



***Dunn County
Association for Home &
Community Education***



October-November-December 2025 Issue	
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Note from our President:

We had a fantastic showing at the State Cultural and Textile Arts Show. No one received less than a 2nd-place award. Two members received the coveted medallion “Best in Class” award: Janine Thull-Sun Catcher craft and Vicki Jess-short story “*Mystery Rider.*” Awards listed at end of newsletter.

We have begun planning for our Holiday Tea. The theme is “*Holiday Recipes from the Heart.*” We have a number of holiday cookbooks left over from the used book sale. Each club will select one of the books at our October All-Member meeting and use it as part of a centerpiece for the Holiday Tea. Ideas could include items such as cookies or cookie cutters. I suggested a small bag of flour and a small bag of sugar decorated as Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus at our Cedarlings meeting—but Mary Baier had a better idea. Use your imaginations!

For our LEFT-RIGHT game, bring a holiday recipe on a recipe card, index card, or small piece of paper. We will use them to pass LEFT and RIGHT. Extras will be available if you forget to bring a recipe.

Our October All-Member meeting has been moved from Oct. 23 to Oct. 22 due to a conflict with the HCE NW District meeting. Desserts and beverages will be provided. The event will include a Cultural Arts “Show and Tell.” There will be no competition or judging—just a chance to share something of interest that you or a friend made. The October All-Member meeting will also include the selection of programs to present in 2026. Clubs are encouraged to discuss ideas in advance and bring recommendations to the meeting. Please try to have a presenter in mind when making a recommendation.

Margaret Breisch breischm@gmail.com



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Oct. 22	HCE ALL-MEMBERS meeting, 1pm, Rm 60, GSB
Nov. 13	HCE Board meeting, 1pm, Rm 60, GSB
Nov. 20	Spec.Int.Mtg "Library Tour" 1pm at Menomonie Public Library
Dec. 6	HOLIDAY TEA, 1-3pm, Menomonie Senior Center

July, August, & September are busy months for those who are "into" the Bookworms Program. This year we even had a June event in Menomonie, serving pie at a Ludington Guard Band Concert. The pie sale was very successful and netted us over \$1,500.00.

The Used Book Sale during the Dunn County Fair helped our project with an additional approximately \$1,770.00. Our bookworm books arrived in September this year, a little later than usual. I was unable to attend the HCE Convention, but Geri Bates brought back the stickers for the books, and my Elk Meadow Homemakers, at our September meeting, placed one into each book. (1,211 books!).

The very next day they were delivered to Head Start in Menomonie, Moundview Elementary in Elk Mound, and to Sue Anderson for Boyceville. A total of 173 pre-K students will each receive 7 books during the 2025-2026 school year, thanks to our efforts. Thank You, everyone!

At the convention three of our Members from Dunn County were recognized for their work with the Bookworms Program: Elaine Villeneuve, Coordinator; and 2 readers, Lynn Dummer and Barb Schumacher. Thank you to these 3 women for 25 years.

This year we will be reading the following books: Biscuit Goes to School by Capucilli; Finding

Home by Meza; Just Follow Me by Villano; Bears Don't Share by Scobie; We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands by Lopez; Frogs! By Carney; and Bugs! Bugs! by Barner. Each selection is colorful and a delightful story.

If you are interested in being a reader at Head Start in Menomonie, call Janine Thull (715)-556-0063. If you might be interested in reading at Boyceville, call Sue Anderson at (715)-418-0906. Hope to see you at the All Members Meeting!

Normetta

CLUB NOTES

Baxterville-July-Sep: We did not meet in July or August. In September we turned in our quilt squares. We painted our name on metal pumpkins for yard decorations.

Cedarlings-Sept.: Meeting held at Mary Baier's home following a delicious lunch served by Mary. Educational reports were given. Safety by Joyce Kettner, reminding us to be careful with insects. Health by Vicki Jess, reminding us to get our vaccines (RSV, flu, pneumonia, COVID).

International by Mary B. with a report on her recent trip to Italy. What's Happening in Menomonie by Vicki Maves.

Cultural Arts report from the WAHCE State Conference.

