

FEBRUARY 2025 GOLDNOTES

University of Wisconsin-Madison Division of Extension Sheboygan County
Sheboygan County Office, 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081 - 459-5900



Inside this issue:

February, 2025

Upcoming Events	2
2025 HCE Board Listing	2
HCE Webpage	2
Stiches of Love Update	3
Wisconsin Bookworms	3
Current Needs for Pay It Forward	3
HCE Book Club News	4
Save the Date for Rally Day	4
AFS In Your Community	5
Membership & Marketing	5
Education Program Registration Forms	6
January 13 Executive Board Minutes	7-8

Sheboygan County Association for Home & Community Education Presidents Message

Hello HCE Members,

2025 is well underway! If you are a resolution-making kind of person, I hope you are seeing good progress through this first month. If you are not of the resolution-making crowd, how about considering setting a goal to achieve in the next month or so. It doesn't have to be big, but goals give us a focus and a reason to be intentional with each of our days.

Phoebe Shourds is the Wisconsin Association of Home and Community Education President, elected to a 3-year term at the State Conference this past September. I would like to share her theme and her thoughts: *"My Theme for the next three years is "Bring your Passion to HCE". I encourage you to keep bringing your passions to HCE in whatever form you enjoy. Cultural Arts, Bookkeeping, Secretarial, International, Bookworms. We have areas to explore. So, if a member of the Nominating Committee calls on you—please step up and help us out. Or if you are needed at the local level—that helps tremendously also."*

We have a great year ahead—opportunities to learn, share, serve and lead. Take advantage of each program or event that is planned and bring your passion to HCE!

Yours in HCE,

Joyce Smies, President
Sheboygan County HCE

Fiscally Responsible

At our Annual Meeting in October, we discussed the issue of needing to reimburse the UW-Extension for postage and copier expenses. Jayna Hintz, Area Extension Director, spoke to the Executive Board in January to share two options for handling these expenses. At this time we will be keeping track of cost and paying per project as opposed to paying a flat fee. As discussed last October, we will be e-mailing more than using snail mail. We ask for your patience and assistance as we get used to this new procedure. You received this Goldnotes via e-mail. Please check with your members that everyone received it. We do not want to drop the ball when it comes to communicating with members, both in clubs and individual members.



Upcoming EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Monday - February 10 - 10:00 AM

Social Isolation and Loneliness
Extension Rooms 5020 & 5022

Monday - March 10 - 10:00 AM

Travel Inspired Quilts
Extension Rooms 5020 & 5022

Monday - March 10 - 12:30 PM

Executive Board Meeting
Extension Room 5024

Monday - April 14 - 12:30 PM

Executive Board Meeting
Extension Room 5024

Monday - April 14 - 10:00 AM

Visit Sheboygan: Places to Go, Things to Do
Extension Rooms 5020 & 5022

Wednesday - April 23 - 10:00 AM

Dodge County, Juneau Community Center

Tuesday - May 20 -

Rally Day & Recognition Banquet
Extension Room 5020 & 5022
Cultural Arts Show 4:00 PM
Dinner 6:00 PM
Program 7:00 PM

Monday - June 23 - 10:30 AM

West Bend Theater Tour

2025 Sheboygan County Association for Home & Community Education Officers

Joyce Smies
President

Marie Kalies
Vice President (Program)

Debbie Zimmermann
Secretary

Nancy Wagner
Treasurer

Newsletter Edited By:

Joyce Smies

Julie Boedecker

Thank you for all of your help.

Extension e-mail addresses:

tammy.zorn@wisc.edu

truong.tran@wisc.edu



Thank You Volunteers

Sheboygan County HCE Webpage:

<https://sheboygan.extension.wisc.edu/home-community-education/>

WI Association HCE Webpage: www.wahceinc.org

Stiches of Love Update

by Ann Meyer

2025 is off to a great start. I have received 82 Pillbox hats and turned them in to Lombardi and Matthews Centers. More bucket hats are needed. Please label the size. All hats are appreciated!

