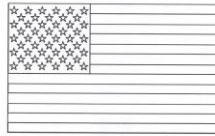




LADIES AUXILIARY NEWSLETTER
MORSON-ARIO VFW POST #9713
 www.vfwpost9713.org
 SPRING 2008

SHOW YOUR POPPY PRIDE EVERY DAY!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

REMEMBER



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Auxiliary Monthly Meetings are at 7:30p on the 1st Thursday of each month at our Post

May 1st Monthly Meeting

MAY BUDDY POPPY DONATIONS

May 26th, Memorial Day

June 5th Monthly Meeting (INSTALLATION)

November 16, Belgian Waffle Extravaganza

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR AUXILIARY PRESIDENT, MARY TORGUSEN

Auxiliary Sisters everywhere. I want to thank you for making this a memorable year as President. Thank you to each and every one of you who have helped me continue to learn the fundamentals of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary. Your membership is essential. I look forward to a great next year as well. Thank you to Commander Frank White and Quartermaster Terry Palmer and other Club Officers.

ELECTION OF 2009 OFFICERS

Thank you to the following members who were elected. President Mary Torgusen, Senior Vice President, Pat Wintheiser, Junior Vice President, Audrey Roiger, Treasurer Jeannette Torgusen, Conductress Frances Lange, Guard Lorraine Kelly, Patriotic Instructor Marian Ruschmeyer, Chaplain Goldie Bosard, Historian Diane Hanson. Club Board Representative Judy Voss, and Trustees, Judy Voss, Amy Wills, and Carol Drummer, and Betty Larson for volunteering for the Cancer Aid and Research Committee.

DID YOU KNOW THAT WE DO THIS AND IT'S PAIN-FREE GIVING?

We collect Campbell soup UPC labels to help support the VFW National Children's Home.

We also collect Tyson Foods UPC labels to help support the VFW National Children's Home.

The VFW National Children's Home is financially supported completely through donations. It is not supported by any government agency. They need us to stay open. Bring them to the Club.

We collect pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, for families and their sick children to stay very inexpensively when their child is receiving medical care in that community.

AUXILIARY MEMBERS TO REMEMBER

Frances Lange has been a member of our Auxiliary since 1978 and will be 90 years young this year. Frances has filled many offices in our Auxiliary and has been Conductress as long as I can remember. She works with St. Joseph's the Worker Church quilting lap robes and quilts for our hospitalized and nursing home Veterans. She also collects thousands of envelopes and carefully cuts the stamps off, and counts them to be donated to our Veteran's Hospitals for a program they sponsor. A couple of months ago Frances turned in 14,000 stamps. Each stamp must be cut with the correct size trim around the edge before they are used for this purpose. I want to personally thank Frances for all the work she does on behalf of Veterans and their families everywhere.

Thank you to Anna Marie Hauch for the many many years you have spent filling Officer and Committee positions on the Auxiliary and the 100's of volunteer hours you put in each year in the Community and at Club functions. Our Club could not exist without your type of ongoing Volunteer effort. My sincere thanks to you.

Thank you to Pat Wintheiser. Pat volunteered her time to create a website for our Morson Ario VFW Post and it is live on the web. www.vfwpost9713.org. Pat also is a consistent volunteer at Kids Against Hunger. Take the time to learn about this valuable program and be a part of it. Pat has chaired all of our very successful Belgian Waffle Feeds, which is a huge undertaking. Pat also is there to give me all the ideas and help I need as President. Thank you Pat.

Betty Larson is a Veteran Member of our Auxiliary. Betty has filled several offices, been a Champion for Buddy Poppy Donations, and is our direct connection to our Cancer Committee. Betty not only works hard for our Club, but also works hard outside our Club as well. Thank you Betty for your great work.

Joyce and Goldie Bosard are two members (mom and daughter) who have served in several Auxiliary Offices and are exceptional volunteers in our community and elsewhere for Veterans, their families, their neighbors, at our VA Hospitals and Nursing Homes, and our Youth, just to mention a few. I want to personally thank them both for being excellent volunteer representatives for our organization.

These members are also consistently present at our meetings each month to keep themselves current on what is happening and to help us make sure we are accomplishing what we need to for those in need. Keep your eyes open ladies for the next Newsletter. I want everyone to know who you are and what you do for others. It is inspirational. You may be mentioned as a Member to Remember.

CLUB ENJOYMENT

Don't forget to join us for our great club lunches or our weekly Saturday night Steak Fry. Delicious. We also want to remind you to use our great meeting and banquet facilities. Call Heidi at 625-6192 for more information on dates available and member and non-member rental rates and catering. On Friday Nights there is live music for everyone. Come and enjoy. Clubs like ours need their members to use the club. We have a great facility. If you have ideas you would like considered, for the good of the Club, please contact someone at the Club to bring your ideas before the Club Board, or send them to Morson-Ario Club Board, 1900 N. Riverfront Drive, Mankato, MN 56001. We want to know what you think.

FRIGHTENING DISABLED VETERANS STATISTICS

Current VA Benefits Personnel report that by July 2006 over 153,000 Iraq/Afghanistan War Veterans had filed for disability benefits. That is staggering and the continuing flow of wounded and mentally disabled veterans coming home will make all that we do through our Buddy Poppy Donation Drive that much more important.

The new body armor may keep them physically alive, but they are coming home to us disabled in record numbers and will need care for life. This country has never faced this kind of disabled Veteran's crisis in our history as a country. Most of the war-injured, from previous wars, died on the battlefield in higher percentages. They didn't come home to the excruciating lifetime mental and physical disabilities we are seeing today. We do remember those who have come home disabled from previous wars. We must never forget. We can't just think in the present. The past is a reminder to us of what is to come.

We all should know the difficulties faced by Veterans trying to get their much-deserved Veterans benefits. We have to make sure that funds through our Buddy Poppy program reach these Veterans and the literally thousands still affected from previous wars. It isn't enough just to be a member. YOU HAVE TO SUPPORT THE PROGRAMMING!!!!!!! Buy a Poppy Card at the Club. Wear your Poppy Proudly. Be the one who shows everyone else the importance of supporting our Veterans. I do. When you are approached at The Morson Ario, Walmart, Hyvee, or anywhere they are offering you a Poppy, simply say I WILL and make a donation! Those Veterans said "I Will" when they were asked to serve, and They Did. Are you proud of them? PROVE IT!!!!!

Please send in your donation of \$5 for a poppy card to be posted at our Club and let us know the name of the Veteran, their branch of service, and whether it is In Loving Memory or In Living Honor of, on your request. You may send them to Mary Torgusen, Check payable to 9713 Ladies Auxiliary, VFW Morson Ario Post 9713, 1900 N. Riverfront Drive, Mankato, MN 56001. If you will not be purchasing a card, please send whatever you are able.

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

I want to take this opportunity to offer my deepest sympathy to all members who lost a loved one this past Auxiliary year. I hope you are finding peace and joy in the memory of your loved one.

A POPPY IS AN INVESTMENT IN OUR DISABLED VETERANS. MAKE THAT INVESTMENT. YOU WILL NEVER REGRET IT. WEAR IT WITH PRIDE. NEVER LET ANYONE FORGET THE SACRIFICES MADE BY OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL.