

March 2026 Goldnotes

Sheboygan County Association for Home & Community Education Presidents Message



Dear HCE Members,

We have had exceptional educational meetings in 2026. Special thanks to Marie Kalies for making the contacts and arrangements. This is not an easy task and involves many hours before final arrangements are confirmed. Each presenter also spends time preparing the presentation. I would like to encourage each of you to take advantage of these meetings. Come with an attitude of “I want to learn something new.” Even when you think you might not be interested in a specific topic, if you participate with an open mind, I think you will walk away being glad you came. Share what you learned with your friends and invite them to join us. Education is the backbone of our organization.

Other great opportunities to take advantage of are the SE District Meeting on April 15 hosted by Kenosha County; 2026 NVON Conference held in Wisconsin Dells July 14-16; WAHCE State Conference held in Eau Claire on September 21-23. You can find more details in this newsletter and on the WAHCE website < <https://wahceinc.org/>>

Joyce Smies

Sheboygan County HCE President



National Volunteer Outreach Network--NVON

“Break the Stigma, Ignite Hope, Mental Health Matters”

All dimensions of our being are interconnected with one another and are equally important in obtaining holistic well-being. We can reach ultimate wellness by fully understanding and working towards optimizing each dimension.

Learning about the various dimensions can help you choose how to make wellness a part of your everyday life.

Use the link below to learn more about what you can do—at your own pace, in your own time, and within your own abilities—that can help you feel better and live longer.

Eight Dimensions of Wellness

1. Physical Wellness
2. Emotional Wellness
3. Social Wellness
4. Intellectual Wellness
5. Environmental Wellness
6. Spiritual Wellness
7. Occupational Wellness
8. Financial Wellness

<https://www.nvon.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Creating-a-Healthier-Life.pdf>



Monday, April 13—10:00 AM Meaningful Memories/Brain Health

Extension Room 5020/5022

Monday, April 13—11:30 Executive Board Meeting

Extension Room 5024

Wednesday, April 15—9:30AM SE District Meeting

Paris Town Hall, Union Grove

Thursday, May 14—11:30 AM Book Club – West with Giraffes

Sheboygan Pizza Ranch

Tuesday, May 19 —Rally Recognition Banquet Dinner

Extension Room 5020/5022

4:00PM Cultural Arts Show

6:00pm Dinner

Wanted: Kathi Bonde is planning to attend both the NVON Conference in Wisconsin Dells (July 14-16) and the WAHCE State Conference in Eau Claire (Sept 21-23) and would like to share a room. If interested, contact Kathi at 920-893-1985 or kathibonde@gmail.com

2026 Sheboygan County Association for Home & Community Education Officers

Joyce Smies
President

Marie Kalies
Vice President (Program)

Myra Eischen
Secretary

Nancy Wagner
Treasurer

*Newsletter Edited By:
Joyce Smies
Joanne Schroeder
Thank you for all of your help.*

WI Association HCE Webpage:

www.wahceinc.org

WI Association Sheboygan County HCE Webpage

<https://wahceinc.org/sheboygan-county-hce/>

Rally/Recognition Day

Lakeview Club invites you to Rally/Recognition Day on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at UW-Extension Rooms 5020-5022. This is an evening to honor all HCE members. Outstanding achievements of clubs are recognized. Members will be recognized for their years of faithful service and involvement. Application for Membership Certificates can be found in this newsletter. Please send this application to Emily Lamb, Extension Sheboygan County, 5 University Drive, Sheboygan, WI 53081 or email at elamb5@wisc.edu by May 11.

Lakeview will provide the main dish, with Franklin providing salads and Pretty Good Eggs bringing the dessert. Individual members are asked to bring bread or rolls. There will be no charge. Dinner will be at 6:00 PM. Drop off entries by 2:30 PM at the extension room 5020-5022. Judging will start at 3:00 PM. Cultural arts items will be ready for viewing at 4:00 PM. Program and awards will be at 7:00 PM.

Those whose entries are selected to go to State will need to fill out a green sheet and return it to Pam Fiedler. Thank you for being part of our Cultural Arts and Textiles Show.

