

WreathsForTheFallen.org

Officers Meeting Minutes

July 19, 2011

I. Call to order

John Thomas called the officers meeting to order at 2:00pm at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley MN.

II. Roll call

All officers were present, John Thomas – President, Bob Larson – Vice President, Ron Robbins - Treasurer and Carrie Johnson – Secretary.

III. Treasurers Report

We did not have our monthly meeting in July because of the conflict with a presentation in Cold Spring MN on July 12th however, our Treasurer Ron Robbins submitted his monthly treasurers report for June at this meeting. The beginning balance at June 1st was \$1,071.00, June deposits were \$270.00 and administration expenses of \$ 540.00 – leaving a balance at 6-30-11 of \$ 801.00. Ron's report was approved and submitted to the Secretary.

IV. Old Business

The officers reviewed a letter received regarding the Motley Fair. A reply letter was prepared and reviewed by all officers and will be sent to address the issue.

John Thomas and Bob Larson gave a recap of the presentation that was done at the Cold Spring VFW on July 12th 2011. They stated that it was a great presentation with around 20 people there. They also stated that we – the WreathsForTheFallen.org organization - has been invited to do a presentation at the Senior Center in Brainerd which will be on July 27th at 9:30 – 10:30 am. Anyone who is interested can attend and any help with the presentation would be greatly appreciated.

Bob Larson reported on the Meat Raffle that was held on July 8th at the Eagles Club in St Cloud. Proceeds from that raffle were \$250.00 plus a donation on \$100.00. It was a fun night for the raffle. There will be another raffle on July 22nd also at the Eagles Club in St Cloud. 'Fuzzy' from Cold Spring is checking into having a meat raffle at the St Augusta Legion which would be a great location and another great opportunity for us to raise some money. Anyone is welcome

to come to the meat raffles – it's a great time to meet new people and visit with new and old friends!

The Crow Wing County Fair and the Morrison County Fairs were addressed. We have been invited to share booth space with other veterans organizations at both of these fairs this August. We have no expenses other than the brochures that we would hand out. We do need volunteers to spend time at the booth. John posted a signup sheet with different time slots available on our web site at **www.wreathsforthefallen.org** if anyone wants to sign up. This will be great exposure for us and with the location of these fairs in proximity to the Camp Ripley Cemetery could help get us some volunteers for placing the wreaths this December. It is possible that we will be able to place appx 4130 wreaths this year. That is the number of sites that will be at the cemetery by December. The Crow Wing County Fair – in Brainerd – runs from August 2nd – 6th. The Morrison County Fair – in Little Falls – runs from August 11th – 14th. The fair hours run from 10:00am to 10:00 pm.

Bob Larson mentioned that he will be working at the Benton County Fair in the Vietnam Veterans Booth in August – Thank you Bob !

We discussed getting some more brochures made up as we are almost out and we will need more to hand out at the fairs and also for the rest of the year. John will check into ordering more brochures and also more holders. We decided we should keep some extra brochures and holder on hand in case we have additional requests.

Bob Larson commented that he will be contacting Mickelson Brothers – a wreath provider from the metro area - about their current prices and deadlines. He is still actively working on getting price quotes for the wreaths. He will have any updates at the August general meeting.

John Thomas gave us web site update. Everything is going smooth and he encourages everyone to 'get online' and visit our website at www.wreathsforthefallen.org ! It's a great web site !!

V. Open Issues

John showed us a 'newspaper' database that he has been working on. He has a very detailed list of all the newspapers in Minnesota. – including addresses, phone numbers etc. Joyce Tveit has offered to help enter the information into the database. John would like to do several news releases to introduce wreathsforthefallen.org to as many people as possible.

We are currently working on getting a 'FACEBOOK page' for wreathsforthe fallen.org!!! We would like to have as many 'friends' as possible. It will be a great social media for us.

Stickers, pins, badges, patches and T-shirts were all discussed. Topic will be brought up again at the next general meeting

Final item addressed was the topic of the Patriot Guard and the WreathsForTheFallen and working together. What can we do for them and what can they do for us – what guidelines should we have – what guidelines do they have - should we have a contact person to work between the 2 groups. We will bring this up at the general meeting and hopefully there will be many members from both groups present to discuss this.

VI. Next meeting time & place

No other officers meetings were scheduled at this time. The next general meeting is set for August 9th at 6:30 at the VFW in Little Falls. Social time at 6:00.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Minutes submitted by:



Minutes approved by:

