

February 2026 Edition

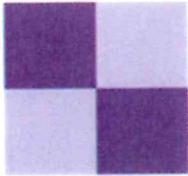
*The Scoop** News for Members*

Committee Updates

*and odds and ends***

The Scoop



Lee 
Square
COOPERATIVE

THE SCOOP

VOL. 2026

LEE SQUARE COOPERATIVE

February 2026

Board Update

Quotable Quotes

"Sometimes we have to stop being scared and just go for it" Alex Eile

"People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care" Albert Einstein

"Happiness, like unhappiness, is a proactive choice" Stephan Covey

"Be true to your moral compass" Jodi Picoult

"Always take advantage of the time that you're given" Daymond John

Gerry

J-TEAM REPORT

MONTHLY LEAD

Happy February. Share some Love!

Maintenance updates here...

Elevator foyer flooring done.

Elevator foyers to be painted soon.

TREASURER UPDATE

For the year ended, December 31, 2025, Lee Square Cooperative's Net Operating income was \$75,132. Several factors contributed to the positive bottom line, including the watchful eyes of the Cities Management team and the following items.

- Water usage was far less than expected. The abundant rains, conservative use of irrigation, and low volume flush toilets were helpful in keeping the water expense well below budget by \$33,973.
- Payroll expenses. The weekend staff was eliminated starting in January 2024, and a voluntary reduction of hours worked per week by an office staff member. These items accounted for \$36,832 in savings.
- An unexpected surprise came from Lee Square member donations totaling \$13,194. This money was used to fund several member requested items: New furniture in the commons area, plants and trees, rain barrels, holiday decorations, New Years Eve Party and 40th Anniversary celebration.

Reserves:

As of 12/31/2025 our total reserve fund balance was \$1,436,779 versus \$1,325,116 at end of 2024. This increase reflects our conservative and proactive approach to growing the Reserves for future expenses as our building components continue to age, needing maintenance or replacement.

In 2025 the Reserves provided funds for the following improvements, replacements:

Interior Upgrades:	
Including member Unit upgrades, commons area paint, Elevator lobby flooring	\$57,594
Exterior:	
Including planned Window replacement, Landscaping	\$84,145
Exterior Cement:	\$55,071
Building plumbing repairs:	\$20,890
Total Reserve Expense 2025	\$217,700

Even with all of the expenditures of 2025 the Reserve Fund remains healthy.

Submitted by Beth Ampe, Treasurer
bethampe@yahoo.com

ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Reminder: Activities Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 2 pm in the library.

We opened 2026 with Hot Dish Night for our Wine & Dine on January 15. 45 members enjoyed Dug's 3-11 Goulash and Baked Chopped Suey. Back by popular demand was a great spring greens and orange salad by Phyllis. Marsha baked the 'old family recipe' dinner rolls. Alyce, Dale, Kristin, Cheryl and Dug provided a variety of bars served with optional scoops of ice cream. Thanks to Barbara Kennelly for the leftover ice cream from her birthday party. Also back by popular demand, January birthday people were recognized and sent to the front of the serving line.

Our February 12 Wine & Dine will feature Dug's lasagna – another 'old family recipe' from Donna's Grandma Sandrino. Caesar salad and dessert will round out this meal. Sign up in the Commons by February 10. Price remains \$8 per person cash this year.

Mardi Gras Party will be Thursday February 19. Mask making will be on Wednesday February 18. Many thanks to Pauline Peterson for taking the lead on this celebration!

Upcoming events . . .

- March St Pat's – corned beef
- April Wine & Dine; Treble Tones
- May Annual Meeting, Memorial Day bar-b-que

HELP WANTED to cook our St. Pat's dinner. This would be a great group project! See Hermans for details. We are also checking into catered dinner for this event. Watch for details.

Activities Committee meets the **first Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm** in the library. Join us to learn how we plan our events and how you can help. Help can be **occasional or on a regular basis**. And we are always looking for new ideas! If you have any questions or ideas, talk to any committee member.

Donna Herman, Chair

dldgherman@gmail.com, text or leave a message 763-458-1955, drop a note at #348

B & G UPDATE

Happy February!