Wisconsin Bookworms

by Althea Smith

We are having a great year with Wisconsin Bookworms. The children enjoy being read to and receiving their own copy of the book. Our readers are enjoying their time as well. Special plans were made with one group of children rehearsing their Christmas program for their reader, Deb Zimmermann. Another reader was given her own school t-shirt that she will proudly wear to read. Another class signed a bookmark for their reader.

This is a great example of how when we serve others, we often receive blessings.

Current Needs for "Pay It Forward"



Money: donations at meetings

Clothing: clean and gently used adult women and men (men clothes more than women)

Food: meals on Sundays only, snacks or prepackaged snacks/instant oatmeal or cereal

Furniture

Suggested timetable for 2025 donations.

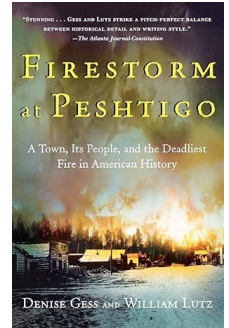
- 1) Executive board meetings
- 2) Educational meetings and club meetings. You can bring ANY donations at anytime.
- 3) **January, February, March:** winter clothing, boots, sweatshirts, pants, socks, mittens, scarves, thermal undies, jackets.
- 4) **April, May, June:** spring housecleaning, go through summer clothes, shorts, sandals, tennis shoes, short socks.
- 5) **July, August, September:** finish summer clothing and start winter clothing collection. Sort through summer clothes before you pack away and when you get winter clothes out.
- 6) **Anytime:** You can donate snack, protein bars and personal toiletries such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothbrush, tooth paste, emery boards, nail clippers, Kleenex, band aids

Recent Wish List

- | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Kcups | • Ketchup | • Margarine | • 12 oz coffee | • Large paper |
| • Crystal Light | • Mayo | tubs | cups | plates |
| • Tuna packets | • Salad | • White or | • 16 oz plastic | • Plastic forks |
| • Tuna packets | dressing | wheat bread | cups | • Paper towels |
| • Chicken | • Hot dogs | • English | • 20 oz paper | • Dawn dish |
| • Chicken | • Hamburger | muffins | bowls | soap |
| • Chicken | • Sliced cheese | • Bananas | • Small paper | |
| • Chicken | • Jam/Jelly | • Cuties | plates | |

HCE Book Club News - Nancy Wagner & JoAnn Gadicke

The book we will be discussing is *Firestorm at Peshtigo; a Town, Its People, and the Deadliest Fire in American History* by Denise Gess & William Lutz. The story tells about how Peshtigo stood hard by woods so thick with white pine you had to feel your way through the forest from trunk to trunk. The town had more than its fair share of sawdust from the mills; slash, duff, and sap were everywhere. Fires had been cooking throughout the region for weeks before making their way to Peshtigo. Working from newspaper reports, letters, diaries, and meteorological reports, the authors recreate the genesis of the firestorm that exploded in Peshtigo and the surrounding sugar bush, killing more than 800 of the town's 2,000 inhabitants and many more in the backcountry. It was a fire so fierce it whipped up a tornado, so incandescent that "hot sand had been spun into a glass sheet around a tree trunk." Human beings simply spontaneously combusted where they stood. And this thriving town, rich in churches and saloons, jewelers and lawyers, had no fire department. Gess and Lutz do an excellent job of telling the personal stories of numerous town inhabitants, from factory owners to the man and woman on the street, and in chronicling the aftermath, when a plague of army worms and parasitic flies descended on the survivors.



We will be meeting at *Pizza Ranch*, located at 3518 Kohler Memorial Drive on Thursday, February 13th at 11:30 a.m. Please pay for your lunch as you come in. We ask that each of you think of a couple of questions for the discussion of the book.

If anyone wishes to join the discussions we are always happy to have additional participants even if you didn't read the book. We always welcome suggestions for future book when we meet.

Hope to see you there!

Save the Dates

The Annual Rally/Recognition Banquet will be Tuesday, May 20, 2025. It will be held at the UW-Extension. More details will be shared by the Franklin Club.