Wisconsin/Nicaragua Partners

Note from Amy Wiza: A big part of our organization is being a conduit for your goodwill, mainly by shipping useful donated items or more recently purchasing items in Nicaragua from financial donations. We do our best to offer a variety of ways to be involved and provide opportunities to support projects of interest throughout the year. In 2025, we provided opportunities for people in Wisconsin to buy sewing kits, books, burn fabric and water filters for people in Nicaragua. We had a fabulous response from Wisconsin and VERY grateful recipients in Nicaragua.

Reminder: Continue saving your empty ink cartridges. Bring them to any education meeting or Board meetings to give to Joyce Smies. They are recycled and help raise money for Haiti projects. Share this with friends and relatives.

2026 WAHCE State Conference September 21-23, 2026

Reservations can be made at The Lismore Hotel in Eau Claire, WI by calling 1-715-835-8888. Reference group code "HCE" for special rate. More details will be available in the May Update.

Application for Membership Certificate

Some time ago the Executive Board decided to recognize the faithful members for all their years of service to HCE. Members will be recognized who joined in the years listed:

2021, 2016, 2011, 2006, 2001, 1996, 1991, 1986, 1981, 1976, 1971, and 1966

We will recognize clubs celebrating their 50th anniversary. Please fill out the form below to be properly recognized.

Application for member recognition certificate

Name _____ Club Name _____

(Print or type exactly as you want it to appear on Certificate)

Address _____

City _____

Year Joined _____

Highlights of Membership _____

Club Recognition—50th Anniversary of Club

Club Name _____ Club President _____



Southeast District Spring Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Hosted by Kenosha County HCE



“The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald”

A Badger Talks Program



Paris Town Hall & Fire Station

16607 Burlington Road, Union Grove, WI 53182

Join your fellow WAHCE members for a day of learning and fun.

- 10:00 AM** Registration & Morning Refreshments
- 10:30-12:00** Welcome and Business Meeting
- 12:00 PM** Lunch**
- 1:00 PM** Speaker: Steve Ackerman, *The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald: The Ship, the Storm, and the Song*
- 2:00 PM** Wrap-up

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: Take I-94 south to Kenosha County. Exit at Highway 142 (Mars Cheese Castle exit). Travel about 3 miles west on Highway 142. The Town Hall/Fire Station is on the left. Go around to the back of the building to enter and park. See map on back.

** Lunch is a chicken salad croissant, fresh fruit, Jello cups, chips, veggie tray, coffee, tea, water and dessert. Please indicate if there are any special dietary requirements on this form next to your name.

Registration Fee - \$20.00 per person due no later than April 1, 2026.

Send one list and one check per county payable to “Kenosha County HCE”

~ NO REFUNDS ~

Please complete this registration form and send to:

