

# April 2008 Newsletter

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## Word from AEHC President

Leadership, Education, and Community Service are presently encouraged throughout Arkansas Extension Homemakers Council! The spring Leadership Training at C.A. Vines 4-H Center was very positive and supportive of those ideas. I must say, my term serving as your AEHC President

has been a wonderful learning experience these last two years! It came to my attention that AEHC volunteered in many communities in Arkansas; increased our membership; had tons of fun; and stayed within the budget. Thank all of you for your help, inspiration and patience. Most of all, I thank

you for your support and friendship, which I will treasure for the rest of my years. I encourage you to extend your support to Joyce Hall and the new officers.



Elaine Stoll  
AEHC  
President

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## AEHC Officer & Leadership Training “Big Success”

On March 12, three-hundred and eleven members, officers, and FCS agents meet at the C.A. Vines 4-H Center for AEHC Officer Training. The theme was “AEHC Opens the Membership Gates in 2008”, with emphasis on increasing membership. The President of each council sat at the front during opening session and gave excellent reports on membership expansion. Those attending the training were amazed at the stage decoration made by Randall, who Hall, a member from Pulaski County designed a red picket fence with three gates representing the three districts. A big THANKS to Randall Hall for all his hard work! The district teams did



Delta District  
Skit



## Dates to Remember...

May 1  
Registration for AEHC  
Annual State Meeting Due

May 15  
AEHC State Officer  
Nominations Due

June 10-12  
AEHC Annual State Meeting,  
Hot Springs Convention  
Center

October 21  
Ozark District President's  
Day

October 23  
Delta District President's Day

October 28  
Ouachita District President's  
Day

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## Inside this issue:

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outstanding jobs with their skits, representing an aspect of membership expansion. Heifer Project International volunteer Ed Matthews was the speaker for the morning program. Mr. Matthews gave an excellent presentation on the history and purpose of this international organization. His first hand experiences of living in the Congo and utilizing the services of Heifer Project were of great interest to the group. The afternoon program included a

discussion on the expansion notebook, given to all council presidents and FCS agents. Each county was encouraged to promote EHC during the month of May. Council presidents and county agents received registration packets for the AEHC Annual State Meeting; please note registration deadline is May 1.

#### **AEHC Registration Packets Available Electronically**

All FCS agents have received an email of the

registration packet for AEHC State Meeting. FCS Agents are responsible for collecting and submitting all registrations to Betty F. Oliver by Thursday, May 1, 2008. The AEHC State Meeting registration information and details are also available at web address

[http://www.arextensionhohomemakers.org/Meetings/annual/annual\\_08/annual.htm](http://www.arextensionhohomemakers.org/Meetings/annual/annual_08/annual.htm) or

[http://www.uaex.Pulaski/FCS/EHC/2008\\_meetings/edu/default.htm](http://www.uaex.Pulaski/FCS/EHC/2008_meetings/edu/default.htm)

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## **State Officer Nominations/Elections**

We will elect new officers during the 2008 Annual State Meeting.

President-elect, vice-president, treasurer and secretary are the officer positions for this election. Send all applications to Past President, Mary Ann Shepherd, by Thursday, May 15, 2008. Please review the handbook on the AEHC Website:

<http://www.arextensionhohomemakers.org>

[memakers.org](http://www.arextensionhohomemakers.org), for details on officers' qualifications. Nominating Committee members are Carolyn Morris – Ozark District and Joann Langford – Ouachita District. The new officers take office July 1, 2008, and serve a two-year term. Mary Ann Shepherd's address is 1150 Harper Cemetery Road, Pocahontas, AR 72344 (or email: [mum.shep@gmail.com](mailto:mum.shep@gmail.com)).



Randal Hall, Pulaski County, preparing the stage for AEHC Officer & Leadership Training.



