been well attended in the past, and all who attended were very pleased with the agenda. On Tuesday, February 18, the SOS class will be soup making—another good class for winter "comfort food".

The Quilt Seminar begins on Wednesday, January 29, and continues on each Wednesday through March 12.

Be sure to check out the kitchen in the EHC building. The Council has purchased a new commercial dishwasher and Cooks R Us has donated a new 6 qt. Kitchen Aid mixer, a new set of "sharp" knives and a hand blender. These items will be a great asset when we serve large groups AND during the Fairs!

Check your Yearbooks often to keep up with what is going on monthly. Join in the activities, get to know other EHC members and have some fun.

Happy New Year to all........Jane Oliver

Sharing Our Skills workshops scheduled

All Sharing Our Skills (SOS) workshops will be held in the EHC building at the Garland County Fairgrounds and will start at 9:30 a.m. A light lunch will be included. The length of each workshop will vary. Registration deadlines will be one week prior to the classes. The fee for each class is $10 and must be paid BY CHECK at the time of registration. For more information on these workshops, contact Jessica Vincent at the Extension Office.

January 23rd
Learn the Art of Baking
Nothing warms the home like fresh from the oven desserts and breads. Come learn the basic building blocks of baking, fun, easy recipes, and leave with a warm goody you baked yourself.

February 18th
Homemade Soup
Not only is a hot bowl of soup inviting on a cold day, soup is a versatile meal that can please just about anyone. Come learn healthy soup recipes that are not only delicious, but easy to follow.

March 26th
Vertical Gardening
Vertical gardening is a great way to maximize the space in your garden. When you grow upward, you use less ground space. But saving space is just one reason to create vertical gardens. Come learn more advantages to growing upward.

April 29th
Homemade Household Chemicals
A clean home is a healthy and pleasant home. But, did you know that lurking behind all of those “clean” smells are numerous chemicals that can affect your health? Come learn how to make your own household chemicals.

May 22nd
Canning
Canning your own food is not as difficult as it may seem. Come learn the basic fundamentals of home canning along with its many benefits.

Do you recognize anyone from this 1992 photo of Garland County FCE officers?

See FCE Officers on page 5 for names and clubs of these leaders from the past.
As a result of a directive from the Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council, Garland County EHC has filed a raffle application with the state. Any time your club is selling tickets to the public for chances to win an item in a raffle or drawing, you will be covered by this organizational application.

You should inform County President Jane Oliver of your plans and identify the person who has been designated as chairman of your project.

**LEADER LESSONS**

"Social Media"
February 21, 2014
10:00 a.m. in the EHC Building
Resource Management Lesson
(Club leaders to teach at meeting in March)

"Cooking with Herbs"
March 21, 2014
11:00 a.m. in the EHC building
Food and Nutrition Lunch 'n Learn
Lesson
For all members who preregister by March 17
(Club leaders to teach at meeting in April)

*Attendance counts toward the Gold Star Award

The deadline for articles for the next SCOOP is March 15, 2014.

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When the lights came on in Hot Springs at the Garland County Court House...

Selwyn Pipkin, Phyllis Pipkin, Judy Brink, and Jessica Vincent were there to lead the way in feeding the cold and hungry attendees the hot spiced cider and coffee they had brewed along with the cookies made by members of Garland County EH clubs. "Yum!" was heard as young and old alike enjoyed the refreshments while surrounded by singing and the bright glow of lights.

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Bits and pieces were put together by the workers to make decorations for the float... 

When the lights came on in Hot Springs at the Garland County Court House...
Kathleen Gallagher

Crazy Quilters remembers a former member with fondness. Kathleen "Katy" Gallagher passed away July 11, 2013, in Lombard, Illinois. She owned Katy's Fabrics in LaGrange, Illinois before moving to Hot Springs, where she became a member and leader in the Garland County Extension Homemakers program. She was a talented seamstress and quilter who was the founder of the Garland EHC Quilt Seminar over twenty years ago.

Cooks serve holiday cheer

The men of Cooks R Us prepared, cooked and served the club's holiday luncheon. Mike Wells carved the pork roast (below) which was served with grilled root vegetables and Brussels sprouts with bacon. The rolls were made by Leonard Butler, and Dick Hill was the assistant helper. Desserts were pumpkin pie and carrot cake. Happy New Year to all EHC Members and their families.

—Sally Patterson

Varied activities make for fun meeting

At their November meeting, the Loyal Ladies members kept their hands busy with several different activities. Nancy Say set up a hot-wax therapy station and treated members to a very soothing and warming experience for their hands, especially enjoyed by Wilma Blair (left).

Nancy Say (right) also demonstrated how to preserve a rose using the same hot wax. Just don't get the two techniques confused!

The members stuffed their stockings for the Salvation Army at the meeting and approved the table decorations for the Holiday luncheon that were designed and completed by Rita Blackwood.

Contact Judy VanFrank, EHC County Resource Management Leader, if your group is interested in learning more about the Backpack Program in the area schools that helps needy children get the nutritious and easy-to-prepare food they need over the course of the weekend.