New commons furniture should be arriving soon. It was delayed because it was decided to deliver as one shipment instead of partial shipments and the snow storms out east caused some additional delay.

There is an updated "Repair and Replacement Within Units Policy" that addresses some inconsistencies and includes a new section for updating cabinets and countertops. Please see the office for an updated copy. It was approved by the Board of Directors at their January meeting.

Recycling reminder - Please do not throw any type of plastic bags and other garbage such as paper plates, candy wrappers, napkins, etc. into the recycling bin. These are not recyclable and should be placed in a plastic bag in the garbage. Please refer to the Recycling guide posted above and on the bins. Stretchy plastic bags may be placed in the plastic bag recycling boxes. If the plastic doesn't stretch when you try to push your finger through it, it is NOT recyclable and should be placed with the rest of your garbage.

Repairs were made to a cast-iron sewer pipe on the west end of the garage near stalls 52/54. Another section needs to be addressed nearby. This will be an ongoing battle as our pipes age. Water is generally shut off while the pipes are being repaired. Thanks for your patience.

No B & G meeting in February. Our next Building and Grounds meeting will be Wednesday March 11th at 2:30pm.

Valentine's Funny: What do you call a fish's valentine? His Gil-Friend!

DONATIONS UPDATE

Ed Ampe

It's a new year; the needs are on-going and, perhaps, greater during these difficult days. I spoke recently with Bontu Workineh from Northpoint Food Shelf. She said that there are families who, out of fear, are not able to leave their homes to shop, Culturally specific foods are appreciated. Northpoint does some home deliveries. There are many products in our regular grocery stores. There are also markets for special cuisines.

Below are some:

' BALI MARKET (African/Caribbean) 2722 Winnetka Ave New Hope

• GOOD DEAL (Asian) 1800 Lowry Ave No Minneapolis

' LA LOMA (Mexican) 120 Willow Bend Crystal (near Target)

COLONIAL MARKET AND RESTAURANT (Mexican/Latin-fused market and eatery) 3120 Penn Ave Minneapolis (formerly No Mpls Aldi) Thank you, as always, for your generosity for people who are less fortunate than we are.

Marcha

SAFETY UPDATE

Happy February everyone - it's a short month, it'll be over before you know it! For many of our members it's been a challenging month with cars not starting and people struggling to stay warm both indoors and outdoors. Warmer weather and longer daylight hours are just around the corner!

The Safety Committee is asking everyone to PLEASE remember to always call 911 whenever we have a stranger trying to gain access to our building.

We had a breach of security on the last Sunday in January. A stranger was cold, asked to enter our building to warm up. He was let in, led to a chair in the front door area (between the locked doors). He was discovered by a different member and escorted out of the building. This could have been a very dangerous situation for Lee Square. We cannot risk everyone's safety for the needs of a stranger.

Calling 911 is always the answer. Our police are 5 minutes away and will handle any situation that may occur.

Our next Safety Meeting will be Wednesday, March 11th, no meeting in February. Guests are always welcome! Our meetings start at 1:00 PM in the Library.

Be safe, stay well.

Safety Committee Chair - Deb Pribyl

A colorful flyer for a Mardi Gras Party. The background is green with purple and gold confetti. At the top, there's a banner with colorful triangles. The main title 'MARDI GRAS PARTY!' is in large, bold, purple and gold letters. To the right is a green and purple masquerade mask. Below the title, the word 'DETAILS' is written in bold. The event information includes: 'When: Thursday, February 19 at 6:30 PM', 'Cost: \$5.00', and 'Attire: Think GREEN, PURPLE, and GOLD!'. A list of activities follows: 'King & Queen Coronation', 'Mask Decorating Workshop (Feb 18 @ 2:00, Commons - Sign up by Feb 14)', and 'Parade, Music, Games & Prizes & Appetizers - King Cake!'. At the bottom, it says 'CALL TO ACTION' and 'Vote for favorite King & Queen candidates the party!'. A yellow banner at the very bottom reads 'LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!!!'. On the right side, the phrase 'LET GOOD TIMES ROLL!' is written in large, bold, yellow and purple letters.

MARDI GRAS PARTY!

DETAILS

When: Thursday, February 19 at 6:30 PM

Cost: \$5.00

Attire: Think GREEN, PURPLE, and GOLD!

