



VICKSBURG SAWA NEWS

The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Vicksburg, Mississippi

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Calendar of Events

Jan. 4, 2010 (noon)– SAWA Meeting
 Feb. 1 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Mar. 1 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 Apr. 5 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 May 3 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 June 7 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
 July 12 (noon) - SAWA Meeting



Contact Us

<http://salvationarmyvicksburg.org>

Click on [Women's Auxiliary](#) Link

Or Email:

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From the President's Desk



I love lists. I make lists of my lists! Every year I make a list of “to do’s” for the year . . . even include some “not to do’s!” As this new year 2010 begins I’d like to share with you a list that has guided me since I read it in a book by bestselling Christian author, Max Lucado.

Laws of the Lighthouse *by Max Lucado*

The first of the year is known for three things: black-eyed peas, bowl games, and lists. Some don’t eat black-eyed peas. Others hate football. But everybody likes lists. The Bible certainly has its share of lists. Moses brought one down from the mountain.

There are lists of the gifts of the Spirit. Lists of good fruit and bad. Lists of salutations and greetings. Even the disciples’ boat got into the action as it listed in the stormy Sea of Galilee. (If you smiled at that, then I’ve got a list of puns you’d enjoy.)

But the greatest day of lists is still New Year’s Day. And the number one list is the list I call the Laws of the Lighthouse. The Laws of the Lighthouse contain more than good ideas, personal preferences, and honest opinions. **They are God-given, time-tested truths that define the way you should navigate your life.** Observe them and enjoy secure passage. Ignore them and crash against the ragged rocks of reality.

Smart move. The wise captain shifts the direction of his craft according to the signal of the lighthouse. A wise person does the same.

Herewith, then, are the lights I look for and the signals I heed:

- Love God more than you fear hell.
- Once a week, let a child take you on a walk.
- Make major decisions in a cemetery.
- When no one is watching, live as if someone is.
- Succeed at home first.
- Don’t spend tomorrow’s money today.
- Pray twice as much as you fret.
- Listen twice as much as you speak.
- Only harbor a grudge when God does.
- Never outgrow your love of sunsets.
- Treat people like angels; you will meet some and help make some.
- ‘Tis wiser to err on the side of generosity than on the side of scrutiny.

2008 - 2010 SAWA Officers and Committee Chairmen

- Phyllis Renfro President
- Trudy James ... 1st Vice Pres. (Membership Chair)
- Debra Kinnebrew 2nd Vice Pres. (Publicity Chair)
- Anne Page Secretary
- Brenda Warnock Treasurer
- Avis Phillips Chaplain
- Gwen Edris Nominating Committee Chair
- Pearl Carter..... Finance Committee Chair
- Sue Tolbert Soup & Sandwich Committee Chair
- Tina Grau..... S&S Silent Auction Chair
- Sue Tolbert Christmas Angel Tree Committee Chair
- Pearl Carter Christmas Stocking Committee Chair
- Brenda Warnock and Sue Tolbert Publicity Committee Co-Chair
- Jean McAlpin Hospitality Committee Chair



Tina Grau Newsletter

- God has forgiven you; you'd be wise to do the same.
- When you can't trace God's hand, trust his heart.
- Toot your own horn and the notes will be flat.
- Don't feel guilty for God's goodness.
- The book of life is lived in chapters, so know your page number.
- Never let the important be the victim of the trivial.
- Live your liturgy.

To sum it all up:

Approach life like a voyage on a schooner. Enjoy the view. Explore the vessel. Make friends with the captain. Fish a little. And then get off when you get home.

From: In the Eye of the Storm
© (Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2006) Max Lucado

Serving together,
Phyllis



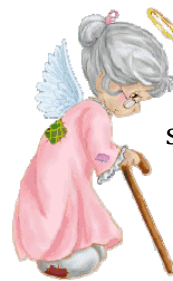
January Meeting: New Year's Lists

Bring your favorite "list" to share with those at your table.

December Volunteers



Thanks to the following members who helped out during December and especially to Office and Pantry Volunteers Coordinator Jean McAlpin. Office Assistants: Barbara Cashman, Lillian Lee, Cheryl Lloyd, Judy Monroe, Louise Montgomery, Chris Patin, Dot Steen, and Gladys Thornton. We regret if anyone was omitted from these listings.



Senior Angels 2009

We served about 200 senior angels this year. Special thanks to Pearl and her stocking crew for doing stockings for the seniors. SPECIAL THANKS also to Cheryl Lloyd for her tireless energy as we sorted and checked each and every Senior Angel Tree bag. MANY, MANY big hugs to ladies of the Auxiliary who donated items ahead for the Seniors this year. It REALLY helped to have those items to fill in some Angel gifts. SUGGESTED ITEMS to watch for ON SALE during this time of year for NEXT YEAR's Senior Angels:

- men and women slippers (sizes M-L-XL) socks (men and women)
- lap robes or afghans robes—men's sizes L-XI-XL
- sweat pants and tops (men & women—especially sizes XL-2XL-3XL)
- ladies gowns, sizes 2XL and 3 XL
- CD's or religious, gospel and country music

These items may be given to Jo Beth or taken to Salvation Army (please mark CLEARLY for SENIOR ANGELS).

Thanks many times over, Jo Beth

Salvation Army Office:

Mon – Thur 9:00 – Noon; 1:00 - 4:00
Office closed on Friday (and daily from Noon – 1:00 for lunch)

Thrift Store Hours:

Mon – Wed 9:00 – 4:00
Thur – Fri 10:00 – 5:00
Saturday 9:00 – 4:00

Help always needed here!

