

2021-2022 President's Report

We have continued to have some interesting times in the last year, haven't we? We still planned to have meetings and other events and luckily, we were able to proceed with some of them but also had to cancel some out of caution and safety for our members. I sincerely hope that this year brings some normalcy back into our lives, if we even remember what that looks like.

I am so proud that we were able to successfully host the 2021 NVON Conference in Owensboro. The conference got rave reviews from everyone who attended. We planned Area Meetings, and some went off as planned but others had to be cancelled due to safety precautions. Once again, some area and county officers were asked to stay in office for extra terms since elections couldn't be held but our members rose to the occasion and did what was necessary to keep KEHA running.

We were able to hold in-person Fall and Spring Board meetings with just a few modifications and conducted business as usual. We made it work to get the job done. For the first time ever, KEHA had a one-day track of sessions at the Extension Volunteer Form. We presented 6 sessions that were developed and led by KEHA members and were very well received. I was so proud to be a small part of that day.

Membership did show a slight increase in 2021 with a current membership of 10,879. We still have work to do to get back to pre-pandemic levels and I am looking forward to a new membership campaign to do that.

Even with some restrictions still in place I am happy to share these numbers to showcase how active our members continue to be in our communities. Here is the breakdown for each educational area.

- 4-H Youth Development: KEHA clubs and county organizations provided more the \$5,200 in 4-H camp scholarships
- Cultural Arts: KEHA clubs and county organizations generated more the \$8,500 to support KEHA and community projects through sales of cultural arts/crafts items.
- Environment, Housing and Energy: More than 660 members implemented landscaping practices to attract bees, birds, or butterflies.
- Family and Individual Development: More than 700 members participated in a program or lesson focused on self-care.
- Food, Nutrition and Health: More than 1,800 members donated to a local food pantry.
- International: KEHA clubs and county organizations completed projects addressing 16 of 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.
- Leadership Development: KEHA members/clubs reported more than 133,000 volunteer hours for COMMUNITY activities and events.
- Management and Safety: More than 1,200 members indicated they feel prepared to protect their money from fraud because of KEHA programming.

Here are some more statistics that I think will make you proud to be a member of KEHA!

- Members annually report more than 400,000 volunteer hours with a value of more than \$9.4 million dollars to the Commonwealth.
- Donations through KEHA to the University of Kentucky Ovarian Cancer Research Fund surpassed the \$1.56 million mark in 2022 and average more than \$28,000 annually.
- KEHA organizations from the state level to local clubs annually present a total of more than \$40,000 in scholarships for higher education.

We continue to be a very viable part of our communities and I hope we can continue that for many years to come. I am proud to have served as your President and am looking forward to many more years of membership. I encourage you to get involved on your area and state levels. You will make lifelong friends and meet many new friends across the state.

Karen Hill KEHA President 2019-2022