

WreathsForTheFallen.org

Officers Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2014

I. Call to order

John Thomas called the August officers meeting to order at 12:00 pm on Wednesday August 13, 2014 at the Fort Steakhouse in Fort Ripley MN. Officers present were – John Thomas, Ron Robbins, Norv Pervier, Bob Larson and Carrie Johnson.

II. Minutes from last meeting- Minutes from the last meeting, which was the Annual Meeting held on 7-12-14 were available. No comments were made regarding the minutes other than they were approved as posted on the web.

III. Treasurers Report

Ron Robbins-our treasurer submitted his report to Carrie for the record. The beginning balance on July 1st was \$7,109.26 – after paying administration expenses of \$1,155.10 and a deposit of \$161.82 there was a balance on July 31, 2014 of \$6,115.98 in our checking account. Contributions to date are \$10,341.25

IV. Topics Discussed

County Fair Updates –

Crow Wing County Fair – approximately 1000 brochures handed out

Morrison County Fair – approximately 300 brochures handed out

Benton County Fair – approximately 435 brochures handed out

Military Appreciation Days were well attended. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped hand out brochures and meet and greet with the visitors.

One issue that was raised was the fundraising at the fairs. We will review our by-laws and make sure everyone is aware of the rules of our organization and of the fairs that we attend.

Minnesota State Fair – WFTF has again this year been invited by the Minnesota National Guard to participate in the 4th Annual Military Appreciation Day at the MN State Fair which will be on Tuesday - August 26, 2014. We have 16 people signed up to be there, help set up and watch our booth from 8:00 to 4:00. Some have offered to be there earlier to help set up the display area. We have 2 areas this year. Rose Clement will have her Patriotic Bike on display and we will have tables set up with brochures, pictures, pins, candy and videos. This is a great opportunity for us to educate fair visitors about the military community and

WreathsForTheFallen.org. **State Fair Date- Tuesday August 26th**. Parking at the fair will be \$13.00 but will be reimbursed by WFTF for everyone working there. John made the motion and Bob Larson seconded it to reimburse everyone. John had a checklist for things needed to take to the fair and everything is very well planned out. Should be a great time at the fair !

Mailings – The first mailing of 1266 brochures went out the week of August 4th. The second mailing of 1400 brochures will go out after Labor Day.

Raffles – We had some discussion about having a raffle and/or drawing of some type to raise money. We have not had any meat raffles yet this year and we also have many items that we could put on a silent auction or sell tickets for. We are checking into different options. We do not currently have any license for any fundraising activities.

Vietnam Veterans Annual Pig Roast – Will be held on October 4th 2014 at the VFW in Sauk Rapids. Food, silent auction and live auctions begin at 4:30. Brochure is attached on our web site. Everyone is welcome.

Preston Cemetery: John gave us a quick update on Preston Cemetery. We will be in touch with interested groups from that area to introduce ourselves and invite a delegation to come to Camp Ripley for the ceremony this December. They have shown interest in how our ceremony works. The first burial in that cemetery will be in 2015.

Wreath Laying Ceremony 2014 – Mark your calendars – the 2014 Wreath Laying Ceremony will be on **Saturday December 13th at 11:00 am**. We will have additional responsibilities this year - including Parking, Color Guard Coordination, Master of Ceremonies, National Anthem, Guest Speakers and Wreath Presenters. In the months ahead will be addressing each issue and make sure everything is planned and addressed properly. Plans are falling into place already.

Wreath Procurement – Bob Larson & John Thomas will be working with our wreath suppliers to get pricing again this summer.

V. Next General Meeting

No plans have been set for a general meeting at this time. Anyone with questions or concerns is invited to contact John Thomas at 218-829-6622 or any officer.

VI. Next Officers Meeting

Next officers meeting is tentatively set for September 9th which may or may not be via conference call.

VII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn our meeting was made by Bob Larson and seconded by Ron Robbins. Meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

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 or call John Thomas at 218-829-6622

Dates to Remember

State Fair – Tuesday August 26th – 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

Wreath Ceremony – Saturday December 13th at 11:00 am