

WreathsForTheFallen.org

May Meeting Minutes

5-8-12

I. Call to Order

The May meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org was called to order by President, John Thomas on Tuesday May 8th 2012 at 6:30pm at the VFW in Little Falls MN.

II. Roll Call

There were 10 members present – Ron Robbins, Bill Kokett, Bob Larson, John Thomas, Jayme Storlie, Freddie Barbeau, Jerry Ratcliff, Mykel Barthel, Joyce Tveit and Carrie Johnson. Everyone signed the attendance sheet and were able to vote on any issues that were presented.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone present.

'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

Minutes from the last meeting that was held on April 10, 2012 were presented for approval. No changes or concerns were brought forward so Bob Larson made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, Mykel Barthel seconded the motion and the motion was approved by everyone. Minutes became part of the record and will be posted on our web site at www.wreathsforthefallen.org.

IV. Treasurers Report

Ron Robbins – the treasurer for the WreathsForTheFallen.org – gave his treasurer's report. The beginning balance on April 1st was \$ 1291.39 after paying expenses of \$28.58 and making a deposit of \$165.00 the ending balance at 4-30-12 was \$1427.81. Freddie Barbeau made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as read, Jerry Ratcliff seconded it and the motion passed. The report was submitted for the record.

V. Committee Reports

Wreath Procurement Committee – Bob Larson – chairperson – reported that he will chair the committee again this year but had no new news to report.

Web Site Committee – John Thomas – chairperson – reported that he has been rearranging the web site lay out to make it more user friendly. He has set up more links and pages to make it easier to navigate around the pages. Lots more information, photos videos, event listings and news have been added to the web site. Joyce Tveit volunteered to help on this committee. Thanks Joyce !

Contributions Committee – Norv Pervier – chairperson - was not present. He will however work with the Civil Air Patrol on their fundraising event this year.

Other Committees – we discussed the possibility of setting up more committees to help out this year. We will send out an email to request help from our members to help on a committee. Our goals and our mission keep expanding and we need more help to get everything done this year.

VI. Old Business

Facebook – we are still searching for someone to maintain our Facebook page. Anyone familiar with Facebook and willing to update and maintain our page should let John know at 218-829-6622. We would like to use Facebook as a social networking tool but need someone with experience to help us. Chris Eix from the Little Falls VFW has volunteered to help with Facebook, so that is wonderful – Thank you Chris !

Twitter – If anyone is familiar with Twitter – another social media tool – it would be great to have someone help us with this also. Please contact John.

Fundraising – we are researching different ways to do some fundraising. Meat raffles, booths at fairs, door to door – and mailings are some of the ways that we have raised money in the past. We would like new ideas and volunteers to help us get some donations to keep our mission alive.

We are looking at having a table at some of the grocery stores to make our presence known in the communities.

VII. New Business

Wreath Replacement Project – John Thomas and Jim Parent have been working together to refresh / replace the Memorial Day ceremonial wreaths for the Cemetery. They are making progress, John is finding the logos for each of the military branches that are represented at the ceremony. Had a great discussion about making the wreaths, the colors to use, the size of the wreath and the military logos. Mykel Barthel from Erickson's Greenhouse will look into making

some wreaths. It was decided that we just didn't have the time to complete the project before Memorial Day so we are going to fix the wreaths we can and work on it this year so that by next Memorial Day all the wreaths will be redone.

Thanks to everyone who helped with this wreath project !

Display Table – Jayme Storlie built us a frame to display our WFTF banners.

He put it on display so everyone could see it and ask questions about it. This is a multi purpose stand that can be used for the banners and / or photos. It is adjustable and can be used as a ground stand or table stand. This will be great to use at events, shows, raffles or any where we want to display our information. Everyone present shared their thoughts and we were all very appreciative of Jayme's work. He has donated his time and materials for this display frame !

THANK YOU JAYME !!!!

New Brochures – We received our new brochures and before the meeting members 'stuffed' 1200 brochures with Sponsorship forms. Thanks to everyone who helped. These brochures will be handed out at the Memorial Day services coming up.

Newspaper Advertising / Listings – We talked about the articles and notices that we want to put into the newspapers and the increasing cost of doing that. We also talked about taking things to the newspapers for print and that the articles should be reviewed before being printed. We will be looking at other means to list our meetings etc as the price is becoming more of an issue.

Banners – John will order another banner so we will have one to display at meat raffles this year.

Flip Video Cameras – John has received 6 flip video cameras to share with other photographers in our group. These cameras will take videos of events so that we can post them on our web site. Carrie Johnson will be in charge of signing out the cameras. We hope several people will take videos so that we can update our video section of our web page with new events and photos. John Thomas, Bob Larson, Carrie Johnson and Mykel Barthel each have one at this time. They have individual serial #'s and we will keep track of the cameras. Anyone wanting to use one of these video cameras at an event please let Carrie Johnson know at 218-829-4618.

Annual Tax Filing – May 15th 2012 is the due date for the annual filing for our organization with the IRS. Form 990N needs to be completed to be in compliance. Carrie Johnson will complete the form and submit it online to the IRS.

VIII. Upcoming Events –

Memorial Day events include

Placing the flags at the cemetery on Friday May 25th 2012 at 3:00.

Cragun's Family Fun Days – May 25-28th. WFTF will be there on Sunday.

Eagle Bend Memorial Day Ceremony – May 28th

Memorial Day Ceremony – Camp Ripley State Veterans Cemetery

IX. Next Meeting

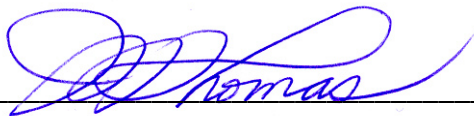
Next monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org will be on Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 6:30 pm in Little Falls MN at the VFW. Everyone is welcome to come.

X. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Closing Prayer was given by Freddie Barbeau and we all prayed together
The Lord's Prayer.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ron Robbins and seconded by Jerry Ratcliff. Everyone was in favor so meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

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.