

Auxiliary group moving forward

The Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1528 met on March 22 at the Cheyenne Manor. There were six members present: Connie Rooney, Marlys Poulignot, Hattie Terry, Ruth Moore, Carol Connett and Wanda Dowdy. President Rooney called the meeting to order and members had the opening ceremonies. Marlys led in the opening prayer.

President Rooney read the communication from the March mailer. Department president Jeanette Cox had written that district meetings are just around the corner and there will be elections taking place at that meeting. Another item that she emphasized was the need for more members and getting members more active in the service organization.

"We know how busy members are, but we have many veterans and many servicemen who need our help and the Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is one way that we can serve these men and women who have and are giving so much for our freedoms in this country," she said.

The Veteran's History Project was again discussed. The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war. The project collects firsthand accounts of U.S. Veterans from the following wars: World War I (1914-1920); World War II (1939-1946); Korean War (1950-1955); Vietnam War (1961-1975); Persian Gulf War (1990-1995) Afghanistan and Iraq conflicts (2001-present).

In addition, those U.S. citizen civilians who were actively involved in supporting war efforts (such as war industry workers, USO workers, flight instructors, medical volunteers, etc.) are also invited to share their valuable stories.

Veterans History Project

The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000. The authorizing legislation (Public Law 106-380), sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind, Amo Houghton and Steny Hoyer in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Max Cleland and Chuck Hagel in the U.S. Senate, received unanimous support and was signed into law by President William Jefferson Clinton on Oct. 27, 2000.

These stories can be sent in by audio recordings or video recordings of interviews or by written recordings of these servicemen or servicewomen. These need to be sent by UPS or FedEx to the library of congress.

How to Participate in the Project

Participant Resources: About Partners; Fieldkit Companion Video (RealAudio); Eagle Scout Leadership Project; Hosting Community Events; List of Founding Partners.

A participant may be a veteran, an interviewer, or person donating a veteran's collection (learn more about what is collected). Students in the 10th grade and above may also participate and there are special resources for educators and students.

Five Easy Steps

Steps include: Register using online form; Print the Veterans History Project Field Kit (required forms); Prepare for the interview; Conduct the interview; send your collection to the Library of Congress (keep a copy for yourself!).

For more information about this project go to: <http://www.loc.gov/vets/kit.html>

Wanda Dowdy showed her folder of information that she is sending regarding her late husband, Marvin. Anyone can contact her if they would like some more information about this project and do not have access to a computer. Her phone number is (785) 734-2383.

Members also discussed about putting together a journal about Post 1528 Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary's history. The post was organized in 1944-45. There were 200 in the room when it was organized. Connie Rooney will look up the old records that she has stored and bring them to the next meeting.

The following officers were elected: Connie Rooney, president; Marlys Poulignot, senior vice president; Dot Hill, junior vice president; Wanda Dowdy, secretary/treasurer; Elsie Cook, chaplain; Ruth Moore, conductor; Carol Connett, guard/patriotic instructor; Marlys Poulignot, historian; Dot Hill, cancer chairman; Ruth Moore, poppy chair; Elsie Cook, photos; Hattie Terry, Carol Connett and Dot Hill, trustees.

Cancer insurance is again due. This was collected and Wanda will send out postcards again to those who cannot or do not attend meetings.

There was a discussion of some new projects for this year. Mrs. Rooney will check with the Brownie leader to see how members can help them for the youth project for this year.

Connie had received a dollar for the growing dollar project and members will decide in the future what program to use this for. She has \$10 to add to this dollar and will report this at the District meeting.

As there was no more business, members had the closing prayer and Mrs. Rooney gave the closing remarks. The next meeting is on April 19 at Ruth Moore's home.

Anyone who is eligible to become a member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Veterans of Foreign Wars is encouraged to join members at the next meeting to help as they meet and strive to help Veterans and servicemen and women who are serving to protect this country and preserve freedoms that are enjoyed



WHEN OLDSIDING was removed, current owner, Travis Milne found the lettering from an old business. Now more answers are being found about the Tower Laundry that used to operate on College Street.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Mystery of building comes to light

In the Jan. 7 issue of *The Saint Francis Herald*, a picture of a building with "Tower Laundry" painted on the gable, appeared. The building, located on College Street, was being resided and when the old siding came down, it exposed the sign.

The caption under the photo asked if people knew anything about the laundry... when it was built and who owned it. There

were several people who had guesses and some believed that it must have been put in when Bonny Dam was built but there was nothing positive.

Then, last week, Nola Burrus, while looking through some old clippings in a February 1949 *Herald* found that M.E. Stover was building the Tower Laundry and it would offer a brand new service to the community.

It apparently opened in March because in the May 5, 1949, issue of *The Herald*, on the front page, there was an article which stated that Mr. Stover had sold the laundry to Mr. and Mrs. Guy Strickland of Williamsburg, Kan.

The article went on to read that the laundry offered self-service facilities along with regular laundry services.

Mr. Strickland, the article said, had been in St. Francis learning the operations of the plant. Prior to coming to St. Francis, he had been in the construction business.

The Stricklands had three children, ranging from 16 to 9 years of age.

At this point, it is unknown how long it was open and/or if it sold again.

Spring good time to clean out freezer

Warm, sunny days are known to prompt spring cleaning. In addition to vacuuming, dusting and scrubbing, Karen Blakeslee, a Kansas State University Research and Extension food scientist, recommends cleaning appliances, such as the family's freezer.

She provided tips for defrosting and cleaning a freezer:

- Refer to the owner's manual for the appliance, if possible. In general, defrost a manual defrost freezer regularly and/or when ice of about 1/4-inch thick is on the walls.
- Transfer frozen food to insulated coolers or the refrigerator to keep it cold before unplugging the freezer and opening the door to allow the ice to melt.
- Place a towel in the bottom of the freezer to help absorb water.
- Once the ice is melted and the freezer is frost free, wipe the interior with a solution of one tablespoon baking soda dissolved in one quart of water. Then wipe surfaces clean with fresh water and dry with a clean towel.
- Make sure the freezer's interior is clean and dry (and the floor around the freezer dry) before the appliance is plugged in. Allow at

least 30 minutes for it to cool before inventorying and returning food to the freezer.

- Check frozen foods for freezer burn or other condition issues, and discard foods that should not be eaten.
- Label and date foods re-

turned to the freezer and use them first.

Ms. Blakeslee also recommends a periodic cleaning of a freezer that defrosts automatically. Follow the directions above for removing and storing frozen food; cleaning and rinsing

the interior; and drying it before returning food to the freezer.

More information about maintaining food quality and appliances in the home is available at K-State Research and Extension office at 785-332-3171 and online: www.ksre.ksu.edu.



WANTED Bird City Times Associate Editor

Looking for an energetic person, living in the Bird City area. The applicant must have some computer, writing and some photography skills, get along well with customers, be able to cover meetings, school activities and other happenings within the communities of Bird City and McDonald.

To apply or for more information, contact Casey McCormick or Karen Krien at the St. Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

Kansas Press 2010 Award of Excellence

Congratulations Karen Krien

Third Place!
Feature Photo
by Karen Krien



HANGIN' ON TIGHT — Coby Tice, St. Francis, was hanging on for dear life as he rode the mutton out of the gate on Wednesday night of the fair.