

**IMFHG Fall Meeting 9-6-24**  
**Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines, Iowa**

President JoAnn Alumbaugh called the meeting order at 10:00 a.m. Vice President Mari Lynn Heineman gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll of Classes:** Twenty-eight members answered roll call, plus two guests. Secretary Carol Gilbert recognized four members who were present at the meeting who celebrated anniversary milestones – Carol Messer – 40-year member; Barbara Oldham – 30-year member; Judy Leistikow and Marcella Schneckloth – both 15-year members. Honored members were presented with pop-up flower bouquets.

Vice-President Mari Lynn Heineman introduced our three new inductees, Lynne Johnson, Tracy Brader and Monica Lursen and presented them with a gift bag and a member's book. The fourth 2024 IMFHG inductee will be introduced at the 2025 Spring meeting. Mari Lynn also acknowledged Betty Theisen, who passed away in 2024. A ribbon was added in her name to our memorial wreath.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report was available ahead of time and was accepted as written.

**Treasurer's Report:** The full report was available ahead of time. Treasurer Marylou Ahrens reported the checkbook balance as of September 3, 2024, was \$8,497.38, with \$1,727.00 in the scholarship fund. There are 68 members currently paid through 2024, plus four new members being initiated for a total of 72 active members.

The Edward Jones Foundation Account balance as of August 1, 2024, was \$74,206.62. Bags for the Iowa and Ruth B. Sayre scholarships were passed for contributions. With no corrections or additions, the report was accepted as given.

**Committee Reports:**

**Service Projects** - Donna Williams reported on the meal prep at the Ronald McDonald House in Des Moines. Eight members prepared eight casseroles and chicken noodle soup. Thanks to Leah Maas, Donna Williams, Kelly Keitzer, Joyce Stover, Mardyll Benson, JoAnn Alumbaugh, Mari Lynn Heineman and Tracy Brader, our new inductee.

Joyce Stover shared that seven quilts were also given for the patients staying at the Ronald McDonald House. Three of the quilts were entered into the Team Quilt Class at the Des Moines County Fair, placing first and second.

The Committee is exploring the possibility of giving members the opportunity to tour the Amana Colonies during the Spring meeting and making a financial contribution to a worthy cause in the community. Then at the 2025 Fall meeting, the plan is to have a hands-on community service project.

**Scholarship Committee** - Chair Marylou Ahrens announced the two scholarship recipients for 2024 were Jenna Hellman from Denmark, Iowa, and Lauren Briggs from Burlington. The fund is growing, thanks in part to generous donations. The scholarship application deadline is April 1, 2025. Winners will be notified by May 15, 2025. There is a consideration of giving additional scholarships next year.

**Website Committee** - Chair Kelly Keitzer reminded everyone that the IMFH Guild website is [www.iamasterhomemaker.org](http://www.iamasterhomemaker.org) The website includes pictures, schedules, scholarship forms, minutes of previous meetings, and more. Anyone interested in being part of a Facebook group can contact Kelly, who is the administrator of the group.

**IMFHG Foundation** - Chair Chris Cornelius gave an update on the Foundation funds, which are with Eduward D. Jones. Four percent of the principal is used each year for charitable projects. This year there was \$2,200 to spend and \$500 will be carried over into the next year.

#### **Old Business:**

**Constitution Update:** It was moved by Dorothy Russel and seconded by Barba Oldham to approve the updates and changes to the constitution. Following discussion, the motion passed.

#### **New Business:**

**Foundation Projects** - Four projects were presented for consideration to receive IMFHG financial support: Joyce Stover presented Farm Stew which trains families on how to lift themselves out of extreme poverty and into an abundant life. Dorothy Russell presented an ACWW project to help Ukrainian families learn about gardening. Loy Walker presented Smile Train which helps provide dental work to children with cleft palates. JoAnn Alumbaugh presented on Tori's Angels Foundation, which pays medical expenses not covered by insurance for Iowa children with life-threatening conditions. A written ballot was distributed. The vote approved that the monies available would be divided equally among the four projects presented (\$500 each).

**Long-Range Planning Committee** - President JoAnn encouraged everyone to respond to the members' survey and return surveys to her by November 1, 2024. Thanks to Joyce Stover and Cindee Schneklath for also stepping forward to help develop the survey.

**Election of Officers** - The nominating committee presented the names of Mari Lynn Heineman for Vice-president and Carol Gilbert, for Secretary for two-year terms. With no nominations from the floor, a motion was made by Barbara Oldham and seconded by Carole Messer to accept the nominations by acclamation. Motion carried.

A card was passed around for Jean Handy, who is having gall bladder surgery.

The Spring IMFHG meeting will be held April 12, 2025, at the Amana Colonies. Rooms have been reserved at the AmericInn. There is also the Millwright Inn. Consideration is being made for a one-day meeting.

Loy Walker suggested to have a speaker at our meetings in the future.

Ann Marie moved to adjourn at 11:25 a.m. Judy Leistikow seconded; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Secretary, Carol Gilbert