



## VICKSBURG SAWA NEWS

The Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary of Vicksburg, Mississippi

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### Calendar of Events

- Oct. 5 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
- Oct. 12 – Soup & Sandwich Prep Day
- Oct. 13 – Soup & Sandwich Lunch,  
Silent Auction & Bake Sale
- Oct. 19-22 – Angel Tree Application  
Intake at The Citadel
- Nov. 2 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
- Nov. 19 – Angel Tree Kick-Off
- Dec. 5 – Angel Tree App. Make-Up
- Dec 7 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
- Dec 14-15– **Day of Caring** (work days sorting)
- Dec. 15-16 – Angel Tree (shop/final prep)
- Dec. 17 – Angel Tree Distribution
- Jan. 4, 2010 (noon)– SAWA Meeting
- Feb. 1 (noon) – SAWA Meeting
- Mar. 1 (noon) – SAWA Meeting



### Contact Us

<http://salvationarmyvicksburg.org>

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

### Or Email:

[renfros@bellsouth.net](mailto:renfros@bellsouth.net) or

[TJames@canufly.net](mailto:TJames@canufly.net)

### *From the President's Desk*

#### *Treasures in an Old Box*



I peeked into the box. File folders, plastic bags filled with yellowed newspaper clippings, a scrapbook with pages hardened and brittle with time, and photos darkened and fragile -- that's what was in the "found" box. It had been "lost," or at least not available, for quite a few years. As I took out its contents, I realized the old box was indeed a "treasure box". For this was a box full of history. Not a complete history, but glimpses of the birthing of a new organization formed by women with a desire to serve the needs of their community. The clippings, photos, and letters document the beginning of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary in Vicksburg, Mississippi. By following the details of the letters and newspaper articles, it is evident that when Mrs. Major Sam Crowder suggested the formation of a Women's Auxiliary to aid in the work of the Salvation Army, the community joined in with enthusiasm. The organizational meeting was held on September 27, 1976 at the Citadel, which was on Locust St. in the Duff Green Mansion. From that date on, it seems that the women of the Salvation Army Auxiliary have never stopped.

Thirty ladies formed that first group. After only a couple of months, they held a membership tea in the Mansion and displayed more than 300 dolls which had been purchased by the Salvation Army, and then dressed in beautiful outfits by ladies of Vicksburg. These dolls were distributed during the Christmas season to families along with food baskets. That 1976 "doll show" began the event which eventually became the "Doll Auction" held in conjunction with the yearly Soup & Sandwich Lunch. Through the years, the simple dolls of 1976 became elegantly dressed beauties in handmade dresses which were auctioned to an eager public, ending in 2002.

The founding members, who worked to establish this Auxiliary Chapter, may not have realized the enduring effect their efforts would have on this community. They may not have realized that the example they set would inspire hundreds of other women to serve in the same way. They probably did have, though, the vision of the thousands of men, women, and children who would be helped physically, economically, and spiritually through the work of the Salvation Army and the volunteers of the Auxiliary.

Looking through the "Treasure Box" and some files of "treasured members" has opened my eyes to the rich history and the inspiring

**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



**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!**

legacy we have. The record of service and dedication of 33 years is amazing. Just think of the thousands of families aided, the children who had toys on Christmas, the elderly who were visited, the stranded travelers, the abandoned, the hungry, the disaster victims, the destitute, and indeed the lost souls, who have not only had physical needs met, but spiritual as well.

Fundraising efforts have evolved over these 33 years. The Annual Soup & Sandwich Fundraiser has grown from the small lunch cooked and served at the Citadel to the 600+ being served today. The Bake Sale has always been a part of the S&S event it seems, but grows bigger each year. In 2002, the Silent Auction was added to the S&S list of events and has grown in size and popularity each year.

The Vicksburg Historical Christmas Ornament Project began in 1989 with the sale of the first ornament which depicted the Old Court House Museum, Planters Hall and the MS River Bridges. New designs were produced every year from 1989 – 2006 (15 different ornaments). This was a labor intensive project, but proved to be not only a successful fundraiser, but created public awareness of the mission and programs of the Auxiliary and the Salvation Army.

More recent additions to the fundraising efforts such as the Spring Luau (2007 & 2008) and the “Soles for Souls” project evidence the inventive and progress oriented modern SAWA.

I hope that we can save the bits of the Auxiliary history that we have, restore some of the damaged photos, secure other documents, and archive them safely.

The October Soup & Sandwich Event is the 30<sup>th</sup> such fundraiser for the Vicksburg SAWA. Several of our present members have been involved in this project for many years. There are two I want to mention here and the others to recognize at the October meeting. “Miss Gladys” Bingham has been strictly supervising (and taste testing) the soup preparation for more years than she can remember – estimate 25 years! “Miss Dot” Steen has been the master chef of the pimento cheese for 30 years according to my sources. Now if those ladies’ dedication does not inspire us...what will?

