

WreathsForTheFallen.org

August Meeting Minutes

8-14-12

I. Call to Order

The August monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org was called to order by President, John Thomas on Tuesday August 14th 2012 at 6:33pm at the VFW in Little Falls MN.

II. Roll Call

There were 10 faithful members present – John Thomas, Ron Robbins, Jayme Storlie, Bill Kokett, Norv Pervier, Bob Larson, Carrie Johnson, Amanda Stone, Mykel Barthel and Jim Parent. Everyone in attendance signed the sign-in sheet and is able to vote on any issues that would be presented at the meeting.

After the call to order we all 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

Minutes from the July general meeting - that was held on July 10, 2012 - were presented for approval. No changes or concerns were brought forward. Jayme Storlie made the motion to accept the minutes as prepared, Bob Larson seconded the motion. Motion was approved by everyone and became part of the records. The minutes will be posted on our web site at www.wreathsforthefallen.org.

IV. Treasurers Report

Ron Robbins – the treasurer for the WreathsForTheFallen.org – gave the treasurer's report. The beginning balance on July 1st was \$ 1770.73. After paying expenses of \$215.47 and making a deposit of \$2,787.91 the ending balance at 7-30-12 was \$4,343.17. The majority of the deposits were actually a transfer from our savings account. The money in savings had been set aside for

the budgeted expenses and now will be paid out of the checking account. Jayme Storlie made the motion to accept the treasurer's report as reported, Mykel Barthel seconded it, and the motion was approved and submitted by Ron for the records.

V. Committee Reports

Wreath Procurement Committee – Bob Larson – chairperson – no new news to report.

Web Site Committee – John Thomas – chairperson – updated us on the web site activity and that the 'hits' on our web page are increasing every month. The visitor count is a very interesting record of the activity on the web. He can track back where the hits are coming from – what day – etc. He can print out graphs and other very useful information. As of today there were 97 events listed in the Events part of the web page. New postings are almost every day. Great place to find out different events, rides, and gatherings.

John also let us know that 'RIDE FOR THE CURE' has added our link – WreathsForTheFallen.org – to their web site!!

Contributions Committee – Norv Pervier, our chairperson did not have a report at this time. He continues promoting and working on our sponsorship and individual donations. AND - encourages all members to do the same.

Other Committees – We still are needing volunteers. Our goal and our mission keeps expanding and we need more help to get everything done this year. Please call John Thomas or email us if you would be interested.

Cemetery Committee – we have not formally started a cemetery committee – but John Thomas keeps us informed about the progress and the count at the cemetery. We would love to have someone come forward and help John with the logistics of the cemetery and keep us informed of the happenings at the cemetery. John reported that the construction has been somewhat delayed at the cemetery for the summer. Construction should begin in September. The type of burial has been changing – from the traditional burial to more cremations that would be in the columbarium. The actual 'wreath' count is at 3164 as of 8-14-12. This number keeps increasing as does our goal of placing a wreath on every grave site.

VI. Old Business

Facebook – we have FINALLY found someone to maintain our Facebook page. Amber Stone has volunteered to help set up and maintain our Facebook page! **THANK YOU VERY MUCH AMBER!!!!** It will be wonderful to have our facebook page updated and have current posts on our page.

Twitter – Amber is also familiar with Twitter and she will work on setting up a Twitter account for WFTF. We will be able to communicate via Facebook and Twitter in a short while. This will be a great means to communicate and spread the word about our mission at WreathsForTheFallen.org!

Fairs – We did have a presence at the **Crow Wing County Fair** – thanks to Mykel Barthel and Erickson’s Greenhouse. **THANKS SO MUCH TO MYKEL!!!!** We were unsure if we would have anyone there but Mykel made arrangements and John took our media equipment to the fair and it worked out very good. We had our video running and handed out brochures so it was a great time.

The **Morrison County Fair** ran from August 9th – August 12th. Joyce Tveit was very instrumental in making sure we had a presence at the Morrison County Fair this year. **THANKS VERY MUCH JOYCE!!!** There were several volunteers that showed up and helped hand out brochures and visit with the fair goers. It was Military Appreciation Day on August 9th the day we were there. We basically roamed around and visited at the fair. We did not have a booth set up. We need to **say thanks to the Little Falls VFW** for letting us ‘stage’ out of their booth. It was a good day and thanks to all the volunteers also! Jayme Storlie, Norv and Joyce also gave a recap of the day at the fair.

Donations – We received a small amount of donations while at the fair. Bob Larson reported on a ‘hog’ – that we received as a donation. We are going to – in turn - donate it to the Vietnam Vets. They have been very generous to us over the years and we do not have the means to raffle it off – and/or have a pig roast at this time. It was a very generous donation and we are very thankful for the donation. We will be doing some research about how we can best handle donations of this type in the future.

VII. New Business

Mailings – John updated us on the progress on the mailings and an update on Lakes Printing. Our mailing is approx 1 month later than last year but it will be sent out in late August or September. Lakes Printing out of Brainerd MN has done a fantastic job getting all the printing done and getting it ready for mail. **Thanks to LAKES PRINTING for all the help!!!!** We greatly appreciate it! Lakes Printing has always done a fabulous job for WreathsForTheFallen.org!

Drawing – BOND SLAVES – Mykel Bartel informed us that the Bond Slaves will once again have a fundraiser and raffle in September with part of the proceeds going to WreathsForTheFallen.org! Mykel and the Bond Slaves Organization have been very generous to us over the years. **THANK YOU MYKEL!** Raffle tickets are available from Mykel and several of our members. The raffle will be on September 15th in Brainerd. Chances are only \$1.00 each with way over 100 chances to win. Please support those organizations that support us – it all goes to a good cause. The event should be posted on our web page under ‘EVENTS.

CUB FOODS COUPONS – Thanks to John Thomas we will now have some advertising on the back side of the receipts from Cub Foods in Brainerd and Baxter MN. The ad/ logo will begin on September 24th and run for 12 weeks. This will be great exposure for us. John did a fabulous job of negotiating a sweet deal with Mediaworks Advertising Solutions – that made this opportunity very nice. Please watch the back of your grocery receipts if you shop at Cub Foods!!

THANKS JOHN THOMAS AND MEDIAWORKS!

VIII. Upcoming Events –

General meeting in September - - - September 11th at 6-30.

IX. Next Meeting

The next Officers meeting will be on 8-28-12 at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley at 2:00.

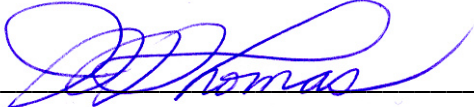
Next monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org will be on Tuesday, September 11th 2012 at 6:30 pm in Little Falls MN at the VFW. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come. New faces are always welcome!

X. Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jayme Storlie and seconded by Bob Larson. Everyone was in favor so meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm

THANKS FOR COMING TO THE MEETING AND BEING PART OF OUR GREAT ORGANIZATION!

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.