

Purchase Area Extension Homemakers Association

2014-15 Report

The Purchase Area is made up of the 8 westernmost counties in the state of Kentucky. It is bounded on the north by the Ohio River and on the west by the Mississippi River. The Purchase Area includes the counties of Ballard, Calloway, Carlisle, Fulton, Hickman, Graves, Marshall and McCracken. The Purchase area is a beautiful part of the state and is home to many unique features of the state - The Land Between the Lakes area, Columbus-Belmont State Park, Wickliffe Mounds State Historic Site, the Great River Road National Scenic Byway, not to mention the National Quilt Museum and the ever popular Fancy Farm Picnic, just to name a few things the Purchase Area has to offer.

Extension Homemakers continues to grow and thrive in the western end of the state, with 56 active clubs, with membership holding steady in the area, there is a place for everyone.

Ballard County had 8 members to attend the state meeting. They were busy this year participating in the Relay for Life event and raised over \$1600 for that cause. They also contributed in the Sole Hope Program and cut out over 350 shoe patterns from recycled denim.

Calloway County had 9 members to attend the state meeting. At their County Day they had a purse auction as a fund raiser with great success. There are over forty barn quilts in three trails in Calloway County and it continues to grow.

Carlisle County had 5 members to attend the state meeting. Homemakers made and delivered lap quilts to the veteran's home located in Hanson, KY where over 40 were distributed. In October they hosted their annual Holiday Foods Tasting Gala fundraiser, with great food and the attendance was maxed out at 150 participants.

Fulton County had 6 members attend the state meeting. They made four quilts and donated them to the Center for Courageous Kids. Homemakers also assisted in crafting and installing 4 more wooden quilt blocks for the quilt tour featured throughout Fulton County.

Graves County had 6 members that attended the state meeting. This year the Homemakers continued support for the Water Project for Africa, and plan on entering this as a contest at this year's KEHA state meeting. They also had another successful Taste of Graves County where this year's theme was "It's a Small World". Each club selected a different country to feature.

Hickman County had 3 members attend the state meeting. The Homemakers sponsored the 12th Annual Taste of the Holidays where money was raised to give to local charities. They also sponsored two Marvelous Manners Afterschool Programs providing manner lessons and a delicious dinner for 42 students. A memorial scholarship was created in honor of Mrs. Bette Chandler, a long time and very active member of Homemakers.

Marshall County had 8 members attend the state meeting. The Special Olympics Polar Plunge is held every year and the homemakers provide donuts and hot cocoa for the participants and also volunteer during this event. They also decorate Christmas trees at the state park and provided over \$3000 for toys and clothes for A Child's Christmas Dream program.

McCracken County had 7 members attend the state meeting. The Holiday Bazaar was a great success with increased sales and attendance. They also hosted an International day program with the focus on Italy. Fourteen students participated in the 4-H Sew Cool 2 Sew event with the homemakers as leaders.

The PAEH were awarded a KEHA Development Grant to present a program called Red Is the New Black. This was a heart smart program and open to any homemaker in the purchase area free of charge. The program was held in February and attended by over 75 area homemakers. There were exhibitors, presenters, entertainment and a silent auction. A heart smart lunch was prepared and served by the Purchase Area Master Foods Volunteer group. The silent auction raised over \$800 dollars for the Go Red for Women Campaign sponsored by the American Heart Association.

The Purchase Area Homemakers served as co-host at the 2014 KEHA State Meeting held in Bowling Green, along with the Pennyrile Area. The Purchase Area was responsible for hands on craft activities and the hostess / welcome duties.

The PAEH continues to be very active across the region, and strives to address the issues' that affects their communities. Homemakers are front and center when it comes to volunteering and assisting others, they share their time, talents, skills and money to serve others. I am proud to be a Homemaker and all they stand for.

PURCHASE AREA EXTENSION HOMEMAKERS ALWAYS "LEARNING, LEADING, SHARING".

Respectfully Submitted by Julie B. Hook- Purchase Area Extension Homemaker-President