



The Sunflower Leaflet

Serving the Military Community of Johnson and Wyandotte Counties of Kansas Dec 2011

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Sunflower Chapter members:

This is a special edition of the Sunflower Leaflet newsletter depicting our chapter's activities and community service projects during the 2011 calendar year.

The activities included manning a water station during the **OZ Marathon in April**, displaying approximately **sixty US flags** on holidays from May through November, **scholarship awards** for the University of Kansas ROTC cadets and midshipman and finishing in December when four members volunteered as **Salvation Army bell ringers** in front of Walmarts in Overland Park collecting approximately \$475.00.

Chapter outings included attending the **Kansas City T-Bones** game at the Community America Ballpark in May and the Chapter **breakfast on Veterans Day** at HyVee in November,

"**Give Us Help ... Help Us Learn**" became a special project for the chapter. Members collected numerous school books and student supplies from the Johnson County area. These items were delivered to the 87th Street Armory for pickup by Gary LaGrange. Our chapter sent him the proceeds from our monthly dinner's 50/50 drawing to help defray the cost of packaging and shipping these items to Afghanistan.

Our guest speakers spoke about **estate planning, gardening, World War I museum displays, B-17 pilot's experiences** as a prisoner of war in WW II, and a **B-24 pilot's tales of flying** in the Pacific theater.

All in all, it was an exciting year to be a member of the Sunflower Chapter and 2012 offers the same. The chapter offered volunteer opportunities in Johnson County and even has two of Chapter members serving on the Kansas Council of MOAA Chapters.

Our first guest speaker on Jan 17 is the former **Chief of Nurses** in **Kabul, Afghanistan in 2003**. She will present a slide show of her service in Afghanistan. Next, the board is planning a **Sunday brunch** for our February meeting. So watch for Chapter news, your suggestions, comments and, most of all, **your participation is welcomed and encouraged**.



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KU ROTC AWARDS PRESENTED ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

Three scholarships, worth \$1,000.00 each, were presented to KU ROTC winners at the Sunflower Chapter's September 20th scholarship dinner. Kevin McNellis made the presentations on behalf of the Chapter's Sunflower Foundation. KU ROTC representatives attending were from the US Army, CPT Erick Young; for the US Air Force, Lt Col Montaque Samuel; and LT Janet Broome for the US Navy. A surprise visitor was Mrs. Sonia Post who flew in from Virginia to celebrate with her daughter, Cadet Cassandra Post.

US Army ROTC
Cadet Garret Moe.



US Navy ROTC Midshipman
Tiendung (Tito) Huynh



US Air Force ROTC
Cadet Cassandra Post





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OLATHE "OZ MARATHON" SATURDAY APRIL 16, 2011

Twelve chapter members and Bob Zurcher's son Ken braved the windy cold weather to support the Olathe marathon for the third year. We set up at 06:00, the full and half marathon started at 07:00, and we departed at 07:30 with our job done. Jim Kelly led the chapter team. Thanks Jim, you did a great job. The chapter will miss your strong leadership. Good luck to you and Jane in Florida.





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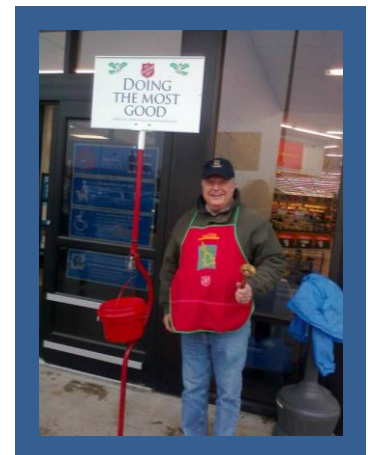
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VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST & US FLAG DISPLAY ON METCALF AVE **FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2011**



From left to right Mark Naster, Bob Zurcher, Sam Malsbary, Pat Murphy, Kevin McNellis, Harry Malnicof, George Beiler, & Ernie Torok.

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGERS **SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3**



COL (R) Larry Schmidt



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NOVEMBER 15 GUEST SPEAKER, LTC (R) LEONARD PORTER



From left to right Mark Naster, Ernie Torok, Sam Malsbary, & Robert Kobler



Mark Naster presenting Leonard Porter with a Chapter Certificate



LTC ® Leonard Porter presentation about flying a B-24 in the Pacific Theater in WWII