

PRESIDENTIAL POINTERS

Indiana Extension Homemakers Association ®

Volume XLII, Issue II

Presidential Thoughts...

It is hard to believe it is January, 2024, when you will be reading this. Half of my term as president is over. Sometimes I feel like the main character in Dr. Suess's book – "Oh, the Places You'll Go". I'd also like to add: And the People You'll Meet. Fall District Meetings were eye opening learning about all the things going on around the state. Our membership is very busy promoting IEHA. I have had the honor of participating in 100th and 90th anniversary celebrations in several locations, and look forward to celebrating more special events with you.

Your board has been hard at work planning the 2024 IEHA Home and Family Conference, to be held June 10-12, 2024, again at the Embassy Suites in Noblesville, and have been working with the Center For Families at Purdue helping a project to focus on having family dinners at home to build stronger families. You'll hear more at our June Conference.

Spring District Meetings will begin in March, and I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible. While the theme of your district meeting should be chosen by you, I will be focusing on the NVON project-in-common: BEE-CAUSE Pollinators Feed the World. Also be thinking about volunteering to be a district representative for your district. Applications are due February 15, 2024, and are sent to your current District Representative and Linda Carunchia, the State President-Elect.

Being a District Representative opens the door to the opportunities offered by IEHA, as well as a greater knowledge of all the counties in your district.

I just want to reinforce how awesome you all are, and how dedicated you are to making IEHA a valuable resource in the state of Indiana for everyone.

- Peggy Peter, IEHA State President

January 2024



www.ieha-families.org



Inside this issue:

Spring District Meetings & Home & Family Conference	2
Scholarships	3
Officer Nominations	4
Focus Groups	5-6
Activity Committees	7
Activity Committees	8
First Timer Award & I Want to Go Again Award	9

Co-Editors: *Patty Coonrod & Michelle Roberts*

SPRING DISTRICT MEETINGS:

We can't wait to see you at the upcoming Spring District Meetings, so much fun, food and information is planned for the day. You don't want to miss it!

March 4 – New Castle District – Randolph County

March 5 – Fort Wayne District – Adams County

March 6 – Michigan City District – Marshall County

March 7 – Lafayette District – White County

March 13 – Evansville District – Dubois County

March 14 – Bedford District – Harrison County

March 18 – Madison District – Bartholomew County

March 19 – Terre Haute District-Owen County

March 20 – Indianapolis District – Johnson County

March 21 – Kokomo District – Tipton County

HOME & FAMILY CONFERENCE 2024:

The Home & Family Conference Planning Committee has been hard at work planning this year's conference. Conference information will be shared in detail at your Spring District Meetings as well as the next Presidential Pointers. Your officers will share everything from registration costs and form, all concurrent sessions descriptions so you will know ahead of time what each session is about and who is leading the session, the heritage skills and craft sessions that will be available this year, a bio on our keynote speaker that we are sure you are going to love, and much more!

Room reservations are now open. Please contact the hotel directly to reserve your room.

Embassy Suites by Hilton & Conference Center
13700 Conference Center Drive South
Noblesville IN 46060
(317) 674-1900

Group Code: IEH

Cutoff Date to make reservations in the block is May 10th.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's conference.

SCHOLARSHIPS:

Strengthening families through continuing education is a part of the IEHA Mission Statement. IEHA needs your help in promoting the scholarships we offer!

IEHA offers several scholarships for individuals wanting to pursue further education and get help with the costs involved in doing so. Criteria and due dates for each type of scholarship is listed below.

CAREER ADVANCEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships are available to individuals who are twenty-five (25) years of age or older and are residents of Indiana. There are 8 scholarships available of \$500 each. Six are of a general nature and two have specific requirements for application. Applications are due to the Michelle Roberts, Immediate Past State President and must be postmarked by March 15, 2024 to be considered.

1. *General* – Up to six (6) scholarships may be awarded.
2. *Ann Hancock Scholarship* – The above criteria must be met as well as the applicant must be pursuing a degree in nursing.
3. *Eleanor Arnold Scholarship* – The above criteria must be met and the applicant must be an IEHA member.

STEPS TO SUCCESS SCHOLARSHIPS

These scholarships are intended for students graduating from high school and attending an accredited college/university or vocational/technical school. (One is specifically reserved for the vocational/technical school applicant.) The amount of these awards is \$500 per scholarship. Applications are due to Michelle Roberts, IEHA Immediate Past State President and must be postmarked by May 1, 2024, to be considered.

All applications, requirements, judging criteria, and instructions for the scholarships can be obtained by visiting the IEHA website or by contacting your county president, district representative, or other state officers.

Ruth B Sayre Scholarships

The Ruth B Sayre Scholarship is given by the Country Women's Council, USA, to a woman who has the ability to complete her education and shows a financial need. The scholarship is named for Ruth Buxton Sayre, the Past President of the Associated Country Women of the World from 1947-1953. She made her life's work striving for better conditions for farm women and their families by organizing college extension classes for them. The intent of the scholarship is to encourage more women to continue their education. It is a \$500/year scholarship paid to the applicant's educational institution for tuition or books. Applications are accepted for a second year.