Phone 601-636-2769 for pickups.



852 Kids Get Gifts From Angel Trees

...that was the *Vicksburg Post* headline on Friday, Dec. 18, 2009.

This year's Angel Tree Program would not have been possible without many hours of work by our Auxiliary members and other volunteers from the US Army Corps of Engineers, the 412th Army Reserve Unit, Ameristar Casino, Warren Central High School ROTC, and local churches.

In all the hustle and bustle of the preparations, the hours of lost sleep, and the execution of this project, it is easy to lose sight of the real reason we work so hard and give up so much. We are showing to these children and their families Christ's love IN ACTION. Through one moment God reminds us with a vivid demonstration, such as the experience of first time volunteer Judy Ward, of the impact this effort has on people's lives. Let me share part of what Judy said.

"I just got back from helping distribute gifts to the Angel Tree families. This was my first time to do this, but it won't be my last, and I would encourage everyone on the committee to volunteer next year if you can.

The families were able to drive by and did not even have to get out of their cars as we loaded them up with packages and bikes. Every one of the families was very appreciative of the gifts. I saw tears come to the eyes of more than one mother, as we loaded bikes and bags of gifts into their cars.

But there was one mother, in particular, that I will never forget. As we loaded two pink bikes and two very large bags of toys and clothes into her car, she put her hands to her face and started to cry. Still sobbing, she got out of her car, and hugged me and said, "I don't know what to say - all my girls wanted were bikes and I knew I wouldn't be able to get them, and now you've given us all these toys, and clothes, and bikes too!" She kept repeating, "Thank you, thank you" to all of the volunteers around us. Still crying tears of joy, she got back into her car and said, "You've all been such a blessing" and I told her, "No, you're the blessing to us - Merry Christmas". As she drove away, I heard the other volunteers say, "Now, that's what it's all about" and "That was worth all the hard work." I thought to myself, helping others really is what this season is all about."

If you were a part of this year's Angel Tree efforts, you have already received your blessings and thanks, but I want to add mine. . . .THANK YOU. *Phyllis*

From the application process to the distribution of gifts, SAWA members contributed to the success of the 2009 Angel Tree Program

Special Thanks and Recognition to these coordinators:

Brenda Warnock, who volunteered hours in the background entering all Angel information in the computer, printing all the Angel Tags, generating countless computer lists and keeping us all organized!

Sue Tolbert and Linda Renfroe, who recruited volunteers to man the Pemberton Square Mall Angel Tree from November 14 –December 13. That's about 220 volunteer hours to fill.

A word from Sue: Thanks to everyone who sat at the Angel Tree table at Pemberton Mall. I really appreciate the spirit of cooperation and the numerous volunteers who called and said "what time do you need me?" The winner for the number of volunteer hours again this year is Samestine Adams.

Thank you so much. Sue Tolbert

Pearl Carter, Stocking Coordinator, and her helpers who worked countless hours to insure that each Angel Tree child and 200+ Senior Angels would receive stockings filled to the brim! Stockings were distributed to and collected from schools, churches, and organizations and then organized, and over 1,000 stockings distributed. (Extra stockings and toys were given to Good Shepherd.) Pearl says we especially could not have been so "stockingly" successful without the sorting and organizing help of Linda Renfroe, Eva Vines, Kitty Haney, Rosa Bells, and Angela Carter. She also says to forgive her if she missed anyone.

Jo Beth Britt, who was the "Senior Angel" Coordinator...from contacting the nursing homes to sorting and distributing the gifts, Jo Beth's love for these special angels is evident. Thanks to Cheryl Lloyd for her hours of sorting and organizing assistance too! Thanks also, Jo Beth, for the expert parking lot team!

Trudy James, who was the "Distribution Day" Coordinator, worked with the Vicksburg Police, in the cold parking lot all day, and all week assisting in *every way*

Linda Renfroe, who was the "Warehouse Team" Coordinator and the "Bike Coordinator" on Distribution Day....and gave many hours in other efforts as well.

Lt. Jo Ann, whose calm, encouraging spirit kept us all going . . . Thank you so much for your hard work, late hours, direction, support, and bright smile!

To these Auxiliary members who worked at the Distribution Center during the Organization and Distribution Days, December 14 – 17: (My apologies if anyone is omitted) Rosa Bells, Jo Beth Britt, Pearl Carter, Gwen and Earl Edris, Carolyn Fugler, Tina and Dick Grau, Dot Griffin, Kitty and Howard Haney, Trudy James, Kathy Jones, Jean and Stan McAlpin, Judy Monroe, Mary Pope, Phyllis Renfro, Linda Renfroe, Martha Roberts, Ann Sherlock, Pat and Robert Tisdale, Sue Tolbert, and Brenda Warnock.

And all glory be to God “who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us,” our gratitude for answered prayers, generous hearts, and willing spirits. Ephesians 3:20

I am thankful to work with such a dedicated and inspiring group!

Phyllis

Social Services

At last month's meeting Brian Leonard reported that 6 men, 11 women, and 5 families were helped in November. 867 meals were served, 18 families were helped with groceries, and Christmas for the family of one prisoner was taken care of in November.



Thrift Store Reminder

New Year Resolutions bring lots of decluttering and closet/drawer purging, and it's a perfect time to donate those unwanted items to the Thrift Store. Members are reminded that donations of garments and household items are always needed, as are shoppers. 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.) Tell your friends and neighbors! For pickups, call 601-636-2769.



The Salvation Army
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