2014 Quilt Seminar

At this year’s quilt seminar which is sponsored by Crazy Quilters, participants will be able to choose one of two bargello designs to make during the workshop. Diamonds Bargello (left) is for beginning to intermediate quilters. The Bright Nights Bargello (right) is for intermediate to advanced quilters. More information, along with a supply list and sign-up sheet, are at the EHC office. The cost is $30.00 for the seminar, which begins on January 29, 2014, and meets for seven consecutive Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Patterns will be distributed on the first day of class. Participants will need to bring their lunches. For further information, contact Susie Bishop at 501-609-5204.
Dates announced for Pioneer Days
Garland County EHC will be preparing and serving lunch again this year to the school children who come to Pioneer Days on Thursday, May 1 and Friday, May 2. We will need lots of help cooking, serving, and cleaning up. So, mark your calendars and make plans to help in the kitchen.

Let Jessica know as soon as possible if your club would like to have a space for a manned pioneer-life exhibit or a heritage teaching station during Pioneer Days.

From page 2: FCE Officers

Winnie Manning of Rolling Hills, Pres.
Marge Woodworth of La Casa, Pres. Elect
Grace Walker of Busy Bees, V.P.
Paula Chandler of Rolling Hills, Sec.
Peggy Barnett of Park, Treas.

(FCE stands for Family and Community Education, which was our name for a few years.)

So, would you like to SEW?
In late September, members of two Garland County EH clubs made presentations at the Garland County Library. The classes were "Sewing to Save" presented by Janie Woods, of Lakeside and "Sewing Machine Maintenance" by Wilma Blair of Loyal Ladies. Facilitators, below, were Loyal Ladies members Bertha Manning (left), Bobbi Taylor, Joy Martsching, Jane Kuntsman, Wilma Blair, Rita Blackwood, and Lakeside members Janie Woods and Linda Bernard.

At the October Board meeting, Jane Oliver appointed a committee to plan an extended workshop or a series of sewing classes to follow up on the library presentations. Members of the committee are Wilma Blair (chairperson), Loretta Johnston, Susie Bishop, and Janie Woods.

Don't forget to turn in the names of new club members to Jessica Vincent at the Extension Office so they can be put on the official Garland County EHC roster and the mailing list for the SCOOP and other correspondence.

Associate membership explained
There was a discussion at the October Board Meeting as to whether Extension Homemakers clubs in Garland County can have members who are identified as "associate" members. The question was asked, "Can people who miss a lot of meetings or don't always participate in club and County Council activities still be EHC members?"

It was decided that Extension Homemakers clubs may have members who are called "associate" members. By definition, an associate member is one who wants to be a part of a club, but cannot attend meetings on a regular basis due to reasons accepted by each individual club—such as failing health, family issues, work responsibilities, or school schedules. The use of the term "associate member" would be at the discretion of each club for a member who requests that status.

Associate members of a club would still be listed, with no special designation, on the county membership roster along with all of the other members of that club. They would pay County and State dues—a total of $6 at this time. It would be up to the discretion of each club as to whether associate members would need to pay local club member dues.

Associate members would receive the SCOOP and could attend club and county function, when possible. Clubs should keep in contact with these members and encourage them to attend meetings when possible and to participate in county projects and responsibilities when able.
Jessica’s Schedule

January
4-5  Yoga Training in Hot Springs
8   Meeting in Conway
10  EHC Executive Committee Meeting, 9:00
14  Workshop in Ozark
16  Workshop in Hot Springs
21  Cooking Class with Lake Hamilton Sch, 12-3
22  Training in Magnolia
24  EHC Board Meeting 9:00
27  Diamondhead Strong Women, 8:30-10:30
29  Training in Hope
30  Workshop in Marianna

February
1-2  Yoga Training in Hot Springs
3-7  Nutrition Lessons, Lake Hamilton Sch, 8-12
8   Best Care Training
12  Training in Magnolia
18  Training in Pocohontas
20  Meeting at Lake Hamilton School, 8:00-9:00
24-28 Nutrition Lessons, Lake Hamilton Sch, 8-12
27  Cooking Class, Lake Hamilton School, 12-3:00

March
1-2  Yoga Training in Hot Springs
5   4-H Foundation Board Meeting, 12:00-1:00
6   Training in Little Rock
8   Best Care Training
11  Meeting at Lake Hamilton School, 8:00-9:00
12  EHC Workshop at Ferndale
13  SNAP-Ed meeting 10:00-12:00
14  EHC Yearbook Planning meeting, 9:00
17  St. Patrick’s Day Parade
18  Cooking Class, Lake Hamilton Sch, 12-3
20  Parent Fair at Fountain Lake School 3-7

EHC Dates to Remember

JAN
24  Quarterly Board Meeting, 9 am, EHC Bldg
29  Quilt Seminar begins, 9 to 2, EHC Bldg

FEB
5   Quilt Seminar
12  Quilt Seminar
19  Quilt Seminar
26  Quilt Seminar
21  Leader Lesson (Resource Management) “Social Media”, 10 a.m., EHC Bldg

MAR
5   Quilt Seminar
12  Quilt Seminar
11-12 AEHC Spring Education Workshop, Ferndale
14  Yearbook Planning, 9 a.m., EHC Bldg
17  St. Patrick’s Day Parade
17  Register for Lunch & Learn
21  Lunch n’ Learn Leader Lesson at 11 a.m., (Food & Nutrition) “Cooking with Herbs”, EHC Building

The meetings listed in this newsletter are open to all eligible persons without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, marital or veteran status, or any other legally protected status. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (large print, audiotapes, etc.) should notify the county Extension office (or other appropriate office) as soon as possible prior to the activity.