The Current Scholarship Application form is only available on the CWCUSA.org website. (cwcusa.org/ruth-buxton-sayre-scholarship/) Applications should be fully completed and sent to your IEHA State President – Peg Peter by March 1, 2024.

STATE OFFICER NOMINATIONS:

Have you ever considered being a state officer or wondered what it would entail?

The new year has arrived, and it is time to start thinking about how you can contribute to IEHA on a new level. There are many ways that you can help serve IEHA during the 2024-2025 year. We, as a state board, are looking for individuals who want to collaborate and share ideas, pass along important information to its members, and be a driving force for the new program year. Your years on the state board will help IEHA continue our important work around the state. Here is how you can serve & what you need to know:

District Representatives:

District Representatives work with their area's county presidents by passing along important information that is discussed at our state board meetings. You will also learn so much about what is going in your surrounding counties and be a support to them as they promote IEHA in their meetings and programs. DRs are an important link between the local level members and the state board. District Representatives serve a two-year term.

Districts looking for District Representatives to serve the 2024-2026 term are: Fort Wayne District, Lafayette District, Madison District, Michigan City District, and New Castle District. Applicants must have served as a County President.

If you have any questions please contact Linda Carunchia, President Elect, markandlindac@gmail.com.

Send nomination forms to 6445-County Road 19, Auburn, IN 46706.

Executive Board:

Executive Board openings are for Treasurer (two-year term) and Vice President (one-year term). Applicants must have served as a County President and it is helpful if the treasurer applicant has Quick Books or other financial program skills. The Vice President must have served as a DR in the past.

Board Meetings are held (typically) in July, October, February by Zoom, April and June.

Expenses are minimal and most are reimbursed by your district (for DRs) and/or state (for Executive Board Members).

Applications can be found on the website or through your county president/current District Representative.

Deadline to submit your application is February 15, 2024 and should be submitted to Michelle Roberts,

Immediate Past President, 420 East 1st Street, Fowlerton IN 46930.

Election of all officers will take place at Home & Family Conference 2024.

We hope you will consider joining our state board!

-Michelle Roberts, Immediate Past President

FOCUS GROUPS:

Education Focus Group

The Education Focus Group had a great meeting at Focus Day on October 19, 2023. The committee had so many wonderful ideas as we brainstormed topics for the 2024 Home and Family Conference. After much discussion, the group decided to focus on providing information on organ donation, a topic of which many may not have a full understanding. We are delighted that Lindsey Johnson, Manager of Donor Registry and Partnerships from the Indiana Donor Network, has agreed to offer a session at our conference, to provide information on the importance and impact of organ donation.

Many of our IEHA members currently donate their time and talents to create beautiful, handmade comfort shawls for the Indiana Donor Network's Threads of Compassion Program. What a wonderful opportunity to hear stories from Lindsey on the comfort these shawls bring to families in their time of sorrow. If you are interested in participating in the Thread of Compassion Program, we will have more information available at the program. We are asking any IEHA members with extra yarn they do not want to bring it to our conference to offer to our army of knitters and crocheters for shawl making. Additionally, anyone who has completed shawls may bring them to the program (you have plenty of time to get to work before June!!).

- Cathy Wilkymacky, Vice President & Education Focus Group Chair

FOCUS GROUPS—CONTINUED:

Leadership Focus Group

The Leadership Focus Group met on October 19, 2024 in Hendricks County. There were six members in attendance. Several items were discussed.

- There will not be a Family Impact Seminar this year.
- There will not be an i-LEaD session at the 2024 Home and Family Conference. Ellen King offered that there could be district wide trainings if at least ten people will attend. We are finding that members do not want to give up a whole day at conference to attend the session offered on Mondays.
- Combining both the i-LEaD and Leadership funds to have a bigger budget and better speaker at 2024 Home and Family.
- Phil Anderson will be one of our speakers. His topic will be "I Am Old, But Still Very Useful".
- In 2025, the Enthusiasm Award will be replaced with an "Honoring Dreamers and Doers" Award.

Dreamers: passionate, thinks outside the box, risk taker, motivator, new ideas, innovative
 Doers: gets things done, organizer, follows through, detailed, jumps right in, ability to lead
 One nomination from each county, then pick one winner from each district.

- Update the "Congratulations! You Have Been Elected" booklet.

-Linda Carunchia, Preident-Elect & Leadership Focus Group Chair

Volunteer Community Support Focus Group

The Volunteer Community Support Focus Group met at IEHA's Focus Day in October. The project we chose to work on is the revision of the VCS Report Form. We are investigating several ways to make it easier to complete and will be available for the next blue book update in the July/August timeframe.