Now, inspired by our predecessors, let’s continue their legacy and make this S&S the biggest, the best, in order to “Serve Up Hope” to increasing numbers of people who need it.

“Love cannot remain by itself -- it has no meaning.  
Love has to be put into action, and that action is service. ”  
Mother Teresa

Serving together,  
Phyllis

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## October Meeting: Harvest of Hope

Matthew 25:37-40 – Jesus tells us to feed the poor and give drink to the thirsty. He says that what we do for the least of his people we do for him.



Since there is a continuing urgent need to help those in our community who are struggling to feed their families during these harsh times, let's "shower" our Food Pantry at our October meeting. The Food Pantry needs dry goods such as: big boxes/bags of rice, beans, dry milk, instant potatoes, multi-packs of macaroni & cheese, hamburger helper, etc. However, if you wish to bring canned goods, these too can always be used. [According to Kathy Jones, County Market has the best prices on these boxed goods.].



## September Volunteers

Thanks to the following members who helped out during August and especially to Office and Pantry Workers Coordinator Jean McAlpin:

**Office Assistants:** Gladys Bingham, Barbara Cashman, Lillian Lee, Cheryl Lloyd, Nancy MacNeil, Judy Monroe, Gloria Naylor, Chris Patin, Clara Parks Pinkston, Dot Steen, Sue Tolbert

**Thrift Store Helpers & Food Pantry Baggers:** List of volunteers was unavailable, but you know who you are. Realize that your service has touched the lives of others in need.

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## Soup & Sandwich Luncheon

Soup & Sandwich, Silent Auction, and Bake Sale Chairmen: Please plan to stay for an Event Planning meeting after adjournment of the regular meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>.



**Sue Tolbert, Soup & Sandwich Chairman**



## Soup & Sandwich Tickets

**Great News** -- more soup is being made and more tickets have been printed! If you turned in your unsold tickets or need more tickets, we have 100 tickets to sell. You are doing a wonderful job this year. Keep spreading the word that we have more tickets, but they won't last long. We need them sold by next week! Please contact any businesses or friends you have not called, and encourage them to support the Salvation Army. If you need tickets, I will be glad to get them to you. Phone Kathy at 601-638-5931 or 601-529-8500 or email jonesmil@bellsouth.net. Phone Brenda Warnock at 601-831-0279. It would be amazing if we sell 750 tickets this year. Remember the more tickets we sell, the more people will come in to buy auction and bake sale items. **Reminder:** Please bring your ticket money to Monday's meeting so that we can finalize tickets sales. Thanks for doing such a great job!

**Kathy Jones, Tickets**

## Silent Auction

Please bring in ALL remaining donated Silent Auction items to the **October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting**. If you have tabletop display easels we could borrow for use while setting up/conducting Silent Auction sale items, please label with your name and bring to Monday's meeting. Shopping bag donations are also needed. **THANK YOU ladies for your outstanding efforts in making this a successful endeavor!**



**Tina Grau, Silent Auction Chairman**



## Bake Sale

Proceeds from the Bake Sale are very important to the overall success of our Soup & Sandwich fundraiser. A sign-up sheet will again be available. Cakes, cupcakes, cookies (packaged 2 or 3 to a bag), brownies, breads, muffins, pies – any homemade baked goods are needed. Please label with description of baked item and price appropriately. Ask friends, neighbors, church groups and co-workers to help, too! **ALL BAKED GOODS NEED TO BE AT CRAWFORD STREET CHURCH WESLEY HALL ON MONDAY, OCT. 12<sup>th</sup>.**

**Eva Vines, Bake Sale Chairman**

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## Senior Angels

Each year our senior angels always need some of the same items. The following are always welcome gifts for seniors: Large-print Bibles or Bibles on CD; white or black men's tube socks, size 9-12; men or ladies bedroom slippers, size 9-12; lap blankets or twin-size blankets; CD players; CDs of Christmas, blues, gospel or country music. Please try to collect, label items for Senior Angels 2009, and bring items you wish to donate to a monthly meeting or drop them off at the office (to be stored in our Chapel closet). If you have any questions, call Jo Beth Britt, 601-638-8952 or email [jbbr.seren.shel@usa.net](mailto:jbbr.seren.shel@usa.net).

## Angel Tree Stockings

Stockings are now available at the Citadel, or you may bring items to stuff stockings. Senior citizens, infant to two-yr-olds, and older boys and girls are the most needed ages for filled stockings.

**Pearl Carter, Christmas Stocking Chairman**



## Apron Order

SAWA Aprons have been ordered and will be available at the Soup & Sandwich (*I hope!*)

**Phyllis**

## Social Services

At last month's meeting, Brian Leonard, gave this statistical social services report for the month of August: 22 cases (47 people) given food bags and clothing, 33 of these were first time clients; 880 meals served; 20 grocery orders filled; 148 clothing items; energy assistance provided for 6 cases.



Lt. JoAnn reported that 138 children attended VBS at the Citadel in August.



**The Salvation Army**  
PO Box 1166  
Vicksburg, MS 39182-1166