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thanksplainandsimple.org



THE ROSIE THE RIVETER PROGRAM: A MODEL FOR AMERICA

List and Photos of Projects to Help You Assure that America Captures and Makes Use of the Rosie Legacy

Help America follow the model that Rosies have set!

Do needed work.

Do quality work.

“Pull together.”

American women who worked on the Home Front during World War II have changed our nation and the world.

We at “Thanks!” have created many ways for people like you to help make America aware that we still have the precious opportunity to learn from these women, but they are fading fast. We must work quickly and, at the same time, we must do a good job with them.

We call these women “Rosies,” instead of Rosie the Riveters, because they did more than rivet airplanes. They worked in laboratories, welded ships, sewed clothing and parachutes, grew food for our troops, cut metal parts, inspected engine parts, worked for the FBI, kept records, and did much more.

We hope to guide you and other American to work with living Rosies to create projects that:

- Help Rosies leave things behind that tell us about the strength and importance of these women’s contribution to the past, present and future of America.
- Tell the valid and full story of the Rosies’ work during the war, how they pioneered the women’s movement, how they nurtured combat veterans after the war, and what oldest Americans are capable of today.
- Help Rosies contribute today - America has done little to educate with them in 70 years since the war.
- Help to pull America together again, with Rosies helping to guide us.

America must seize this moment for America. During World War II, 6,000,000 women worked on the home front. Women live longer than men, so there are more Rosies living than male veterans of World War II.

It’s a blessing to know Rosies. We have created the following projects so that you can use, replicate and add to them to assure that Rosies impact Americans now and in the future.

We have created these projects with the help of Rosies to show what Americans can “know a Rosie and keep America’s promise.” It takes commitment from many to show that Americans can – and *will* – pull together to honor and learn from these incredible women of “the Greatest Generation.”

We hope these projects inspire you to help us do what Rosies have done – pull America together, for us all.

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Pull America together again.

Do quality work with lasting meaning for America.

Show America the value of “Rosie the Riveters” before the last Rosie dies.

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List of Rosie the Riveter Projects with Photos

Presented Alphabetically, with Estimated Costs

1. Ads

Rosies read the newspaper. Ask your local paper to run an ad at no cost to you. Offer to give them a list of advertisers – companies in your community that you think will buy an advertisement.

If you worked on the home front doing anything to help the WWII efforts; Please call us. We want to hear your story.

HELP US FIND ROSIES

Jessie Jacobs
(A Rosie the Riveter)
Mother of Anne Montague
Executive Director
Thanks, Plain and Simple Inc.

Thanks! Plain and Simple, Inc.
Creating projects for America from West Virginia

The West Virginia Rosie the Riveter Project: A Model for America
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304-545-9818 (c)
thanksplainandsimple@earthlink.net
www.thanksplainandsimple.org

5313-F Carleton Ct.
Charleston, WV 25313

The Charleston Gazette ran this ad for us in 2009. I found us 14 Rosies in a week, and now , with people like you, we are launching a National Rosie the Riveter Movement.

Estimated cost to you: Only your time, unless you pay for the advertisement.

2. Allied Nations

Two Allied Nations – Britain and Belgium - have thanked American Rosies at our invitation. You can help us keep these important events going. Speeches by Allied Nations are historic, photos are priceless and community spirit is very high. Most of all, Rosies are honored, and they teach us what they know.

West Virginia Rosies Thanked by Allied Nations



**Garnet Kozielec greets
British Emissary
Major Anna Janes
2010**

**Mary Lou Maroney and
Gloria Farmer meet
Belgium Emissary
Lt. Col. Martine Diercx.
2009**



Estimated cost to you: Event costs for space, food, photographers, travel, etc. can be lessened by volunteers and donors, which takes time and coordination. Embassies usually pay for travel and lodging. Perhaps you can help us with a national event.

3. Art

A. by Rosies .

Edie Lyons painting another Rosie, Mary Lou Maroney. Edie worked in many locations during the war keeping records of construction, pilot trainees' performance and more. Mary Lou worked with medal for airplanes in Detroit, and then joined the Navy, making her a veteran.



B. by Children

Rachel and Esther Lovett are 6 and 8 years old and live in Buffalo, West Virginia.