- King & Queen Coronation
- Mask Decorating Workshop
(Feb 18 @ 2:00, Commons - Sign up by Feb 14)
- Parade, Music, Games & Prizes & Appetizers - King Cake!

CALL TO ACTION

Vote for favorite King & Queen candidates the party!

LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!!!

**LET
GOOD
TIMES
ROLL!**

SPRING IS COMING!!!

Gardeners = Believe it will happen!

Garden Club first meeting this year

February 10th at 6:30 PM

Agenda:

Discuss Spring Options for Lee Square Grounds

Design

Color Theme

Annual and Perennial choices

Please come with ideas and suggestions

Thanks

Your Gardener Friend

Harry Hoks

612-432-2973

MISC. submission from a Lee Square member Xcel Energy is dedicated to working with customers who need help paying their energy bills. To qualify, customers must meet income guidelines and use an average of 300 kilowatt hours (kWh) of electricity or less per month. Customers who meet the low usage requirement and also receive an Energy Assistance Program (EAP) grant will receive the bill credit automatically. Please contact one of their personal account representatives at 866-975-7327

sCoop Classifieds



February Birthdays

- 6 Linda Hoks
- 7 Ellen Reiersen
- 8 Bill Rainey
- 15 Donna Herman
- 18 Debra Harrer
- 23 Ray West
- 25 Rex Quist
- 25 Jill Holm

Food Delivery - Meals

MEALS ON WHEELS
612 623-3363

DM'S MEALS
1-877 508-6667

OPTAGE CREATIVE SENIOR DINING
651 746-8280

OPEN ARMS OF MINNESOTA
612 767-7333

Food Delivery - Groceries

HYVEE 1-800 772-4098

CUB Cub.com

INSTACART 1-888 246-7822

HELP AT YOUR DOOR
651 642-1892

ONSITE SERVICES

LEE SQUARE SALON

Style it up with Shelley!
Thursdays - 8 am to ??
Call for appointment...
763 593-0349

FILTERED DRINKING WATER

- in the party room
- behind the serving line (cold water only)

ICE MACHINE

behind the serving line

In case of Emergency

Police/Fire: 911

Lee Square Cooperative
Emergency After Hours:
612 381-8600

(11pm-7am)



Food Shelves

N.E.A.R. Food Shelf
5209 W. Broadway,
Crystal
763-533-2836

Beacon of Hope Church
[5 - 7 pm]
2827 N. Newton Ave
Minneapolis 55411
612-217-4003

PRISM Marketplace Food Shelf
1220 Zane Ave N
Golden Valley, 55422
763-529-1350

VEAP Food Shelf
9600 Aldrich, Ave S.
Bloomington, 55420
952-888-9616

Transportation

HelpAtYourDoor.org

Activities

EXERCISE CLASS

11 am - MON, WED, FRI

Office Contacts

JOHN:
JohnM2@citiesmanagement

JULIE:
JulieS@citiesmanagement

JANET:
JanetB@citiesmanagement



February 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	Save the Date, March 1st -Girl Scout Cookies sales 12:30-2pm	3 2:00 Activities Mtg 6:30pm Card Bingo	4 11-Exercise 6:30 Cards/500  it's Cookie Time	5 Beauty Shop 9:30 Coffee Corner	6 11-Exercise	7
8  SUPER BOWL 5:30 Super Bowl In the Commons	9 11- Exercise	10 2:30 C.A.R.'s Mtg 6:30 Garden Club	11 11-Exercise 6:30 Cards/500	12 Beauty Shop 9:30 Coffee Corner 5:30 Wine & Dine	13 11-Exercise	14 Valentines Day 
15	16 President's Day 11- Exercise 2:30 Finance Mtg	17 6:30pm Card Bingo	18 11-Exercise 2:00 Mardi Gras Mask Making 6:30 Cards/500	19 Beauty Shop 9:30 Coffee Corner 6:30 Mardi Gras Party	20 11-Exercise	21
22	23 11-Exercise	24 6:00 p.m. BOD MEETING	25 11-Exercise 6:30 Cards/500	26 Beauty Shop 9:30 Coffee Corner	27 11-Exercise	28