Member to Member/Annual Meeting

October 13, 2025

Theme: Salads

Hot, cold, pasta, fruit, vegetables, potato

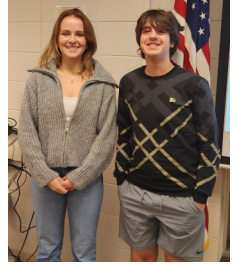


AFS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

By Marie Kalies

If you left early due to the dark and COLD night, or you just could not make it that night, you missed a wonderful presentation!

Two AFS students, Bechara from Lebanon and Petra from the Czech Republic gave talks about their countries and lives. Power points were used. Both young students had a lot to tell us about. It was good putting faces to news we see on TV.



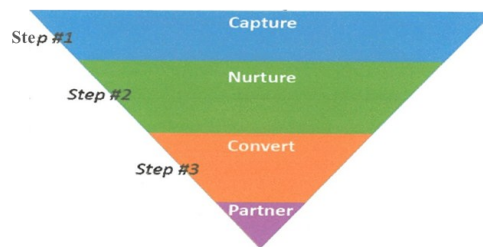
Bechara reported that in his country, there are Muslims, Christians, and Jews. They all live together and love each other. He is a Christian. He reports that the wars are brought about mostly by the politicians.

Bechara told us a harrowing story about his trip into the United States, that almost didn't happen due, first not having a "host family". Then in Germany a "tear in his passport". Having to fly back to Lebanon to get a new passport, then getting out of the country before the airport was bombed!

Petra is a beautiful young woman that was passionate about her homeland. We learned more about her family and her school and their celebrations. She misses her friends and family a lot. She facetimes with them to help with the loneliness. She lives only 30 minutes from Germany, so the family was very much affected by Hitler and WW II. Many relatives did not survive the camps. She wants us all never to forget what happened.

Both young students were fluent in English, and easy to understand. Both gave a very interesting talk that held my attention for 2 hours!

The Membership Funnel: Full Picture of getting new Members and Retain Current Members



1. Host a "bring a friend" meeting. Bring the people from other organizations that you belong to. Bring someone to a meeting or HCE event so they can see how the organization is run and what we do. Offer a trial period for prospective members so they can get a feel for the organization before paying dues.
2. Give the prospective HCE member a HCE Brochure with the membership chairs contact information. That way you can give the person a HCE connection. Kathi Bonde is your membership/marketing chairperson. This way we can all follow through.
3. **Remember - recruitment is just one part of a strong membership base. Member retention is just as important to the maintenance and growth of HCE.**
4. More membership/marketing tips to continue in next Goldnotes. I am open to M/M HCE ideas, let us connect. Let us go with gusto!

Social Isolation and Loneliness
Monday, February 10, 2025 - 10:00 AM

Club/Individual Name: _____

Names of Members Attending: _____

Names of Prospective/Family Members Attending: _____

Total number of packets required _____

Return to: UW-Extension Sheboygan County, 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081

Email Or Call: tammy.zorn@wisc.edu or 920-459-5904

Deadline: February 3, 2025

Travel Inspired Quilts
Monday, March 10, 2025 - 10:00 AM

Club/Individual Name: _____

Names of Members Attending: _____

Names of Prospective/Family Members Attending: _____

Total number of packets required _____

Return to: UW-Extension Sheboygan County, 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081

Email Or Call: tammy.zorn@wisc.edu or 920-459-5904

Deadline: March 3, 2025

Visit Sheboygan: Places to Go, Things to Do
Monday, April 14, 2025 - 10:00 AM

Club/Individual Name: _____

Names of Members Attending: _____

Names of Prospective/Family Members Attending: _____

Total number of packets required _____

Return to: UW-Extension Sheboygan County, 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081

Email Or Call: tammy.zorn@wisc.edu or 920-459-5904

Deadline: April 7, 2025

January 13th Sheboygan Co. HCE Executive Board meeting

Meeting was called to order by President Joyce Smies. Association Creed was led by Marilyn Voskuil.