-Peggy Peter, State President & VCS Focus Group Chair

ACTIVITY COMMITTEES:

Public Relations Activity Committee

Your IEHA Public Relations Committee is expanding the IEHA Tool Kit. With the Tool Kit 2.0 Fair Week Edition we want to use this to excite members about their county fair. Give them tips to help promote the fair and have activities during the week of the fair. Some of the things we discussed that we want to encourage you to try are the follow:

1. **Themed Shirt Day** - Pick any category that your fair has an entry for or your fairs theme. Encourage members to wear that shirt to promote that category or theme.
2. **Host a Make It Take It Event** - Come up with a fun activity that fair goers can come and do on that particular day. It could be a recipe in a jar; photo memory board; card making; or fun jewelry such as a bracelet.
3. **Giving Day** - pick an organization to give back to. At our county fair our garden club did a 10' X 10' display with a race between two cars (could use peddle tractors) and each day as people donated to either the humane society or the food bank the cars advanced by the donation amount on the makeshift track around the plants.
4. **Demonstration Day** - Depending on the space available you could have an upholster demo, a cooking demo or a floral arrangement demo.
5. **Member Day** - Recognize members' contributions to your organization. Or members who have reached a milestone in your organization. Have light refreshments and create a mini party with this.

Lesson Trifolds - Using a Purdue Extension Lesson or other topics around a theme creating a lesson board for each club to display. We did a great backyard BBQ safety with clubs covering proper temperatures for grilling, maintaining cold dishes cold, hot dishes hot and desserts. People were really talking about it all week long.

The Public Relations Committee will be doing a session at the Home and Family Conference again this year to launch this 2.0 edition. Be sure to sign up so you can get the latest and ask questions about this version of the IEHA Tool Kit.

Sincerely,

Rob White

Public Relations Committee Chair

ACTIVITY COMMITTEES:

Young Homemakers Activity Committee

The Young Homemakers Activity Committee teamed up with the Membership Committee this past fall during Focus Day. The goals for these two committees are very similar in nature and felt it would benefit both committees as well as the membership as a whole to work together this year. While the Membership Committee is looking at ways to compile information on our new members, help welcome and stay connected with them on every level in the state, the Young Homemakers Activity Committee is focusing on ways to attract new, young members (even those young-at-heart). We are specifically looking at Specialty Clubs and how they can attract individuals and help our membership grow!

This year at Home & Family Conference these two activity committees will join forces and hold a concurrent session. The Membership Committee will share what they are doing and pass along information for you to implement in your counties. The Young Homemakers Committee will have a panel of leaders from various Specialty Clubs from around the state. They will explain what their Specialty Club looks like, how they attracted members, what their meetings and activities look like as well as tell how they meet the three pillars of IEHA—Education, Leadership, and Volunteer Community Support.

Our goal in this session will be to open your mind to new ideas for attracting new members of all ages. We hope that you will see that there are a variety of interests out in our communities and that many of those interests can spark a club.

Watch for more information and details on this concurrent session offered at Home & Family Conference this year during your Spring District Meetings as well as in the next issue of Presidential Pointers.

- Michelle Roberts, Immediate Past State President & Young Homemakers Activity Chair

CULTURAL ARTS SPECIAL PROJECT FOR 2024

TABLE RUNNER

- Must be no wider than 18”
 - Can be any length
 - Can be any medium

We look forward to many entries this year at conference!

2024 Home and Family Conference

Financial Help Available

State First Timer & “I Want To Go Again”

If you have never attended the entire Home and Family Conference or it’s been a LONG time since you’ve come, these awards might be for you! Both awards will pay you money to apply to your registration fees to make attending a little more easy to do. The State First Timer Award will pay \$175.00 to be applied to the cost of conference, also the “I Want To Go Again” Award will pay \$175.00 toward the registration cost of conference.

State First Timer Award

One winner will be chosen from each District. Winners must attend the entire Conference. Districts vary on how they select their District winner, so it is best to check with the District Representative or County President on their area’s selection process. The District Representative will notify the First Timer Chair by April 1st as to the name of the District Winner. Upon notification as the District Winner, the winner should register for Conference and make their hotel arrangements. Please register as soon as you can after notification, do not wait until the registration deadline.

“I Want to Go Again” Award

(sponsored by IEHA Past State Presidents)

This award will pay the winner \$175.00 towards registration to Home and Family Conference. The application deadline is March 15, 2024 and should be sent to Linda Lowe, 635 Melrose Court, Greenfield, IN 46140.

Qualifications are:

1. Must have previously attended a Home and Family Conference.
2. Must be unable to attend Home and Family Conference without financial assistance.
3. Must be involved in local club and county organization.
4. Any age may apply.

Applications for both awards can be found in the President’s Blue Book, by requesting a copy of the application form from your County President, District Representative, or the State First Timer Chair, or downloading the form from the IEHA website, ieha-families.org. Please give these awards your consideration ... Come to Conference and join the fun, learn something new, make new friends, share ideas, see the displays, visit the vendor and Logo areas, marvel at the talents of Homemakers who showcase their creations in the Cultural Arts area, attend The Melody Makers concert, and enjoy the wonderful food you did not have to cook! For questions, contact Jaynie Keniston, State First Timer Chair, at 219-207-0618 (cell) or by email at keniston@centurylink.net