May 7, 2010

Janice Tobak Chairperson Women's Committee I.A.M.A.W. Local Lodge #873 258 Barstow Street Horicon, Wisconsin 53032

On May 1 the Women's Committee of Local #873 in Horicon, hosted an Open House at our union hall to raise monies to sponsor a <u>new born puppy</u> for the Guide Dogs of America from our local. We were very successful in our efforts and the check is in the mail. It was so successful that we are planning on holding this event yearly in the spring.

Here is the advertising poster we created and it was posted around the tri county area in businesses, at work, and also in area newspapers.



It was a fun filled rewarding day and I am sending you some pictures from the event. We had vendors and crafters on hand to sell their wares and held a brat fry and bake sale. All vendors and crafters donated an item for our raffle as well as many local businesses, and committee members. That is how we raised the monies. We had some awesome items on the raffle. The largest being a John Deere Gas Grill valued at over \$700.

Even though we were raising money for the puppy, we had the unique pleasure of having a blind woman in attendance from the area – Georgia Heisel with her guide dog "Dugan" that she received from an organization serving the blind here in Wisconsin (pictured below). Even though the dog was not through the Guide Dogs of America, we wanted everyone to see how remarkable these dogs really are. It is amazing how hard they work, and how dedicated they are to their partner.



Georgia and Dugan



Guests Shopping



Sisters Yolanda Pillsbury and Theresa Yuenger selling goodies.

Theresa will be attending the Basic Women's Training in July from our Local. Theresa will be instrumental in bringing on new members to the committee. She already has recruited four new members. She is a real go getter.

Yolanda is not only active on the Women's committee, but she is also on the E-board, Labor Council, and the Chairperson of the Legislative committee.



Sister Tera Peotter, who is one of our new members, is shown selling raffle tickets. You may also notice a picture of a young lady sitting on the table on the left. We were selling CD's of this woman's album. Her name is Corrie Carlson. Corrie is the daughter of a very dear friend of mine that I work with. Corrie is a Christian Pop Rock Artist whose platform is helping young girls who are struggling with everyday problems, and who have no self-esteem. You can hear Corrie's music for yourself at <u>www.myspace.com/corriecarlsonmusic</u> She is great......



Sister Marla Ryan's booth. We are so fortunate to have such a talented artist at our local and on our committee. We are also proud of our sister because she will be graduating on June 26 with high honors from the National Labor College with a degree in Safety and Health. Marla is also the Recording Secretary of our local, Editor of our newsletter, Webmaster, sits on the E-board and member of the organizing committee.



Our wall of raffle items





Sister Marilyn Rieman is retired from John Deere, but continues to be a member of our committee after her retirement. Marilyn was instrumental along with me and the Women's Committee back in 2004 in getting Contraceptive Equity here at John Deere in which we won an award from Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin. Marilyn is also the treasurer of our committee. She works part time and sells Mary Kay Cosmetics. She is also very active in the community, and volunteers endless hours of her time to many organizations.



This is our awesome committee with the winner of the grill. Members pictured (left to right) Tera Peotter, Marilyn Rieman, Theresa Yuenger, Amy Maliborski, Janice Tobak (Chairperson) Deb Bortz (Winner), Nikki Grauvogl, Amber Cundy, Marla Ryan, Barb Redmer, Yolanda Pillsbury, and Brian Brath (President of our Local).

Unfortunately one member is missing from the picture, Sister Deb Buege. Deb couldn't make it because of a death in her family. She was missed that day, but our thoughts were with her and her family.

Others members I did not mention are Sisters Amy Maliborski and Nikki Grauvogl. They are fairly new to the committee, and then there is our Sister Barb Redmer. Barb is on Permanent Disability at this time from her job at John Deere, but still is very active as a union member. She attends our monthly meetings and is always there to help out.



Last but not least......My sister Amber Cundy.....If it wasn't for her this whole thing wouldn't have gotten off the ground. Amber came up with the Open House idea when we were brainstorming on how to raise monies for the Guide Dog Puppy. Amber took this event and ran with it. She worked endless hours getting everything organized, and was instrumental in getting many raffle prizes along with the John Deere Gas Grill. Amber is a champion when it comes to community service. She also set up our Adopt a Highway program. Amber is the scribe for our committee and is also one of the editors on our local's newsletter. Additionally, she is on the Scholarship and Organizing committees.

Our committee is very successful and main reason it is, is because we utilize everyone's strengths. This is a very unique group of individuals, and I am so proud of them. We even have a man on our committee, our local's President - Brian Brath who is very supportive of us.

I hope you find our fundraiser unique and interesting. It is a great way to raise monies and I hope other locals do the same.

In Solidarity, Janice