

## IMFHG Spring Meeting 4-13-24

Hansen Dairy, Hudson, Iowa

President JoAnn Alumbaugh called the meeting order at 10:00 a.m. Vice President Mari Lynn Heineman gave the invocation and Acting Secretary Darla Thompson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Member Cindee Schnekloth led the group in singing the IMFHG Song.

Roll of Classes: There were 26 members who answered roll call plus eight guests. Guests who desired to do so were graciously given a farm tour. Mari Lynn reported on deceased members she was aware of for 2024 acknowledging they will be honored at the fall meeting. Judy Leistikow shared a moving personal experience when going through an especially tough time. There was a picture of Jesus coming out of the clouds and how much that helped her.

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 \$10,200.46 in the checkbook with \$2026 of that being scholarship money. She started a discussion about making a separate savings account for that fund. Cindee Schnekloth moved to make a separate savings account for the scholarship money, Leah Maass seconded, motion carried.

Marylou reported there are 54 paid members currently with five being paid to 2025 and 1 paid to 2026. There will be five who will become inactive as of 2025, the names were given and a few members knew of circumstances for a couple of them.

The Foundation balance is \$72,113.72 and that fund has only gone backwards twice in its existence, otherwise it has grown. 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: Scholarship Committee Chair Marylou Ahrens reported 27 applications. Both a winner and runner-up were chosen. Discussion was held regarding having a second scholarship given. Carol Messer moved to give a second \$500 Iowa Scholarship, Leah Maass seconded, motion carried. Carol also talked about making sure it is announced in papers and Chris Cornelius said the hometown papers of the winners also need that announcement. JoAnn will write that announcement and put it out on the web for us to use. Marylou said that all applicants get a letter. JoAnn will also put together a news release regarding our meeting and put it on the web.

Project Committee Chair Joyce Stover reported about last fall's meal prep at the Ronald McDonald House in Des Moines plus a group who did quilts for kids for the Ronald McDonald House as well, giving details of how all was accomplished. Those quilts will be given this fall as they are now completed. Leah suggested getting fabric labels with our IMFHG name on them when we do quilts so the recipients will know who sewed them. There were some members who spoke of their service projects from the day before this meeting. One group went to Southdale Elementary in Cedar Falls and one group went to Hudson Elementary in Hudson. Both did agriculture-related presentations. Evelyn Cook moved to pay bills from the service projects, Jeanne Hansen seconded, motion carried.

JoAnn proposed to the group to provide up to \$500 per year for service projects to be funded annually and any carryover to go to the next year if not all is used. Chris Cornelius moved to accept this proposal, Mardyll Benson seconded, motion carried.

Website Committee Chair Kelly Keitzer reported that the website is now updated as of just two days ago. The address is the same and members were encouraged to check it out.

Chris Cornelius volunteered to become our IMFHG Foundation Committee Chair.

Old Business: Copies were made available for updates of the constitution which will be voted on in the fall. Nominee Application forms have been updated and will be on the web, plus there were copies on the registration table. There are currently four applicants and more can still be accepted. New inductees will not have a slide show as has been done in the past. Instead each inductee's picture will be printed in the fall program and JoAnn will spearhead their information.

New Business: The fall meeting will be at the Airport Holiday Inn, Des Moines, on September 5 (service project and reception) and 6 (business meeting and luncheon) and it was noted that we will be open to making a change of venue in the future. Locations for the next spring meeting were discussed and it was decided that the Amanas would be the choice. No one volunteered to be on the nominating committee so JoAnn will appoint one. Both secretary and vice president positions are up for election this fall.

JoAnn would like donation project ideas brought forward to be voted on at the fall meeting. This is concerning something a member would like our guild to support using Foundation money (up to 4 percent each year, as voted on previously). In 2024, that amount is \$2,700 with \$500 of that money being set aside for the Service Project Fund, leaving up to \$2,200 available. Requests are to be kept short in length and JoAnn is asking members to send them to her so she can include them in the fall member mailing.

Discussion around setting up a task force for a long range plan for our organization resulted in volunteers Joyce Stover and Cindee Schnekloth stepping forward.

Carol Messer moved to adjourn at 11:25 a.m., Judy Leistikow seconded, motion carried.

Acting Secretary, Darla Thompson

\*\*\*Member Jeanne Hansen then gave the group a wonderful presentation of the Hansen Dairy operation. Their farm has been in the family for over 160 years and the legacy continues. A delicious lunch was prepared and served by Glenda Billerbeck. Many members supported Hansen's Dairy by purchasing their amazing dairy products before leaving for home.