Present: Julie Boedecker, Kathi Bonde, Kay Keyes, Joanne Schroeder, Joyce Smies, Carolyn Drier, Pam Fiedler, Marilyn Voskuil, Joan Walvoord, Alice Walter, Nancy Wagner, Marie Kalies, Debbie Zimmermann. Excused: Ann Meyer, Althea Smith. Guests: Truong Tran and Jayna Hintz.

A motion was made by Kay Keyes with Marilyn Voskuil 2nd to approve minutes from the last meeting. Approved. Julie Boedecker asked why we are collecting hours. That is to promote our organization whenever possible.

Treasurer's report was read and filed. Nancy Wagner is the new treasurer.

Our guest Jayna Hintz, discussed mailing costs. We will not be charged for last year. The cost of mailing last year was \$730 which doesn't include labor. Goldnotes cost \$.97 apiece to mail and that doesn't include printing costs. [Our printing includes recipes, Goldnotes, & booklets. We discussed a possible flat fee (amount TBD), e-mailing all Goldnotes (about 5 members don't have e mail or printers and their copies can be picked up)]. A motion was made by Pam Fiedler 2nd by Kay Keyes that Goldnotes will be e-mailed & printed copies can be picked up by individual members that don't have email on a trial basis. Approved.

Our guest, Truong Tran, introduced himself. He is our Human Development Education Director.

Stitches of Love: A report was received from Ann Meyer. 82 pillbox hats have been made.

HCE book club: Nancy Wagner reported the book selections and dates for 2025.

Family & Community Life: Julie Boedecker reported Pay it forward is our outreach this year. She will share in the Goldnotes a list of opportunities for club's involvement.

Wisconsin Bookworms: Althea Smith submitted report. Reading has started.

International: Alice Walters will be making boxes for state to be sent to Nicaragua. Donations will be received by the Rotary at the Boldt Ballard Road Building, 2500 North Ballard Rd Appleton from March 8th to 23rd. The building is open 24 hours/day. Make sure all items are in clean working condition.

VP Programming: Marie Kalies reported the trip to West Bend Theater will be Monday, June 23rd 10:30 tour and lunch to follow.

Member to Member: Pretty Good Eggs club is in charge.

State Conference: Will be Sept. 15th-17th at the Tundra Lodge, 865 Lombardi Ave, Green Bay. Phone # for reservations is 877-886-3725, mention WAHCE for a room rate of \$99.50 (this includes 4 water park passes).

S.E. District Director, Carolyn Dreier, reported the following. 1. There will be no bonus cultural arts entries at State. 2. Can cozies may be sold. 3. Scholarship money is running low; consider donating through Donna Zarovy on the HCE website. 4. Any speaker needs to sign a photo release if we are sharing their photos.

S.E. District Meeting, hosted by Dodge County, is April 23rd at the Juneau Community Center.

Goldnotes articles need to be submitted to Tammy by Thursday, Jan. 23. Joyce Smies and Julie Boedecker will proofread on Jan. 27 at 10:30am at UW-Extension.

Rally Day—Nancy Wagner made a motion to have a pot luck dinner with a small charge for meat at the UW. Kay Keyes 2nd. Motion approved.

Life Span Manager programs will be available via zoom meetings this year. They will be free. Nonprofit leader training will be Jan. 23rd at 8:30am.

Fresh Meals on Wheels have their fundraiser on Feb. 20th. It will be a drive thru and will include a quart of soup, salad, rolls, & dessert for \$45. Order by Feb 16th.

Old Business: Thanks to Julie Boedecker and Kay Keyes for planning the Christmas party at Generations. Thanks to JoAnn Gadick for decorating the Christmas tree at the County Museum.

New business: Pennies for Friendship collected \$69.77. Alice Walter made a motion to divide the money between water filters and learning centers. Deb Zimmermann seconded & motion approved.

Kathy Bondi will serve as Membership/Marketing Chairperson. Her contact info is missing on page 7 of your booklets but is on page 15.

Joan Walvoord led the Association prayer. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. A light meal was provide by Joyce Smies and Marilyn Voskuil.

Next Executive Board Meeting: March 10th at 10 a.m.; please bring a bag lunch.

Submitted by Deb Zimmermann