Pat Perks, 23201 80th Place, Salem, WI 53168

County: _____

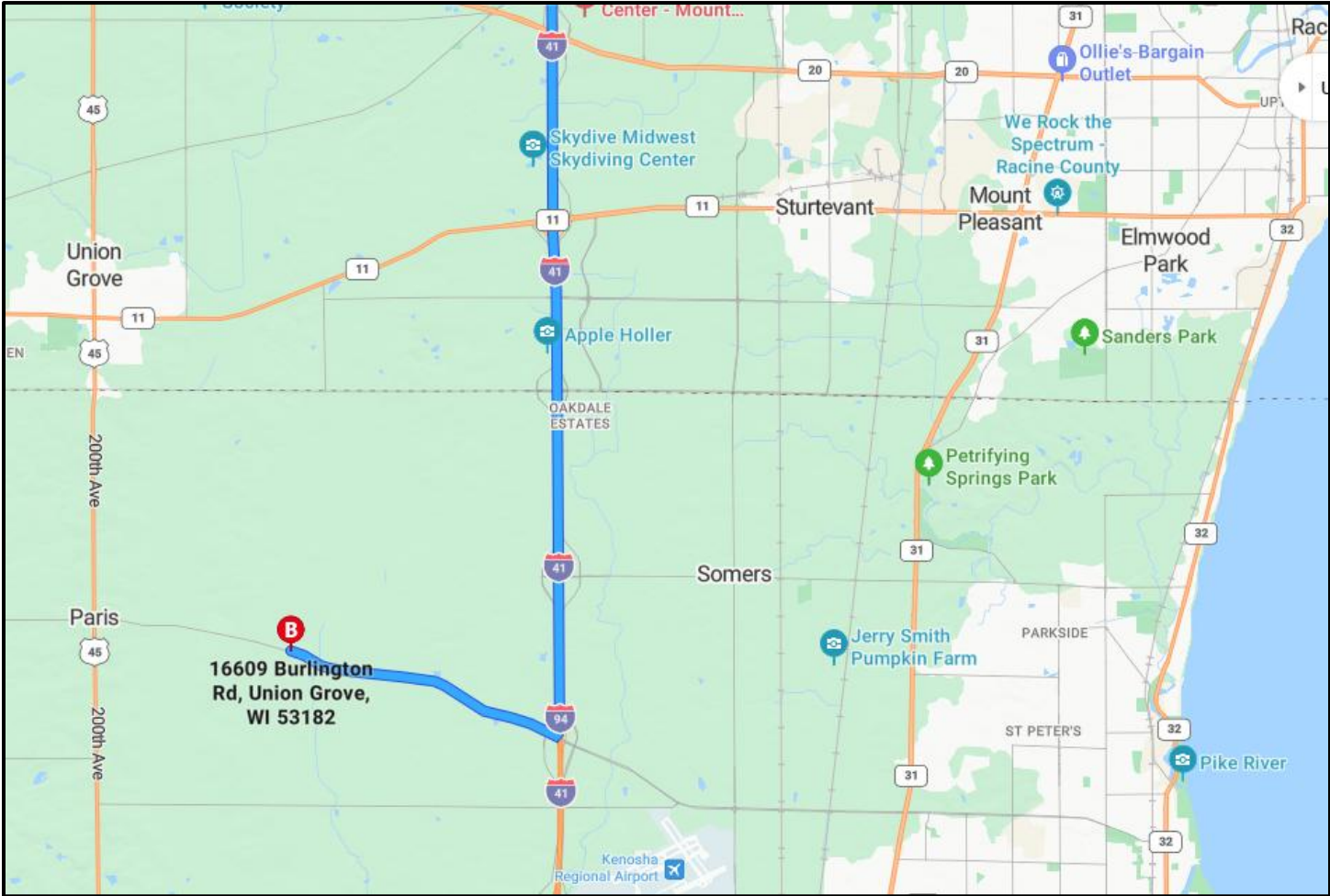
Amount Enclosed:\$ _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Attendee Names (Please print)



2/01/2026

2026 HCE Cultural Arts & Crafts Show

Send Entries to Pam Fiedler,
40 Selma St, Plymouth, WI 53073

Enty Deadline May 8th.2026

Category: _____

Letter: _____ - _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Club: _____

Title: _____

Description - written on back, Legibly Please

Please look at the categories and consider participating. We know there is talent among each and everyone of you. Just a reminder if you liked having our Judge, we need entries. Let us see someone new enter this year! Good Luck to all!

Also, if you have any question about the categories or your project, please, call me and leave a message, Pam Fiedler 920-207-0009. I will do my best to answer you.

Pam Fiedler

Cultural Arts & Textiles Chairperson

Community Outreach for 2026

Kindred Heart Families

Donations for April -Birthday bag items-see January Gold notes for donation suggestions.

Donations for May, June, and July-School daze, Busy bags and Welcome bags

School daze items -New backpacks, notebooks, binders, folder with pockets, wood #2 pencils, mechanical pencils, highlighters, crayons, dry erase markers, pencil cases, black and blue pens, red pens, scissors, markers, rulers, glue sticks, calculators, colored pencils, bottle glue, pencil sharpeners, headphones, copy paper, tape, flash cards, paint.

Busy bag items -Small diaper/wipe packages, drinks, snacks, baby bottles, water bottles, small craft kits, small books, activity books, pens/pencils, activity packs, coloring books with crayons, small stuffed animals, small blanket, small games, small puzzles.