Jackie King, Monroe County FCS Agent, conducts a relaxer during Officer & Leadership Training

## 2007 AEHC Volunteer Hours

Arkansas Children's Hospital reported AEHC donated 88,453 volunteer hours to the hospital in 2007. Nine hundred additional volunteer hours were given to UAMS Neonatal Unit and UAMS Winthrop Rockefeller Cancer Research Center. \$18.04 is the current volunteer hourly rate, and it is \$100.00 per hour for leaders serving on boards. The monetary value of the EHC volunteer hours is \$3,723,404.90. Betty

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*"The monetary value of the EHC's volunteer hours is \$3,723,404.90."*

Oliver delivered two vanloads of items brought by counties during the Officer's Training in March, for the three-organizations. Betty Oliver met with Arkansas Children's Hospital Volunteer Office recently. The following suggestions were given:

2. List the number of items on volunteer form.
3. Teaching dolls are needed, have an overstock of caps.
4. Try to use colorful cotton fabrics. Can only use current year magazines.

1. Be sure to include the volunteer form with items.

For additional information please go to [www.archildrens.org](http://www.archildrens.org)

## Congratulations to AEHC for Membership Increase

At the October 2007 District Rallies all counties that were present established county membership goals for 2008. The membership goal total was 713, with all three districts combined. During the March 12<sup>th</sup> AEHC Officer's Training, at C.A. Vines 4-H Center, the county council presidents reported 616

new members. Our statewide membership expansion chair, Mary Fisher, was pleased with the increase. Keep up the great work; we will definitely surpass the 713 goal by the end of July 2008.

**\*\*Council presidents will be asked to report all additional new members at the June board meeting\*\***



EHC, "Opens the Gate in 2008", membership is on the rise.

## Increase in Project Books

Councils and clubs submitted Sixty-eight project books this year—largest number in recent years. The education committee that judged the books in February has noted excellence in quality. Councils and clubs will receive awards at the Awards Program in June. Projects Books will be on display in Horner Hall during the State Meeting.



Judging Project Books: Anna Bennett, Chair of the Education Committee & Margaret Kinley, Delta Associate District Director



Additional Judging

## AEHC Donates to 4-H ATV Safety Project

In February, AEHC Finance Committee and Executive Committee voted to donate \$600 to the All Terrain Vehicle Safety Project; conducted by Arkansas 4-H. This project is very important for the youth of Arkansas, since a large number of injuries and fatalities are attributed to ATV's. The AEHC logo will be affixed to helmets used in the program.



Presentation of 4-H Safety Project check to Mike Klump, 4-H Specialist

## AEHC Awards \$7,100 in 2008

You belong to a very generous organization that shares with many worthy organizations. In 2008, the following organization will benefit from AEHC:

- County Agents Foundation - \$2,000.00
- Mini-grants to Counties - \$1,500.00 (collectively)
- AEHC Project Books Awards - \$1,000.00
- Dr. Lynn Russell Memorial AEHC Scholarship - \$1,000.00
- Arkansas 4-H Scholarship - \$1,000.00
- Arkansas 4-H ATV Safety Project - \$600.00-



Ouachita District Skit at AEHC Officer

## An Old Chinese Poem Offers, Wonderful Advice for Leaders

GO to the people.  
LIVE among the people.  
LEARN from them.  
LOVE them,  
START with what they know,  
BUILD on what they have.  
But of the BEST Leaders,  
When their TASK is accomplished,  
Their WORK done,  
The PEOPLE will remark,  
“WE HAVE DONE IT OURSELVES.”

### Extension Homemaker Creed

**I believe** in the Extension Homemakers Club program and accept the responsibilities it offers to be helpful to others and to provide for continuous improvement in all levels of living.

**I believe** that through working together in a group we can enlarge the opportunities, enrich the life of our people, and create a more contented family and community life.

**I believe** in my own work as a homemaker. I believe that the greatest force that molds character comes from the home, and I pledge myself to create a home which is morally wholesome, spiritually satisfying, and physically healthful and convenient.



Barbara King,  
Washington County  
FCS Agent, receiving  
retirement gifts at  
Washington County  
EHC Spring Council  
meeting.