Mary shared her quilts that received a blue and a red ribbon. Vicki Jess read her story "*Mystery Rider*", which received a blue ribbon and a medallion award.

Our **Read to Me** program received a \$600 grant from WESTconsin Credit Union. The State Conference report included that state dues will increase from \$5 to \$7. Cedarlings HCE received a **Club Community Service Award** certificate and \$50. Holiday Tea responsibilities were discussed and assigned.

Elk Meadow-JulySept.: We did not meet during the summer months but did enjoy a pot luck club picnic in July as well as assisting with the book sale at the DC Fair. In September, we collected a monetary donation for the local Mounder Meals. We also assisted Normetta with placing nameplates in the books designated for this year's Bookworm project with reading to resume in October. In October, members will be collecting winter wear clothing to donate to the Mounder Closet at the elementary school. We also welcomed Kari Brockmeier as a new member in Sept. Members were urged to think about goals for the coming year with further discussion as well as election of officers in October. Information

was available re: the Christmas Tea and possible ideas for a basket for the raffle.

Popple Creek-July: we went on an enjoyable road trip to The Restoration Station in Elk Mound, The Pond View Lavender Farm, and had lunch at Vino Cappuccino.

Popple Creek-Aug.: we had our annual picnic in Holcombe, in the rain! Since we had shelter, it didn't dampen our spirits!

Popple Creek-Sept: We discussed the upcoming HCE events. Chris and Geri are going to state. Chris is working on completing the quilt for the raffle. The Holiday Tea County Raffle basket will be put together by Geri. The Board is donating the items, (Popple Creek Club will donate any items needed to complete the basket). We made plans for our club to provide a centerpiece, 4 dozen cookies, and at least two silent auction items, for the Holiday Tea. Items for Patti's Wildlife Rescue and Rehab, and items for the Colfax Sr. Living Center were collected and

delivered for September.

We have 2 members going to September's Leader Training on Medicare Supplements. Chris made five quilts for foster children in Ladysmith. Maureen is making reservations for our Christmas Party. Maureen also shared information on having personal documents in financial go bags. A reminder to have suggestions ready for next year's Special Interest meetings for the All Members Gathering in October.

Ideal-July-Sept.: Members discussed the Pie Sale at the Ludington Guard Band Concert which benefitted the Bookworms program. Members also worked the Used Book Sale at the Dunn County Fair which was another success and it also raised money for the Bookworms program. Everyone enjoyed the summer outing to Pondview Lavender Farm near Chippewa Falls and later the annual summer picnic at the Marlett's house. Sharalyn and Alvin celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by taking an Alaskan cruise. She shared pictures and

told the group all about the exciting and relaxing trip.



Ideal HCE at Lavender Farm



Raffle quilt for Dec. 6 drawing at Holiday Tea



October 4 is the 104th birthday of Betty Crocker. There is a Cake potluck in Minneapolis that day. (Betty is a brand, not a real person)



Vicki Jess earned a medallion for her short story "Mystery Rider"



Janine Thull earned a medallion for her chicken wire Sun Catcher

Cultural Arts Awards at the State Convention

Mary Baier – Cedarlings	Small Quilt	Blue
Mary Baier – Cedarlings	Quilted Wallning	Red
Margaret Breisch – Cedarlings	Short Story Fiction	Blue
Vicki Jess – Cedarlings	Short Story Non-Fiction	Blue + Medallion
Cynthia Samson – Elk Meadow	Afghan	Blue
Cynthia Samson – Elk Meadow	Poem	Red
Nadine Schlough – Ideal	Lapghan	Blue
Faye Swenson – Ideal	Acrylic Painting	Red
Faye Swenson – Ideal	Watercolor	Red
Janine Thull – Ideal	Sun Catcher	Blue + Medallion
Janine Thull – Ideal	Rug	Blue
Rosalie Werner – Ideal	Photography	Red

Member and Board Information

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13, in Room 60 of the Government Services Building. All members are welcome to attend. Our main topic will be the Holiday Tea. There are many last-minute details to plan. Board members who are unable to attend are encouraged to ask another club member to attend in their place.

