

# ***WreathsForTheFallen.org***

## **Officers Meeting Minutes**

**June 30, 2015**

I. **Call to order**

John Thomas called the June 2015 officers meeting to order at 1:10 pm on Tuesday June 30th, 2015 at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley MN. Officers present were – John Thomas-President, Norville Pervier-Vice President, Carrie Johnson-Secretary, Ron Robbins-Treasurer and Bob Larson-Wreath Procurement Officer.

- II. **Minutes from last meeting-** Minutes from the last officers meeting, which was held on March 26<sup>h</sup> 2015 were discussed and approved as submitted. They were posted on the web. We have not had any general meetings yet in 2015. The next general meeting will be on July 18th when we will have our Annual Meeting at the VFW in Little Falls MN at 1:30pm.

III. **Treasurers Report**

Ron Robbins gave his treasurer's report as of June 30, 2015 and submitted his reports to Carrie Johnson our secretary for the record. Reports for the period beginning March 1st through May 31<sup>s</sup>, 2015 were submitted and he verbally reported the current balance in the check books. The Memorial Account which had been set up to provide funds for making the Memorial wreaths for the Memorial Ceremony, had a small remaining balance and it was decided to close that account and transfer the remaining balance to our general fund checking account. Ron Robbins made the motion or transfer the funds and Norv Pervier seconded it. Motion passed and Ron Robbins will take care of the transfer and close the account. The balance in the general fund at May 31st 2015 was \$4,547.18. Contributions to date are \$4,115.00.

IV. **Topics Discussed**

**Pop Up Tent** – John informed us that the purchase of the 10 x 10 pop up tent was made on April 9th from Costco. Jerry Ratcliff had used it at the Red Bull event in North Branch and said it worked very well.

**Brochures and Envelopes** – John gave us an update on the purchase of the brochures and envelopes we will be purchasing this year. First Impression Printing and Lakes Printing both gave pricing and design options. The remittance envelopes were discussed as to what layout would provide the

easiest and most convenient way for people to send checks back to us. John and Ron had reviewed the options and presented them to us. The new design will have information for the Preston Cemetery which will have burials this year yet and will also have a Wreath Ceremony on December 12th. All officers present approved the layout for the printing of the remittance envelopes so John and Ron will proceed in notifying the printers and get our order for brochures and envelopes processed. We should have the products by the time of the Annual Meeting so we can show everyone. We are planning on ordering 20,000 brochures and 10,000 remittance envelopes.

Red Bull Military Appreciation Event – Jerry Ratcliff presented WreathsForTheFallen.org at the Red Bull Event on June 7th. He said it was a beautiful day. He handed out about 125 brochures. The collection jar grew by \$90.00! He did mention in his report that it would be nice if there were a few more people to help at this event since he was quite busy. THANK YOU JERRY!!!

UPCOMING COUNTY FAIRS - We discussed the following county fairs and events that we would like to attend and have a presence at:

August 4th – Tuesday – Crow Wing County Fair (Brainerd)

August 9<sup>th</sup> – Sunday – Benton County Fair (St Cloud)

August 13<sup>th</sup> – Morrison County Fair (Little Falls)

September 1st – MN STATE FAIR

September 19th – Saturday – St Cloud VA Rendezvous

September 20th – Sunday - Camp Ripley Open House

We would like to have as many volunteers as possible to help us at the above mentioned events. The more the merrier and the more helpers the less work for everyone. If interested in helping out at any of these events please give John Thomas a call at 218-829-6622 - it would be greatly appreciated.

Preston Cemetery: We are planning on visiting the new Veterans Cemetery by Preston MN sometime this summer to see the progress at that new cemetery. John will be meeting with Dave from the cemetery regarding the ceremony this year. The first burial in that cemetery should be in September. There will be a Wreath ceremony at this cemetery on December 12, 2015 so many plans need to be made. Mickman Brothers has stated that they would be able to deliver wreaths to that cemetery as well.

Wreath Laying Ceremony 2015 – Mark your calendars – the 2015 Wreath Laying Ceremony will be on Saturday December 12th at 11:00 am. We will again have the additional responsibilities we had in 2014 - including Parking, Color Guard Coordination, Master of Ceremonies, National Anthem, Guest Speakers and Wreath Presenters. We (WFTF.org) will also be arranging/planning the ceremony in Preston.

**ANNUAL MEETING- We have set the date for the Annual Meeting which will be on Saturday July 18th 2015 at the VFW in Little Falls, MN.** This is where we have had many meetings and it is centrally located so hopefully we will have lots of people in attendance. After discussing several options we felt an inside location centrally located would be the best to avoid any issues with the weather. Food and beverage is available for purchase from the VFW. We will review 2014 and plan for 2015. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come to the meeting. Meeting starts at 1:30 pm but come early and have lunch and visit! John Thomas has sent out an email to everyone on our mailing list. Please watch your emails for updates – and news.

**MOTORCYCLE RIDES /EVENTS** – We have received many notices for rides and events for the summer. These notices have been posted on our web site for everyone to view. Web site: [www.wreathsForTheFallen.org](http://www.wreathsForTheFallen.org)

**V. Next General Meeting**

The next general meeting will be the Annual Meeting on Saturday July 18<sup>th</sup> at the VFW in Little Falls MN at 1:30 pm. Anyone with questions or concerns should contact John Thomas at 218-829-6622 or any officer. Any topics that anyone feels should be addressed at the meeting should be addressed with John so he can make it part of the agenda for that meeting. We talked about having a silent auction as part of the meeting but we were not sure if that would be beneficial so that topic will be discussed at the Annual Meeting.

**VI. Next Officers Meeting**

The next officer's meeting is take place sometime before the Annual Meeting via conference call. John will make arrangements and let the officers know via email or phone call.

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Norville Pervier and seconded by Ron Robbins at 2:25 pm. Meeting adjourned

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.wreathsforthefallen.org](http://www.wreathsforthefallen.org) or call John Thomas at 218-829-6622