

# **WreathsForTheFallen.org**

## **September General Meeting Minutes**

**9-10-13**

### **I. Call to Order**

John Thomas – President called the September monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org to order on Tuesday night September 10, 2013 at 6:48pm at the VFW in Little Falls MN.

### **II. Roll Call**

There were 9 members present. Those present were – Norv Pervier, Ron Robbins, Jerry Ratcliff, Ken & Joyce Tveit, Jerry Patten, Carrie Johnson, Jim Fountaine and John Thomas. Everyone in attendance signed in and was entitled to one vote. Everyone present help stuff the 2013 brochures with the inserts.

After the call to order we all faced the American flag and joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

'I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, One Nation under God, Indivisible, with Liberty, and Justice for all.

### **III. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting**

Motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting was made by John Thomas – minutes were unanimously approved by everyone present. All minutes are retained in the minute book and also posted on our web site @ [www.wreathsforthefallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthefallen.org).

### **IV. Treasurers Report**

Our treasurer Ron Robbins gave the treasurer's report.

The beginning balance on August 1<sup>st</sup> was \$4,815.03. After paying Administration expenses of \$1,869.19 and making a deposit of \$260.00 the ending balance at 8-31-13 was \$3,205.84.

John Thomas made the motion to accept the treasurer's report. Motion was accepted by an unanimous yea and the report was approved. Ron Robbins submitted the report to Carrie Johnson our secretary.

Contributions at 9-9-13 were \$10,313.92

## **V. Old Business**

**Fair Participation: – Clearwater Fair, Crow Wing County Fair, Morrison County Fair, and the Benton County Fair.** Thanks was given to all our dedicated volunteers who worked at the fairs, provided booth space, helped load and unload cars, and handed out brochures. Everyone felt that the fairs were well attended and very positive. John Thomas had photos from the Benton County Fair and the MN State Fair that he passed around for everyone to see.

**Minnesota State Fair** (Minneapolis MN) Military Appreciation Day was on **Tuesday August 27<sup>th</sup>** – and everyone concluded that it was an awesome event. The fair was very well attended with lots of interest in our organization. It was the 50<sup>th</sup> year anniversary for the recognition of the Vietnam War and there was a Vietnam Veteran's Parade which included over 1000 bikes! Norv Pervier made the initial arrangements, Jerry Ratcliff had his pickup parked in the booth area and Rose Clement parked her patriotic painted motorcycle in the booth as well. Both vehicles got lots of attention and were a GREAT part of the booth. John had the TV and lots of photos set up and everyone greeted guests at our booth and handed out brochures. There were many volunteers who made this day at the fair a wonderful event. Thank you to everyone!!

**COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES** – John Thomas still has some business cards and name tags for several representatives. Anyone wanting some should give John a call.

**Mailings** - Mailings have been sent out and the response has been great. John and Ron are posting contributions daily. Discussion did include getting the forms and letters out to the corporate sponsors as soon as possible.

**Meeting Day Change** – We discussed changing the meeting night from the second Tuesday night of every month to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday night to accommodate other members. We will discuss it at the Officers Meeting and let everyone know if there will be a change. As of right now the VFW is booked the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of September and December. Comment was made that we wait till after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year at the annual meeting to change the date since then we could possibly have every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday night available.

## **VI. New Business**

**Camp Ripley Open House** – Camp Ripley will have its Biennial Open House on Sunday September 15, 2013. WFTF have been invited to have a booth at this event, everyone present agreed that this would be a good event to be at. John Thomas will set up his TV with the video and we will take brochures etc to be handed out. Volunteers signed up. Set up will be at 8:00 – 9:00, booths open at 10:00, Ceremony starts at 1:00. Shut down at 3:00. The Camp will provide booth space, 2 tables, electricity and a huge tent.

**New member** – we greeted our newest member Jim Fountaine. He lives in Waite Park MN and we were very pleased to have him at our meeting!! Thanks Jim for coming to our meeting and we look forward to seeing you again!

**Laying wreaths discussion-** It was brought to our attention that there may be some people who don't want to have a wreath placed on the grave site of a loved one. We would hope that if anyone does not want a wreath placed on a specific site they would let us know. Everyone at the meeting agreed that every grave site should be honored with a wreath and unless someone specifically asks to be excluded we would continue to strive for our goal of placing a wreath at every grave.

**Advertising-** Different types of advertising were mentioned – including magnets with our logo on. We will get some pricing and availability. Jerry Ratcliff also mentioned the cash register receipts at Cub Foods. John will check to see if that is an option again this year.

## **VII. Next Meeting**

**The next monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org will be on Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 6:30 pm. at the VFW in Little Falls.** The next Officers meeting will be September 24, 2013 via conference call. Please watch for emails regarding any changes to the meeting times or places.

**Everyone is invited to our meetings or participate in the conference call.**

**VIII. Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Carrie Johnson led us in our closing prayer.

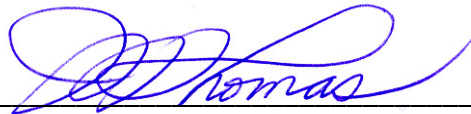
Motion to adjourn the meeting was made and approved with a unanimous yea.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 pm.

**THANKS FOR COMING TO THE MEETING!**

Minutes submitted by: Carrie Johnson, Secretary  
WreathsForTheFallen.org

Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_



John Thomas, President

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Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us at our meetings and share our website with them : [www.wreathsforthefallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthefallen.org). and our Facebook Page.