HCE Board Members:

President – Margaret Breisch 715-235-7124
Vice President – Janine Thull
Secretary – Elaine Villeneuve
Treasurer – Vicki Maves
Marketing/Membership Co-Chairs –
Christie Pittman and Janine Thull
Historian – Elaine Villeneuve
Bookworms – Normetta Hurlburt
Rosalie Werner –Past President and Communications
Scholarship Chair – Janine Thull

North Center

Chair: Geri Bates
gcrafts@yahoo.com
Baxterville
Popple Creek
Ideal

South Center

Chair: Mary Baier
Baierm3@gmail.com
Elk Meadow
Cedarlings



2025 DONATIONS

July-September

No donations

NORTHWEST DISTRICT FALL MEETING

October 23, 2025

Grantsburg Library, 415 S Roberts St, Grantsburg WI

10am Registration, 11:15am Lunch

Send payment of \$10 by October 6 to: Roberta Schaffer

Make check to: Burnett County HCE

6405 Cty Rd A, Webster WI 54893

Phone 715-866-4944 Cell 715-791-4510

Guest Speaker: Burnett County Sheriff's Dept. Topic: Drones, AI, Canine Unit

Name: _____

County: _____ No. of people attending _____

Convention Report

Geri Bates, Margaret Breisch, Chris Lorenzen, Vicki Maves and Janine Thull attended the WAHCE Convention held Sept. 15-17 in Green Bay. These meetings included updates on finances, Bookworms, Cultural Arts, and general business.

Our county received several awards:

*Education Award: Dunn County received a \$100 award for our Spring Fling program, which featured the presentation “Joy of Community” by Mary Baier, a Cultural and Textile Art Show, member recognition, and an updated membership brochure prepared by Janine Thull.

*Membership Award: We were recognized for gaining four new members.

*Club Service Award: The Cedarlings received a \$50 award for their reading program for three-year-olds.

The two focus Education Programs for this year were “Ask a Question, Save a Life” and “Meaningful Memories/Brain/Health.” Each county is required to offer at least one of these programs at the county level in 2026. We will decide which program to offer at our October All Members Meeting.

Our Pennies for Friendship contributions support international programs in Haiti and Nicaragua. Currently, aid to Haiti is difficult due to powerful gangs, and political issues are making it hard to get baking and sewing supplies into Nicaragua. However, we can still send our Pennies for Friendship to help support these efforts.

Medicare, Medicare Supplement Plans, and Advantage Plans held on Sept. 22

Bethany Schneider, and ADRC Elder Benefits Specialist, gave a presentation on Medicare, Medicare Supplement Plans, and Advantage Plans. Seven members were in attendance.

*Medicare: A federal health insurance program for people 65 and older (and some younger with disabilities). It has two main parts:

Part A covers hospital stays

Part B covers doctor visits, tests, and outpatient care

*Medicare Supplement (Medigap) Plans: Private insurance policies that work with Original Medicare (Parts A and B). They help you pay some of the costs that Medicare doesn’t cover, such as deductibles and co-pays. You must have Original Medicare to buy a Supplement Plan.

*Medicare Advantage Plans (Part C): An alternative to Original Medicare. These plans are offered by private companies and usually include hospital, doctor, and prescription drug coverage in one plan. If you choose an Advantage Plan, you don’t need a Medicare Supplement Plan.

Key Point:

You can have either Original Medicare plus a Supplement Plan or a Medicare Advantage Plan-but not both at same time.



2025 HOLIDAY TEA

“Holiday Recipes from the Heart”

***Saturday, December 6, 2025 1-3 pm
at the Menomonie Senior Center***

Raffle drawing at 2:30 pm

Each Club:



1. Bring a Themed Centerpiece for table decoration and door prizes — valued around \$10 (ie a Cookie Cookbook with cookie cutters and sprinkles)
2. Bring 4 dozen Holiday Cookies on a plate ready to be set out on the cookie tables.
3. Bring at least 2 silent auction items (when you bring in your silent auction items, please be sure that you stop at the Silent Auction Check-in table to fill out a sheet for each item with description, value, donation by, etc.)

A suggested \$2 donation will be taken at the door to help cover the room cost.

For our theme “Holiday Recipes from the Heart”, members are encouraged to come with a special Christmas memory or memories of family Holiday dishes or treats to share those at their table.