

WreathsForTheFallen.org

Officers Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2014

I. Call to order

John Thomas called the June officers meeting to order at 1:00 pm on Tuesday June 10, 2014 at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley MN. Officers present were – John Thomas, Ron Robbins, Norv Pervier, Bob Larson and Carrie Johnson.

II. Minutes from last meeting- Minutes from the last Officers meeting, which was held on May 8th via conference call, were posted on our web site and approved by all Officers present.

III. Treasurers Report

Ron Robbins-our treasurer gave the treasures report for the month ending May 31, 2014;

General checking account balance \$ 7,164.56.

Preston account \$ 3,001.01

Budget account \$ 21,933.07

Memorial account \$ 284.40

Bob Larson made a motion to approve the treasures report and the motion was approved by all Officers.

John Thomas made a motion to close out the Memorial account and move it to the Preston account. Bob Larson seconded the motion and it was approved.

The Memorial account had been set up for the purpose of making the Memorial Day Ceremonial wreaths and that project is not completed.

The tax return for WreathsForTheFallen.org was due on May 15th. The return was filed electronically on March 5, 2014.

IV. Topics Discussed

Memorial Day Flag Removal – WreathsForTheFallen.org and other volunteers helped to pick up the flags that were placed at the cemetery for the Memorial Day Ceremony. Pick up was scheduled for Tuesday May 27th but because of wet weather the removal was moved to Thursday May 29th. We were able to remove all the flags – almost 4000 – in record time of only 35 minutes. We started at 11:10am after a short briefing and were finished by 11:45. Thanks to all the volunteers, the EMT crew and a number of solders from Camp Ripley who help to get this project done so quickly!

Minnesota State Fair – WFTF has again this year been invited by the Minnesota National Guard to participate in the 4th Annual Military Appreciation Day at the MN State Fair which will be on August 26, 2014. This is a great opportunity for

us to educate fair visitors about the military community and WreathsForTheFallen.org. We were at the fair last year and had a great time. The application is in the process of being submitted. The booth area has been moved this year and is much smaller than last year. It is located on the North side of the fair grounds. Norv and John will review and submit the application before the deadline of June 19th. Booth hours are from 8:00am to 4:00 pm. See more details on our web site. If you are interested in working in the booth please give John Thomas a call at 218-829-6622. This year the focus will be on the children and we discussed items we could hand out to the kids. John Thomas has been looking into different items and we all had a catalog to look at. It was decided to get some candy individually wrapped in decorative flag wrappers. We also will get some decorative banners and table covers for the booth area. This will also be used at other events and fairs. **State Fair Date- August 26th**

County Fair Military Appreciation Dates:

Crow Wing County Fair – Tuesday July 29 - Brainerd MN

Morrison County Fair – Thursday August 7 – Little Falls MN

Benton County Fair – Sunday August 10 – Sauk Rapids MN

MN State Fair – Tuesday August 26 – St Paul MN

WreathsForTheFallen.org will be at all of these Military Appreciation Days at the above locations. Anyone interested in spending time in our booth area is more than welcome !! We would love to have lots of people in our booth. Please contact John Thomas if interested at 218-829-6622. Thank you !

Annual Meeting – We discussed having the annual meeting sometime this summer. Several options were brought up. Decision was made to have the **meeting on Saturday July 12, 2014 at Camp Ripley. It will be in the Snack Bar area at 1:00 pm.** They have a great snack bar area with different food options. Everyone can order what they like to eat. It will be a general meeting with highlights from last year and projects to discuss for this year. Everyone is invited to attend and be part of the meeting. This will also be our first general meeting of this year. Weather should be great so please join us !

Meet Raffles – We would like to have several meat raffles if possible this year. Anyone willing and able to take charge of setting one up in your local area would be appreciated! Lots of workers available – just need to set up some dates Please let any of the officers know if you are interested.

Preston Cemetery: John gave a short update on Preston Cemetery and we decided to contact a group down in that area (VFW or American Legion Group) to introduce ourselves and invite a delegation to come to Camp Ripley for the ceremony this December.

Brochures and Mailing- Very few changes need to be made on the current brochure but John, Norv and Ron will review before we put in the order this month. The estimated brochures needed are 10,000. Bob Schule will be working with the mailing lists.

Wreath Laying Ceremony 2014 – Mark your calendars – the 2014 Wreath Laying Ceremony will be on **Saturday December 13th at 11:00 am.** We discussed additional responsibilities that we will be in charge of – including Parking, Color Guard Coordination, Master of Ceremonies, National Anthem, Guest Speakers and Wreath Presenters. In the months ahead will be addressing each issue and make sure everything is planned and addressed properly. We are looking forward to a great Ceremony again this year!!

Wreath Procurement – Bob Larson & John Thomas will be working with our wreath suppliers regarding pricing and availability again this summer. This will also include any wreaths necessary for at the new Preston cemetery.

V. Next General Meeting

Annual Meeting – Saturday July 12th 2014 at the Snack Bar at Camp Ripley at 1:00! Please come – all are welcome!!!

VI. Next Officers Meeting

Next officers meeting will set at the annual meeting.

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn our meeting was made by Norv Pervier and seconded by Bob Larson. Meeting adjourned at 2:34 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Carrie Johnson – Secretary

Minutes approved by:



John Thomas - President

If you have any questions or need any information please log into our web site at www.wreathsforthe fallen.org or call John Thomas at 218-829-6622

Dates to Remember

Annual Meeting – Saturday July 12th – 1:00 pm

State Fair – Tuesday August 26th – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm