



VICKSBURG SAWA NEWS

The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Vicksburg, Mississippi

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Calendar of Events

- Jul. 29/30 – Wal-Mart Back to School Supply Drive
 Aug. 1 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Aug. 3-7 – Vacation Bible School
 Sep. 12 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Oct. 3 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Oct. 10 – S&S Prep Day
 Oct. 11 – Soup & Sandwich Luncheon
 Nov. 7 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Dec. 5 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
- 2012**
- Jan. 9 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Feb. 6 – SAWA Meeting



Contact Us

<http://vixsawa.weebly.com/news.html>

Or Email:

trudyhjames@att.net or
renfros@bellsouth.net

From the President's Desk

Ladies,

THE SALVATION ARMY MISSION STATEMENT:

THE SALVATION ARMY, AN INTERNATIONAL MOVEMENT, IS AN EVANGELICAL PART OF THE UNIVERSAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH. ITS MESSAGE IS BASED ON THE BIBLE. ITS MINISTRY IS MOTIVATED BY THE LOVE OF GOD. ITS MISSION IS TO PREACH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST AND TO MEET HUMAN NEEDS IN HIS NAME WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION.

Let's get involved ladies, change a life and make a difference in our community!! We have several projects and fund raisers we're working on; please decide which ones you would like to get involved with to fulfill your promise of Doing The Most Good.

Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king. Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, but also to those who are unreasonable. (1 Peter 2:17-18) Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love. This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. (1 John 4:8-10)

Follow the golden rule. In everything, do unto others as you'd have them do to you. If you treat everyone you meet the way you'd like to be treated, you can't help but show respect.

We live in such a diverse nation with so many different cultures, languages, races and backgrounds. You would think with that kind of diversity it would make our lives fun and interesting, but only if we choose to get along with each other. And to do that, we have to respect people who are different from us. How do we treat others with respect? It's easy; treat people the way we like to have them treat us.

It really is about following the Golden Rule.

Church marquee signs that make you go "hmmm---"

**A good pill to swallow is your pride.
 Attitudes are contagious. Is yours worth catching?
 Challenges in life can make you either bitter or better.
 Having a right to do something doesn't mean it's right.
 YOU are the only Bible some people may ever read.**

Serving together,

Trudy



2010 - 2012 SAWA Officers and Committee Chairmen

- Trudy James President
- Phyllis Renfro ... 1st Vice Pres. (Membership Chair)
- Barbara Cashman ... 2nd Vice Pres. (Publicity Chair)
- Judy Monroe Secretary
- Carolyn Fugler Treasurer
- Anne Page Chaplain
- Gwen Edris..... Nominating Committee Chair
- Pearl Carter..... Finance Committee Chair
- Jo Beth BrittAffairs of the Heart; Senior Angels
- Cappy Martin / Jacque Henley..... Soup & Sandwich Committee Chair
- Tina Grau..... 2011 S&S Silent Auction Chair;
- Help Wanted!** Silent Auction Co-Chair
- Help Wanted!**. Christmas Angel Tree Committee Chair & Christmas Stocking Committee Chair
- Patricia Wright - Pemberton Angel Tree Chair
- Barbara Cashman Publicity Committee Chair
- Help Wanted!** Monthly Hospitality Committee Chair
- ❖
- Tina Grau Newsletter



Welcome

We wish to welcome our newest Auxiliary member Paula Jones. Paula joins us after volunteering at the SA Emergency Operations Center.

Invite A Friend to August Meeting!



Members are reminded that recruitment of new members is vital to the health and vitality of our organization and falls on **all our shoulders**. Let's fill the Chapel at the August meeting with **members AND guests!** *Bring a friend to the meeting.*



Meeting Theme: Back to School

Many thanks to Lillian Lee for serving as August meeting hostess and her assistant Patricia Wright.

Members are asked to bring in a book bag (no wheels) or a few of the following school supplies (#2 pencils, erasers, 24 ct crayons, wide-ruled notebook paper, construction paper, 1st grade writing tablet, hand sanitizer, 8 oz. glue, Kleenex, Fiskar scissors, folders, protractor, pencil case, ruler, paper towels, quart zip-lock bags, hi-lighter, or washable markers) for our "Back to School" Project for distributing to children in need.

An SAWA committee headed up by **Trudy James** is planning and executing the "Back to School" Project – an effort to collect and fill **300 book bags for less fortunate children in the community**. Members are needed at Wal-Mart this Friday (4:00 – 7:00 pm) and Saturday (9:00 am – 7:00 pm), July 29-30, to man tables collecting school supplies. We all need to pitch in to help on this effort. If you haven't been contacted or volunteered for a shift, please do so.

Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you.

Deuteronomy 31:6 (NKJV)

Hospitality hostesses are needed for the October and November.

Salvation Army Office:

Mon – Fri. 9:00 – Noon; 1:00 - 4:00
(office closed daily from Noon – 1:00 for lunch)

Thrift Store Hours:

Mon – Fri 9:00 – 5:30
Saturday 9:00 – 4:00

Help always needed here!

Phone 601-636-2769 for pickups.



Remind your neighbors that OUR THRIFT STORE NEEDS THEIR OLD STUFF!

Family Portrait – Vicksburg Corps Commanders



In case you missed the July meeting, this photograph is of our new Vicksburg Corps commanders Captain Srikant and Lieutenant Indrani Bhatnagar. Those two adorable children are their sons Mickey and Luke. Since

moving to Vicksburg in June, they have been extremely busy getting to know people and their needs in the community.

Calling All Volunteers – Thrift Store Needs You!



As you know, the Thrift Store is about to receive a well-needed cleaning/renovation from top to bottom during August. (This work will mostly be carried out by Americorps volunteers, thanks to our Captain and Lieutenant's recruiting efforts.) I am taking the lead scheduling volunteers to work in the store during regular hours of operation after the renovation is complete. If we don't get daily help in the store, it will never reach its potential for making a profit. The store must show an increase in profits so that more client services can be provided. The Auxiliary can only provide a limited amount of assistance, and outside donations are simply not enough to pay for everything needed. PLEASE consider giving a few hours of your time to volunteer in the Thrift Store. I will have a sign-up calendar available at the meeting with starting date of September 1st, so please check your schedules and be prepared to sign up for this huge effort to keep the Thrift Store clean and stocked after the renovation is completed. Of course any time you can volunteer prior to September will be greatly appreciated. Please call me at 601-529-7574 or email suetolbert2@aol.com, if you have any questions prior to the meeting. Thank you.

Sue Tolbert

Soup & Sandwich Luncheon – Be Ready to Serve (Up Hope)

The 32nd annual Soup and Sandwich Luncheon is fast approaching. Mark your calendars for Tues., Oct. 11th. (Don't forget the all important prep day on Monday, the 10th either.) We need all hands on deck for our No. 1 fundraiser. **Our fundraising needs are crucial!!** Our luau was cancelled and our Mexican dinner did not repeat this year. Our only collected funds came from "Affairs of the Heart" last February. We have been tapped from the "Great Flood of 2011" both in money and volunteerism. Our community is still reeling. Unemployment is high and inflation is rising. The poor are getting poorer from high food and gas prices. You can make a difference! The monies raised will help the less fortunate in our community in ways such as: client assistance; Angel Tree gifts; food pantry supplies; food for Mission 66 Diner; flood assistance. You are their helping hands and must reach out into the community to secure the funds to assist others, thus "Serving up Hope."



Now is the time to come to action -- volunteer, sell tickets, and collect auction items. Our goal this year is \$15,000. We have 800 tickets to sell at \$8/each. Last year we had \$5,600 in ticket sales, \$1,417 from the bake sale, and \$5,856 from the silent auction. We need to repeat this and DO MORE!

Events coordinators are as follows: Events Co-chairmen -- Jacque Henley & Cappy Martin, Silent Auction Co-chairmen -- Tina Grau (Co-chairman assistant needed!), Ticket Sales -- Cherry Hudson.

Let's work hard and we can make this happen. May God take our hands of service and put it towards His use.

Cappy Martin



Vacation Bible School Planned for August 3-7th

Vacation Bible School will be held August 3-7 (5 - 7 PM) with a Beach Party theme. Donations of beach-themed items are needed as well as volunteers to help during Bible School. Please say "yes" when called upon to help.

Members are also requested to bring to the August meeting any of the following items they can furnish for VBS use: Games; ideas for arts and crafts and the necessary supplies.

Kitchen Care Committee

Ladies, since May, it seems we have been busy with flood relief and not "Kitchen Relief". It's time to reactivate the committee and recruit some new members. The group who stayed after the last meeting cleaned and organized the Food Pantries and the Kitchen. The regular maintenance on the stove and refrigerator needs to be re-established.



Our volunteers for September are: Judy Monroe and Martha Roberts; October: Frances Reeves and Pat Martin. So, August, November, and December need teams. At the meeting I will pass around the sign-up sheet.

Let's get this year covered. Thanks for filling the gap!

Phyllis



July Volunteers

Thanks to all of our Office Volunteers for July 2011: Auther Bailey, Cheryl Lloyd, Louise Montgomery, Gloria Naylor, Tammy Smith, Dot Steen, and Pat Wright. Thrift Store Volunteers: Carolyn Fugler, Wanda Clark, Paula Jones and Sue Tolbert. (Bless these Non-SAWA Thrift Store volunteers: Judy Morrisey, Bonnie West, Ethel ____, and Jo Ann ____).

Angel Tree Chairmen Needed

An overall Angel Tree Project Chairman is needed -- please consider teaming up with a friend and co-chairing this worthwhile project – see Trudy!

Members – don't forget to begin (*or continue*) collecting items for your child angel stockings. **A Christmas Stockings Chairman is also needed.**



Please continue collecting items for *Senior Angel gifts* (larger size warm-ups, lap throws, large-print Bibles, clock radios/CD players, and inspirational music CDs all make great gifts for senior citizens).



My Disaster Center Experience (Thoughts from the Client Intake Office)

Salvation Army Disaster Emergency Center

Great Flood of May 2011

Pearl W. Carter

July 8, 2011

During the Great Flood of May 2011 it has been my privilege to serve as volunteer case manager for the Salvation Army at its disaster emergency operations center. We pulled together a team of six ladies to tackle the awesome task of taking applications and determining and filling the needs of the over 400 families who applied for assistance. Many applicants found it necessary to return several times resulting in +1000 total visits serving +2600 people overall. In addition, three churches were assisted with cleaning supplies, as well as Rainbow Farms and several businesses.

I am very grateful to our case management staff for their exceptionally dedicated and compassionate service. In addition, quite a number of volunteers assisted with Xeroxing, served as runners back and forth to the warehouse and various other tasks. Once the paperwork was completed, the vouchers were passed to our awesome warehouse volunteers to fill the orders and load the goods into the client's vehicle.

It's not easy to hear the heartbreaking stories while trying to keep your composure and assure the client that things "will be alright". The case management staff posted the following quote along with a prayer by Phillip Huber: "In our sadness can be seeds that God will cultivate to grow a rainbow of joy." "Dear God of all comfort, help us to rest in the hope that you will bring joy out of our sorrow. Amen"

There are over 400 different stories we could tell. But I'd like to share just a few of those joys and sorrows with you.

One morning during our first week at the Disaster Center, a gentleman with no legs rolled into our warehouse in his wheelchair and offered his services as a volunteer. He stated that he was very strong in his upper body and could pack boxes and do most things anyone else could do.

While taking her application, a lady from Port Gibson became emotional while telling me that her little dog had been eaten by an alligator.

A lady representing a small United Methodist Church in Olive Branch, MS called offering their services as an experienced rebuilding team. They would bring all tools necessary to help anyone tear out and rebuild their homes. The very next day an 89-year-old lady came in seeking help. Her home had been condemned by the city and she either had to have the house torn down or the city would do it and charge her \$6,000. She had no

means to pay either the city of someone else to tear it down. Contact was made and when she was told that the Church group would arrive in late July to do the work for her free of charge, she burst into tears (as did we).

A youth pastor, his wife and a team of about 12 young people came from Pineville, LA to spend several days cleaning out a home. The homeowner's wife has respiratory problems and their son is being treated for cancer.

Although our stated hours were 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., many days our ladies stayed late to process applications for individuals who could not come in until they got off work or for other reasons. One such gentleman had been living in his car in the Kings Community. He traveled to work in a pick-up truck his Church had helped him acquire. When the roads were closed he could not get back to move the car and he lost everything from the flooding.

A young single mother of one did not have flooding but a large tree had fallen right beside her trailer home and onto the air conditioner. She had no one to cut and remove the tree. Victor Hoofman, owner of Bosk-N-Bower Tree Services was contacted and graciously agreed to contribute his services free of charge (with a little sweet talk from Aunt Pearl). Ironically, the lady's name is the same as Vic's mother's maiden name.

Trouble seems to come in batches. This was the case with one client in particular. Her husband had surgery at an out-of-town location. He got a serious infection and is still hospitalized in intensive care. Meantime, she had to have knee surgery. When the notice came out about the flooding, she had their trailer home moved out of the flood zone thinking that she would be reimbursed by FEMA. However, because the home was moved and did not take on floodwater, FEMA did not qualify her for assistance. She was badly in need of help to have a waterline run and facilities hooked up at the new location. Once again, God sent help in the form of First Presbyterian Church and Danny Jones who stepped in to solve her problem

A mother of three revealed that when they had to vacate their home they had nowhere to go so they lived in their car (5 people). When they were able to go back home their dog alerted them to a large snake in the children's bedroom. The children were terrified of being in the house so the family stayed in the car several more nights. Now the children are scared and refuse to sleep in the bedroom or by themselves.

As with any major effort of this type, there were a few disappointments and a few who took advantage or misused the system. This was the case with only a minute percentage of our clients. I cannot describe for you how rewarding my participation in this event has been. Just knowing that so many people have been helped by our Salvation Army and its outstanding volunteers is joy beyond description.

Update July 19, 2011:

Sadly, two of our families suffered additional tragedy last week. The gentlemen who got the infection in the hospital passed away on Wednesday. The little 8-year old boy who drowned was a member of a client family. Letters of condolence are being sent to both families and Captain Bhatnagar plans to visit each family.

The young man who lived in his car and lost everything had given me his clothing sizes. The afternoon of his interview my sister happened to drop some of her husband's clothes off for me to take to the Thrift Store. You guessed it! They were the exact sizes he needed. I called him next day and he was extremely grateful.



June Social Services Report

Andrea Gibson reported the following services provided clients during the month of June:

Total families served	123	Clothing vouchers	23	Bags of groceries:	89
Meals served	1314	Total volunteers	96	Hrs volunteers served	189
Rental assistance	5	Entergy assistance:	11		

Thrift Store Needs Your Donations

Members are reminded that donations of garments and household items (*furniture and bedding too*) are needed at our Thrift Store. Garments can be in ANY condition because income is also derived from rag sales. (The value of your donation is tax deductible and a receipt will be provided by store staff.) Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors! For pickups, call 601-636-2769.



The Salvation Army
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