Welcome bags -New pillows, new blankets for twin bed, new stuffed animals, new bottles, sippy cups, children's cups, formula, water, juice pouches, snacks-individually packaged, mini diaper packs, wipe packs, small toys, small puzzles and games, small arts and craft kits, activity packs and books, reading books, coloring books and crayons, journals, stationery, pen sets, postage stamps, shampoo and conditioner, bath wash, toothbrush and tooth paste, brush/comb, feminine hygiene, new socks and underwear, new shoes.

Any items can be brought to board meetings or educational meetings. Items can also be dropped off at Immanuel Lutheran School, 1626 Illinois Avenue, Sheboygan, on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday from noon to 5pm.

We will be collecting Toy Drive items in September, October and November. Suggestions for toys will be in future Goldnotes.



Upcoming Educational Meetings

Monday April 13, 2026, 10:00 AM
Meaningful Memories/Brain Health
Deadline for reservations is April 6, 2026

**For reservations, call or text Marie Kalies,
920-676-7871, with names of members
attending.**

Member to Member Recipe Theme

Just want to let everyone know early so you have time to start looking for a good recipe. Franklin HCE members have chosen "Recipes for Special Diets" as the theme for our recipes for Member to Member in October. A few ideas would be gluten free, diabetic, heart healthy, low sodium, vegetarian, etc. More information to come in the future.

**Wisconsin Association for Home and Community Education, Inc.
2026 Categories for Cultural Arts and Textiles Contest and Show**

**State Registration Deadline:
August 1, 2026**



1*	PAINTING/DRAWING	8*	HERITAGE SKILLS	14	SEWING
1A*	Oil	8A	Hardanger	14A	Children's Wear
1B*	Acrylic	8B	Tatting	14B	Adult Wear
1C*	Watercolor	8C	Wood carving or burning	14C	Useful Item
1D*	Alcohol Ink	8D	Basketry	14D	Purse or Tote
1E*	Pencil	8E	Spinning/Weaving	14E	Pillow
1F*	Charcoal	8F	Felting	14F	Item made from recycled materials
1G*	Any other item not listed.	8G	Wood Applique	14G	
2*	PHOTOGRAPHY	8H	Rug Making	14H*	Wearable Access (apron, hat, etc.)
2A*	Color – Landscape	8I	Rug Hooking	15*	Any other item not listed
2B*	Color – Waterscape	8J	Quilling	15A*	BED QUILT – 60" x 80"
2C*	Color – Skyscape	8*K	Any other Heritage Skill	15B*	Tied Quilt
2D*	Color – Plants	9	CONSTRUCTED ITEMS	15C*	Hand Quilted
2E*	Color – Animals/Creatures	9A	Clay/Pottery	15D*	Pieced-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
2F*	Color – People	9B	Woodworking Item	15E*	Other-Machine/Computer Pattern Design
2G*	Any other photo not listed	9C	Textile/Fabric	15F*	Pieced-Machine/Freehand
3*	CRAFTS	9D*	Any other item not listed	15G*	Other-Machine/Freehand
3A*	Glass Craft	10	PAINTED OBJECT	16*	Other - Embellishments
3B*	Plastic Canvas	10A	China	16A*	SMALL QUILT – Less 60" x 80"
3C*	6 Cards – Paper only, hand drawn	10B	Glass	16B*	Tied Quilt
3D*	6 cards – Paper only, stamped	10C	Fabric	16C*	Hand Quilt
3E*	6 cards – Mixed media	10D	Wood	16D*	Pieced – Machine/Computer
3F*	4 cards – fun fold cards	10E	Ceramic/Kiln Fired	16E*	Other – Machine/Computer
3G*	Craft made from recycled materials	10F*	Any other item not listed	16F*	Pieced – Machine freehand
3H*	Any other craft not listed	11	KNITTING	16G*	Other – Machine freehand
4*	DIAMOND ART	11A	Wearable Item	16G*	Other - Emellishments
4A*	From a kit – full picture	11B	Wearable Accessory (hat, scarf, etc.)	17*	QUILTED WALL HANGING
4B*	From a kit – part picture, may include lights	11C	Afghan	17A*	Hand Quilted Fabric
4C*	From a kit – other not a picture	11D*	Any other item not listed	17B*	Machine Quilted Fabric
4D*	Original design – not a kit	12	CROCHETING	17C*	Other – Embellishments
5	JEWELRY	12A	Wearable item	18	QUILTED TABLE TOPPER/ RUNNER
5A	Bracelet	12B	Wearable accessory (hat, scarf, etc.)	18A	Hand Quilted
5B	Necklace	12C	Afghan	18B	Machine Quilted
5C	Earrings	12D	Doily/dresser scarf	18C*	Other - Embellishment
5D	Set of 2 or 3 pieces	12E*	Any other item not listed	19*	BONUS ITEM "Celebrate HCE"
5E*	Any other item not listed	13	HAND STITCHING		
6*	POEM	13A	Embroidery		
7*	PROSE	13B	Cross Stitch		
7A*	Non-Fiction	13C	Counted Cross-Stitch		
7B*	Fiction – Short story	13D*	Any other item not listed		
7C*	Any other item not listed				

Forms updated 12/15/2025.

Please see **Entry Requirement Criteria Sheet** (previous page) for any category marked with an (*). All entries that do not meet the entry requirement criteria will be disqualified.



Wisconsin Association for Home & Community Education, Inc.
Additional Rules/Sizes for Cultural & Textile Arts Entries



On all “other” categories, please attach a card with details of what the item is made from or how it was made, or what embellishments were used. All items with multiple or loose pieces please tie them together or put it in a box.

Counties: when you are bringing your items for check in, please have them in the same order as the Category Sheet. Also, whoever is keeping the claim tickets, there will be a sheet for your name and phone number if we need to contact someone.

1. **Painting/Drawing:** Artwork Must be framed or canvas wrapped. Please spray charcoal or pencil drawings with fixative to avoid rubbing off onto another artwork. Must bring an easel with your name attached.

2. **Photography:** Size Requirement: Must be an 8” x 10” print, unmounted and unframed. Place inside of an 8 ½” x 11” protective sheet.

3. **Crafts:** 4 to 6 cards as stated on category sheet, without envelopes, must mounted as a group on a 36” x 48” tri-board.

4. **Diamond Art:** Size Requirement: No larger than 24” x 32”. All pictures need an easel with a name attached.

6. **Poem:** The writer must have two copies typed (12 pt font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

7. **Prose: 7A** This must be an original Non-Fiction piece of writing written or published in the current year. (August 2025 to July 2026). Written piece must be 3,000 words or less. The writer must have two copies typed (12-point font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

7B Fiction: This must be an original Fiction Short Story which has a beginning, middle, and end. Piece will need to be written or published in the current year. (August 2025 to July 2026). Written piece must be 3,000 words or less. The writer must have two copies typed (12-point font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

7C Other: This must be original piece of writing written and/or published in the current year (August 2025 to July 2026) Written piece must be 3,000 words or less. The writer must have two copies, typed (12 pt font) which must accompany the registration form. Entries must NOT be framed or in book form. Staple a cover sheet with the category/title which is to be centered on the page. The name and county should appear on the back side of the entry.

15. **Bed Quilt:** Size Requirement: Must be larger than 60” x 80” (4,800 square inches). Measurement must be written on entry form and be confirmed by County Cultural Arts Chair. A 4x6 picture is required for this category. The picture must be placed inside of a plastic bag along with the entry form and then attached to the right, bottom corner of quilt with a safety pin.

16. **Small Quilt:** Size Requirement: Smaller than 60” x 80” (4,800 Square Inches) Measurement must be written on entry form and be confirmed by County Cultural Arts Chair. A 4x6 Picture is required for this category. The picture must be placed inside of a plastic bag along with the entry form and then attached to the right, bottom corner of the quilt with a safety pin

17. **Quilted Wall Hanging:** Size Requirement: No larger than 50” square. One Item only allowed. Must be submitted WITHOUT frames

19. **Bonus Category Theme:** :“Celebrate HCE”. Directions: This category is to be made with dried and/or silk flowers. Accessorize with other items. Size Restrictions: Container should not be larger than 10” square and 10” tall and needs to be measured by the County Cultural Arts Chair and size written on the entry form to be judged at the state level. Each county may submit one entry in the bonus category. The bonus category will be judged on originality and how unique and creative the concept is along with how well it has been crafted and designed.

Sheboygan Co. HCE March 9, 2026 Board Meeting

Meeting called to order by President Joyce Smies.

