



# VICKSBURG SAWA NEWS



## The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Vicksburg, Mississippi

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### Calendar of Events

- May 1 - SAWA Meeting (noon)
- May 9 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. Mission 66 Diner Meal
- May 30 – June 2 – Soccer Camp/ VBS (9 – 4)
- June 5 - SAWA Meeting (noon)
- Membership Meeting & Potluck Luncheon (noon)
- June 13 - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues. Mission 66 Diner Meal
- July 10 - SAWA Meeting (noon)
- Aug. 7 - SAWA Meeting (noon)
- Sep. 11- SAWA Meeting (noon) & Potluck Luncheon (noon)
- Oct. 10 – Soup & Sandwich Luncheon Fund Raiser



### Contact Us

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

### Or Email:

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Facebook: Salvation Army Womens Auxiliary of Vicksburg, MS

### President's Message

Welcome May!

Memorial Day: Let's remember the men and women who died while serving in the U. S. armed forces.

The countdown is on for Graduations, from elementary school, high school to colleges. As you travel to and from graduations, be safe and enjoy. We extend our heartfelt thoughts of faith and hope for your graduate's future.

Mother's Day comes just once a year. Some people think that if they buy their mother flowers and a card, that they have satisfied their obligation for the rest of the year. If we only understood a portion of what our mothers did for us as children, and how they would literally die of us if needed, we would realize that one day is not enough. Mother's Day should be a time to remind us that we have been neglecting our duties as sons and daughters. This relationship is priceless — honor our mothers.

### Thank God for Mother's Love

There is no love, like a mother's love,  
no stronger bond on earth...  
like the precious bond that comes from God,  
to a mother, when she gives birth.  
A mother's love is forever strong,  
never changing for all time...  
and when her children need her most,  
a mother's love will shine.  
God bless these special mothers,  
God bless them every one...  
for all the tears and heartache,  
and for the special work they've done.  
When her days on earth are over,  
a mother's love lives on...  
through many generations,  
with God's blessings on each one.  
Be thankful for our mothers,  
for they love with a higher love...  
from the power God has given,  
and the strength from up above.

~Anonymous~



**Serving together,  
Trudy James**

**2016 - 2018 SAWA Officers and Committee Chairmen**

- Trudy James – President
  - Martha Roberts – 1st Vice Pres. (Membership Chair)
  - Kamace Priest – 2nd Vice Pres. (Publicity Chair)
  - Carrie Callender – Secretary
  - Barbara Cashman – Treasurer
  - Mary Barnes - Chaplain
  - Carrie Callender – Nominating Committee Chair
  - Patricia Wines – Finance Committee Chair
  - Jo Beth Britt – Affairs of the Heart
  - Judy Monroe – 2014-17 - Soup & Sandwich Chairmen; Jacque Henley and Pat Wines, Co-Chairmen
  - Silent Auction Co-Chairmen: Tina Grau (2009-17) & Martha Roberts (2013-16)
  - Kamace Priest – Christmas Angel Tree Coordinator
  - Louise Derrington – Vicksburg Mall Angel Tree Coordinator
  - Harriet Gray – Hospitality Com. Chair
- ❖
- Tina Grau – Newsletter

**Facebook: Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Vicksburg, MS**

**Salvation Army Office:**

Mon – Fri. 9:00 – noon; 1:00 - 4:00

(office closed daily from noon - 1:00 for lunch)

◆ *Remind your neighbors that The Salvation Army still **NEEDS** clothing, linens, household items and rags! Please **VOLUNTEER** a few hours a week at the former **Mission 66 Family Store** organizing for **Rummage Sales. THANK YOU!!***



**May Meeting Theme: Mother's Love**

Proverbs 31:25 She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

Proverbs 31:29 "There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!"

Members are asked to bring snacks for our June Soccer Camp such as fruit chews, nabs, bags of chips, pretzels, or cookies. Towels and socks are also needed for the kids.

**Mission 66 Diner 2nd Tuesday Meal**

On April 11<sup>th</sup> Linda Carey, Mary Galtney, Tina Grau, Judy Monroe and Martha Roberts served lunch at the diner to about 35 people. The meal served was chicken spaghetti (supplied by Barbara Cashman and Judy Monroe), green beans, rolls with butter and brownies for dessert. GREAT JOB, CREW!



More Diner teams or team members are always needed and welcome!



**Kicks for Hope Soccer Camp**

The annual Kicks for Hope Soccer camp will be held, 30 May – 2 June (9am until noon). Triumph Church on Honeysuckle Lane has volunteered again this year to conduct Vacation Bible School (1pm until 4pm).

**We are still in need of adult volunteers**, and snacks (fruit chews, nabs, packages of chips, pretzels, cookies, etc., juice boxes), as well as socks and towels.

**Office and Family Store Volunteer Thanks**

Thanks to our April office volunteers: Del Harris-Minor, Peggy Simpson-Mosley, Patricia Wright. An Office Volunteer Coordinator is needed; please contact Trudy James at 601-415-2994 if you can fill this position.



