

# **WreathsForTheFallen.org**

## **October Meeting Minutes**

**10-9-12**

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

The October monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org was called to order by President, John Thomas on Tuesday night October 9th 2012 at 7:00pm at the VFW in Little Falls MN.

### **II. Roll Call**

There were 12 members present – including two new members. Those present were – John Thomas, Ron Robbins, Bill & Fran Kokett, Norville Pervier, Mykel Barthel, Jim Parent, Mary Vogt-Patton, Jerry Patton, Ken & Joyce Tveit and Jerry Ratcliff. Everyone in attendance signed the sign-in sheet and were 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**

Carrie Johnson, our secretary was absent from the meeting so the minutes from the last meeting were not presented. She will have them at the next meeting in case anyone has any changes or comments. The September minutes have been posted on our web site at [www.wreathsforthefallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthefallen.org).

### **IV. Treasurers Report**

Ron Robbins –our treasurer – gave the treasurer's report. The balance on September 30th was \$ 19,983.06. John Thomas reported that the total donations received at the end of September 2012 were \$ 15,452.00 compared to September 2011 which was \$6,663.00. So far in October 2012 the total is

\$21,596.00 and October 2011 it was \$28,115.00. There have been 391 contributions received to date.

## **V. Committee Reports**

**Wreath Procurement Committee** – Bob Larson – chairperson – was unable to attend the meeting.

**Web Site Committee** – John Thomas – chairperson – reported that everything was working out well with our web site and no news to report.

**Contributions Committee** – John Thomas updated us on the advertisement that is on the back of the Cub Grocery Store receipts. They are on receipts at the Brainerd and Baxter Cub stores as well as some in the Minneapolis area. Discussion about how to get more information out to the public. Norv Pervier feels that personal contact is the best. Jerry Ratcliff suggested going to the VFW's and asking for representatives from them. Members were encouraged by John to take the prepared envelopes and distribute them to their local groups and businesses. Discussion also included on how best to thank those who have contributed over \$100.00 perhaps a thank you on our letterhead -- - further discussion to be held at future meetings.

**Other Committees** – We still are needing volunteers. Please call John Thomas or email us if you would be interested – it would be greatly appreciated!

**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. Anyone wishing to step up and help should let us know – it would be greatly appreciated!

## **VI. Old Business**

**Facebook** – Thanks to Amanda Stone who has been helping out with Facebook – we really appreciate it! (And I'm sorry – I had listed her name as Amber in a few of my earlier minutes - - Sorry Amanda)

## **VII. New Business**

**New Members** – 2 new members introduced themselves at the meeting tonight. They are Mary Vogt-Patton and Jerry Patton – both from the Sauk Rapids area. Thanks so much for coming to our meeting and hope to see you more often!!

**Conference Calls** – John talked about all members joining in on conference calls. Instead of being in contact only once a month, a conference call could be made to see if anyone needs more supplies, has any questions, etc. John would send

out an email to members with a phone number to call at a certain time, enter in a code and then we can all join in on the conference call.

**Wreath Laying** – There was a lot of talk about changes to make at the wreath laying ceremony. Suggestions had been made at our January meeting and further discussion will be held at the December meeting. Any comments or suggestions about what we do at the ceremony are welcome. We want to make this event a great event and it is good to hear from everyone. Please come to our next meeting in November if you can!

#### **VIII. Upcoming Events –**

- \*General meeting in November - - - November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- \*Last general meeting before the ceremony – December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm
- \*Promote our mission – get donations - - - everyday!!

#### **IX. Next Meeting**

The next Officers meeting will be on 10-23-12 at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley at 2:00.

Next monthly meeting for WreathsForTheFallen.org will be on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 6:30 pm in Little Falls MN at the VFW. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come. New faces are always welcome - especially when we are getting closer to the wreath laying ceremony!

#### **X. Closing Prayer and Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Norville Pervier and seconded by Mykel Barthel. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

**THANKS FOR COMING TO THE MEETING!**

**PLEASE NOTE: Only 8 more weeks until we lay the wreaths!!!**  
**Please spread the word so we can achieve our goal of laying a wreath on every grave site at the State Veterans Cemetery at Camp Ripley MN.**

Minutes submitted by: Fran Kokett

Prepared 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.wreathsforthe fallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthe fallen.org).