

WreathsForTheFallen.org

October General Meeting Minutes

10-8-13

I. Call to Order

John Thomas – President called the October monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org to order on Tuesday night October 8th, 2013 at 6:45pm at the VFW in Little Falls MN.

II. Roll Call

There were ONLY 6 members present. Those dedicated members present were – Jerry Patten, Carrie Johnson, Jayme Storlie, John Thomas, Mykel Bartel and Bill Kokett. Everyone in attendance signed in and was entitled to one vote. Everyone present also helped stuff 1500 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 was made by Jayme Storlie to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Bill Kokett seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by everyone present. All minutes are retained in the minute book and also posted on our web site @ www.wreathsforthefallen.org.

IV. Treasurers Report

Ron Robbins was absent but he gave the treasurer's report to John Thomas. The beginning balance in the general account on September 1st was \$3,205.84. After paying administration expenses of \$887.17 and making deposits of \$20,414.79 the ending balance at 9-30-13 was \$22,733.46. The budget account balance is \$ 6,253.18. The Preston account is \$3,000.64 and the Memorial Wreath Account has a balance of \$458.35.

Jayne Storlie made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report as read. Jerry Patton seconded the motion and motion was passed. The report was submitted to Carrie Johnson our secretary.

Contributions and Sponsorships – Total contributions to date are \$22,903.92 John Thomas maintains a complete spreadsheet of all contributions.

V. Old Business

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

Meeting Day Change – We discussed changing the meeting night from the second Tuesday night of every month to the 3rd Tuesday night to accommodate other members. Comment was made that we wait till after the 1st of the year at the annual meeting to change the date since then we could possibly have every 3rd Tuesday night available.

Camp Ripley Open House – The Camp Ripley Open House was held on Sunday September 15th at Camp Ripley Military Base. It was a cold, dreary and very windy day. Our photo display and brochures were knocked down and blown away but still a good day. The Ceremony was awesome – **WreathsForTheFallen was formally recognized as an organization that has done a tremendous job at the Veterans Cemetery.** That was a great tribute and everyone involved with our organization should be very proud of what we have accomplished.

Wreaths on all grave sites – At our last meeting it was brought to our attention that someone had an issue with placing a wreath on all grave sites – because of religion or some other issue. John Thomas talked to Dave Swantek and it was agreed that we will place a wreath on all grave sites and if someone has an issue they should talk to someone at the cemetery office. Our mission is to honor all our country's fallen veterans at the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery and it shall not change.

VI. New Business

Meat Raffles – No one has planned any meat raffles this year. Maybe next year we will have someone in charge of setting some up.

Cub Food Cash Register Receipts - Media Works has not gotten back to John yet. To run our ad on the back of the cash register receipts from November 4th

through January 27 it would cost \$ 50.00 per store and would be on thousands of receipts. Jayme Storlie made the motion to spend \$50.00 for the Cub Store coupons. Mykel Barthel seconded the motion. Motion was passed and John Thomas will contact Media Works about the advertising.

Silent Auction – Jayme Storlie brought up the idea of having a Silent Auction at some time to raise money for wreaths. He mentioned several items that could be on the auction. We will discuss this further next year and hopefully we can put something together.

Red Bulls Memorial Wreath – John Thomas talked about the new Memorial Wreath for the Red Bulls and making a generic one to have available for other groups that would like one at the ceremony on Memorial Day.

Progress Graph – John Thomas will check into posting our donation progress graph on our website so that we can visually see how far we have to go to meet our goal of placing a wreath on every grave site at the cemetery.

VII. Next Meeting

The next monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org will be on Tuesday, November 12th, 2013 at 6:30 pm. at the VFW in Little Falls. The next Officers meeting will be on November 26, 2013. Please watch for emails regarding any changes to the meeting times or places.

Section Leaders Meeting and December Monthly meeting- MAY BE COMBINED on Saturday December 7th at 11:00 am at the Canteen in Camp Ripley. This will be a planning meeting and our last meeting before the Ceremony. We will confirm the plans at the meeting on November 12th!!

Everyone is invited to come to our meetings or participate in the conference calls.

WREATH LAYING CEREMONY WILL BE ON SATURDAY DECEMBER 14TH AT 11:00


VIII. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Carrie Johnson led us in our closing prayer.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jayme Storlie and seconded by Mykel Barthel. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm

THANKS FOR COMING TO THE MEETING!

Minutes submitted by: Carrie Johnson, Secretary
WreathsForTheFallen.org

Minutes approved by: 
John Thomas, President
WreathsForTheFallen.org

Please invite your family, friends and neighbors to join us at our meetings and share our website with them : www.wreathsforthefallen.org and LIKE our Facebook Page at WreathsForTheFallen.org