Thanks to any Auxiliary members who volunteered in the Thrift Store during April: Jo Ann Burke, Louise Derrington, Rosemary Fairchild, Tina Grau, Mattie Robinson and Sue Tolbert. More volunteers are needed to sort the mountains of donations that have piled up over the past few months. **PLEASE COME BY AND DONATE A COUPLE OF HOURS!**



## Book Bag Drive

A Chair and Co-chair for the Book Bag Drive are still needed. This project already is well organized with a project folder to guide chairpersons along the way. Please be in prayerful consideration for new leaders. Many helping hands willing to shoulder the workload will go a long way to getting this project off the ground and executed successfully.

## Soup and Sandwich Fundraiser

The Soup and Sandwich, Bake Sale and Silent Auction will be on October 10 with Set up and cooking day on October 9. Place these dates on your calendar and be ready for our July meeting to volunteer for helping. I look forward to a great fundraiser again. Our volunteers are the BEST!

Judy Monroe



## Major Thanks

Major and I would like to thank all who volunteer in any of the areas in the Army programs. We could not do what we do without your help. Thank you whether at the desk, the thrift store, soccer, Christmas, school supplies, youth activities, minutes, newsletters or any programs I have not mentioned. Thank you. My hat is off to those who continue to help for days or weeks on end and for your years of service.. Please know that you are important and very much appreciated.

## The 25th Annual Letter Carriers' Stamp Out Hunger® Food Drive

—Saturday, May 13, 2017—

The Salvation Army will be participating in this mail food drive.

## Thrift/Rummage Store News

RAG BALES WERE SOLD TO RECYCLER! Hiring of a store manager is eminent. PROGRESS! Volunteers to sort the mountains of donations are desperately needed — VOLUNTEER NOW! Come in any week day between 10 am and 3 pm.



## Aging Membership Strategy

As our population ages, so does the membership of most nonprofits and associations. We know that, intellectually, yes, but the real impact can sneak up on an organization: One day, you're humming along just fine — and the next, planning a major event, you look around for volunteers and realize that your pool of active members is shrinking.

Have you been doing any “succession planning” to avoid that sudden shortfall?

Who will step up, in your nonprofit, as those older members begin to step down?

Cause-and-effect of an aging membership is shown very clearly in organized sports. And that's not surprising. After all, many **sports associations** operate with a structure that's defined by age as much as by skill, at least in the amateur ranks. And if fewer youngsters get involved at the earliest entry level, there are fewer players to move up to the higher-profile competitive leagues that drive public support for the sport, and thus less incentive for new players to come into the organization... It's the proverbial “vicious cycle” with a downhill slide.

But what about other types of not-for-profit organizations?

Professional associations, shared-interest groups, volunteer-driven community service groups, and a host of other nonprofit organizations are facing similar issues with an aging membership, declining recruitment, and shrinking volunteer pools — each group in its own arena, and each with its own particular challenges for succession planning.

Friends involved with **arts organizations** say they're seeing the effects of an aging membership in lower turn-outs for meetings, less active participation in exhibits and other special events, and — no doubt a sign of these tough economic times, as well as of declining activity from senior members — a drop in the money coming in to the organization through event registrations, studio fees, and membership dues. (Some of the older members of a local writers' group are dropping back from “professional” to lower-cost “associate” membership level, for example, and scaling back their volunteer roles to match.) Meanwhile, younger members of the arts community are simply not signing up in the same numbers as the earlier generation, yet they're badly needed to take up the slack if these groups are to remain active.

Meanwhile, new **start-up charities** have a double challenge, it seems to me. They're trying to generate support and build a membership from zero, with all the challenges that other charity groups face — but without the track record, the public profile, and perhaps a certain “cachet” that more established groups may have on their side in recruiting new members. Would it make sense for a start-up to direct its efforts to recruiting a youthful membership to begin with, knowing that it, too, is likely to be affected by the aging membership issue in the fullness of time?

For self-help communities and **support groups**, it might be argued that the recruitment challenge is not always quite so pressing, as membership is tied closely to need for support? (I'm thinking here of a local Alzheimer's support group, for example: members stay on as long as they're in need of the group's services, and, sadly, there's no shortage of new members when every day brings a new diagnosis and another family in need of support.) But is this natural membership renewal reflected in the pool of volunteers, the “interested others” who are so urgently needed to keep the programs running? My guess is that an injection of youthful energy would be welcome there, too.

So, here are two questions that **nonprofits of all types** might want to take a moment to consider:

- Do we have a “succession plan” in place, to ensure the long-term strength of our membership?
- What steps can our nonprofit take, to attract younger members?
- How can our programs be adapted, in the short term, to work more effectively with an aging membership and/or smaller volunteer pool?

Odds are that these or similar questions will crop up at our nonprofit board meetings, again and again, in the months ahead. Please give some thought to our own particular challenges (and hopefully, open some discussions on the subject). How can we ease the long-term effects of an aging membership? Please bring your ideas to any officer.



**The Salvation Army**  
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