

## KEHA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2015

I cannot think of any other organization that does so much for so many, and asks for nothing in return like the Kentucky Extension Homemakers Association does. I have read the Area Presidents reports and the Educational Chairpersons reports, and they affirm that we are a GREAT organization, of which I am humbled to be the President. I believe that there are just a few facets of life that are not covered by the things that we learn and do, by our members. We make knitted caps for the newborns, give funds to the Imagination Library, award scholarships to 4-H camp, donate quilts and other materials to the Center for Courageous Kids, and sponsor other youth activities. Ask Marilyn Watson about Green River Area's "World's Greatest Baby Shower." We teach the "Recipe for Life" to elementary children, sponsor Santa's Workshop for children at Christmas, fill back packs to provide food for children so that they will have food over the weekend, and give to the toy drives and different charities that benefit community children. We make gowns and blankets for children who visit Children's Advocacy Centers, as well as donate toys to those facilities. We sponsor and participate in high school graduation projects. I am so excited about a new venture that Cassie Munsey in Wayne County has started, a Junior Homemaker Club that has been very well received by young people wanting to know the things that we already know. She is in the process of getting established clubs to adopt a Junior Homemaker Club to encourage and teach.

For young adults, we teach hospitality and entertaining with our ~~out~~ Christmas events, membership drives, and community events. Pulaski County Extension Homemakers participate in the Somerset Community College's International Festival by making different international cookies, as well as providing a variety of hot tea to the students. The county organization has been participating for several years now and are a favorite at the International Festival. KEHA members teach sewing, food preparation and preservation, safe food handling, budget making, recycling, making healthy food choices, leadership lessons, proper exercise and weight loss, crafts and just having fun.

For the more mature adults, we have a tremendous amount of activities to enrich our lives. The comradery of belonging to an Extension Homemaker club is astounding. I like to say the Extension Homemakers are a group of people who believe that education and service begins at home, as the center of society. The wave effect of that endeavor is where all our activity begins. When we learn a new idea, craft, or activity, we want to share with others so that they can make their lives better as well.

We give to food pantries, Veterans in all walks of life, our military servicemen, abuse shelters, homeless shelters, nursing homes, Ovarian Cancer Research (for which we have raised in excess of 1 million dollars), Relay for Life events, and we even FEED our politicians! We teach Estate Planning, Sweets for your Sweetie, the latest fashion trends, quilting, basket making, every craft listed on the Cultural Arts list, and one of my favorites- how to be an effective leader. You never get too old or too educated to learn.

We don't forget our elderly either. We make gifts for the ones in nursing homes, we remember our Veterans in nursing homes with visits and gifts at Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veterans Day and Christmas. We pay tribute to those that have contributed above and beyond to our communities and our lives. These are just a few of the wonderful things we accomplish each and every year as an organization.

We are on the move to increasing our membership, due in part of the wonderful efforts of our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Sharon Wood. Miss Ego and Miss Way to Go have been great incentives to have a great time, and share our organization with others. We hope to continue on the progress made and add significant numbers in the near future. All we have to do is let people know that....

**WE ARE GREAT!!!! WE ARE WONDERFUL!!!! WE ARE KENTUCKY EXTENSION  
HOMEMAKERS!!!!**