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October 6, 2025 meeting

Attendees: Harry Redford, Tony and Linda Homolka, John Gose, Ed Weaver, Ralph Luft, Tom Duran, Sylvester Duran, Paul Burgard, C.J. Schwartz, Tom Cooper, Mark Cross, Doug Petee, Jim Lammers, David Harvey, Tim Mehl, Andy Mehl, Dennis Happy and Henry Hinjosa,

Our 50/50 raffle was won today by C.J. Schwartz!

Our Treasury has grown to \$171.00.

It was so fun to have such a great turn-out today. Lots of catching up to do!





On September 10, The Forerunners held their annual luncheon at Schuler's restaurant in Marshall, MI. Tony and Linda Homolka along with their daughter, Michelle, attended and were happy to accept the \$1,000.00 scholarship award for granddaughter, Lauren. As you can see, the theme was "western/cowboy".

It was a delightful afternoon with good food, lots of prizes and live entertainment.



We enjoyed talks from the women who manage the Grants program at CMS. I copied this from the Retiree site at www.consumersenergy.com/retiree:

Volunteer Grants & Matching Gifts

Did you know that by volunteering for (or donating to!) a qualified nonprofit, school or community group, all current employees and those who officially retired from the company are eligible to earn Volunteer Grants and Matching Gifts from the Consumers Energy Foundation?

These programs are available through the CE Volunteer Portal. This online, self-serve platform allows you to track and manage your volunteer hours and charitable donations to qualify for Volunteer Grants and Matching Gifts, as well as coordinate volunteer events with current employees and fellow retirees, all in one place!

To participate and learn more about these exciting programs, please send an email to volunteers@cmsenergy.com. Your email address will be used to create your account on the CE Volunteer Portal.

Forerunners Chapter Grant Program

We have exciting news to share! The Forerunners are launching a pilot Chapter Grant program designed to support and empower individual Chapters like yours. This dedicated funding initiative aims to inspire innovative projects, strengthen community engagement, and advance Chapter-led initiatives that align with the Forerunners' mission.

We are allocating \$2,000 from our organizational funds to establish this program, which will run from **June 1, 2025 – January 1, 2026**. Each Chapter will have one opportunity to apply for funding based on the application guidelines. Grant awards will be determined based on proposal strength and available funds.

I will be looking into this Grant for our chapter. The deadline is approaching and there is limited funding.

Harry let us know that he got a letter from Wellcare (prescription drug insurance) telling him that they will no longer pay for his needed medication. This was a surprise to him. He reminded us to pay close attention to the plans for next year as you make your selections. Premiums increase and accepted drug lists change!

See you all at the next meeting on November 6th at the Monroe Grill. We will decide on the Christmas luncheon then.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Homolka