Association creed led by Marilyn Voskuil.

Perfect Attendance: Julie Boedecker, Kathi Bonde, Myra Eischen, Carolyn Dreier, Joann Gadicke, Kay Keyes, Pam Fiedler, Marie Kalies, Ann Meyer, Joyce Smies, Joanne Schroeder, Marilyn Voskuil, Nancy Wagner, Joan Walvoord, Deb Zimmerman.

Minutes were approved as presented. Carolyn asked that more information be included in minutes such as dates and times for upcoming meetings.

Treasurer's report reviewed and filed. The ladies did not get to the audit yet, due to family health issues.

NVON Conference will be held at Wintergreen Hotel in The Wisconsin Dells on July 14-16th 2026. 1 day will be \$125/3 days is \$250. Rooms are \$149 for King, \$169 for 2 Queens. Kathi has booked a room and is looking for 3 people to join her and split the cost. Deadline to register is May 1, 2026. 9 states belong to National and it is a lifetime opportunity being in Wisconsin.

Cultural Arts forms must be sent to Pam Fiedler by May 8th. We have to have 12 entries going to state. Rally Day will be Tuesday, May 19th at the UW Center. Drop off for art pieces will be 2:30-3:00, Judging at 3:00, Viewing at 4:00, Dinner at 6:00, Program 7:00.

Stitches of Love: Ann Meyer said we got a total of 102 hats so far this year and they are all delivered. Matthews Oncology doesn't need any more. Thank you card from Lombardi center, SSRichardson will take some.

Book Club: Next meeting will be Thursday May 14th, 2026 at 11:30 at Sheboygan Pizza Ranch. The book will be "West with Giraffes" by Linda Ruttledge.

Family & Community Life- birthday bags were collected for Kindred hearts. Julie Boedecker volunteers on Tuesday's from 12-2 and encouraged others to join her at that time- it's fun! You can donate any of the items on the list any month, the schedule was just a suggestion.

Bookworms: the total books donated in WI is 1,017,000 to date to 112,155 kids since 1998.

International- last year the state donated \$10,000 to pennies for friendship. Ventures in People helps kids in Haiti WAHCE sponsors 6 students. Used ink cartridges can be collected and donated. Pass the word on to others to collect and bring to board meetings. The shipping containers sent to Nicaragua arrived in November.

VP Programming: Marie is working on 2027 program, If you have suggestions, please let her know. She has several months filled.

Marketing and Membership: Kathi will look into some local papers and also check with Generations and Uptown social to see if we can have free ads in their newsletters.

Spring SE District will be held Wed., April 15, 2026 at Paris town Hall, 16607 Burlington Road Union Grove at 10:00am. Fee is \$20 due March 25th. Give money to Nancy Wagner. Afternoon session will be about the Edmond Fitzgerald.

Rally Day will be May 19, 2026. At the UW Center. Lakeview is hosting and will provide the main dish and beverages. Franklin should bring salad, PGE dessert, Individual members bread, rolls. Application for membership awards will be in the next gold notes.

WAHCE State Conference will be September 20-23rd in EauClaire. Housing information was in last Gold notes. Registration for sessions will be in May update.

Fall SE District meeting will be in Sheboygan Co. October 14, 2026. We are working on a location that will be convenient to our Program which is Livasu presented by Michelle LeMahieu. Once we finalize the location for the event because the conference center at Livasu will not be complete in time, we will decide on food options and hospitality logistics. Several places were discussed with more favorable parking than the center.

Member to Member will be Monday Oct. 12th 2026 the theme will be recipes for special diets. Start practicing your unique recipes to share. Can be low-salt, sugar-free, gluten-free, vegan, vegetarian, Pescatarian, or any other special diet you can find.

Gold note articles shall be in to Emily Lamb by March 20th and proofread on March 27th.
Next board meeting will be Monday April 13th, 11:30 am. Bring a sack lunch.

Round table discussion was held. Remember to be kind to one another and welcoming to old and new members and guests. Be considerate of speakers and ask questions if you didn't hear or understand.

Association prayer led by Joan Walvoord
Meeting adjourned by Joyce Smies

Myra Eischen, SCHCE secretary