C. by Artists (see Victory Garden)

D. by Cartoonists.

E. by a Cooperative Group.

See Display for the faceted-glass window which included Rosies for critical input, several photographers, a graphic designer, teens to make the window, and a carpenter to make the light box.

Estimated coat for your contribution: Sometimes artists sell their art, and sometimes they donate it. Maybe you can have a contest and give a prize for the best Rosie art, with permission to use it for training and education.

Be sure to get permission to use someone's art; if they are under 18, get their parent's permission.

4. Banners

Banners are a great way to remember an event. Be sure to leave enough white space for Rosies and the public to sign it, and keep it safe for a historic record.

A. The first park designed by Rosies'. It had room for only Rosies' signatures.

The First Rosie the Riveter Community Park in America
This Community's Rosies have done significant work to plan, design and find funding for this model park.

We Can Do It!
Saturday, May 26, 2012
Memorial Day Weekend
Welcome to the opening of the first Rosie the Riveter community park in America. It is designed to show, by example, that Rosie the Riveters can be significant players in how their own legacy is passed on to next generations. Time is very short. Your presence helps us seize this brief moment to honor Rosies in America.

Land given by St. Albans

British & American Veterans and Rosies playing in the

Rosies playing in the park

In memory of...
Nancy Sipple died April 9, 2012, without seeing the park she helped make real, and the Rosies, that we Americans forgot to acknowledge before they died.

Construction

Tying Past and Future Together

Rosies

I was at the park opening

Thanks! Plain and Simple, Inc
Creating the West Virginia Rosie the Riveter Project - it's a model for America

- B. A veteran looking at a banner. Notice the many signatures.



Estimated Cost for your contribution: Outside vinyl is best, and it is more expensive. Banners usually cost about \$450 for graphic design and printing. We often do them just before an event, using photos we have taken in preparation for the event; we then make sure they are at the door of the event for all Rosies and the public to sign.

5. Bluebirds for Rosies.

This project is very popular. Bluebirds are native to North America only, and they symbolized hope during the war, especially in many songs. After you have interviewed a Rosie, be sure to ask her to help hang the boxes if she can. You can put her name on the box – a wood burning stencil burns her name permanently into the nest box.

Be sure to keep a record of where you put the nest boxes, and clean them out every fall.

BLUEBIRDS FOR ROSIES PROJECT

Work with Rosies



Courtesy of Jennifer Henderson, MBS Board Member
Brunswick, Maryland's very own Rosie, Ruth Kloe Staples, installs one of the City's bluebird nest boxes with Mayor Karin Tome (right) and MBS President, Kathy Krennitzer.

Thanks! Plain and Simple (called "Thanks!") creates projects that do work that needs to be done in America. It tests its ideas and work, then shares its successes with America. An example is the Rosie the Riveter Project, which helps "Rosies" and their communities cooperate to do work that both improves America and teaches about Rosies' contributions during World War II.

Most Rosies have died, so we must seize this moment to work with living Rosies while we can. "Thanks!" gives people ways to work with Rosies to learn the fuller story of the war, women in the workforce, and how elderly persons help improve America.

During five years of work with living Rosies, "Thanks!" learned that bluebirds symbolized hope during World War II. After proving in West Virginia that Rosies and the public will work together to install bluebird nest boxes, "Thanks!" began working with Brunswick, Maryland, citizens, Maryland Bluebird Society (MBS), and nearby Rosies to inspire Americans to install nest boxes.

Save Bluebirds



Courtesy of Robert Haen
Eastern Bluebird

Brunswick was awarded the title of "The First Model Bluebird for Rosies City in America" on October 7, 2013, by "Thanks!". MBS supervised the installation of 18 nest boxes, and helpers included Ruth Staples, a Rosie. In Brunswick's City Park, you can see 2 nest boxes and their poles with baffles that deter predators.

Bluebird numbers have dramatically declined over 60 years. Pesticides, construction, and competitive species (English starlings and sparrows) decimated bluebirds. Until recently, they were even endangered species.

Because people are installing bluebird nest boxes, the bluebird population is now increasing. Yet your help is needed to preserve bluebirds and the Rosie legacy.



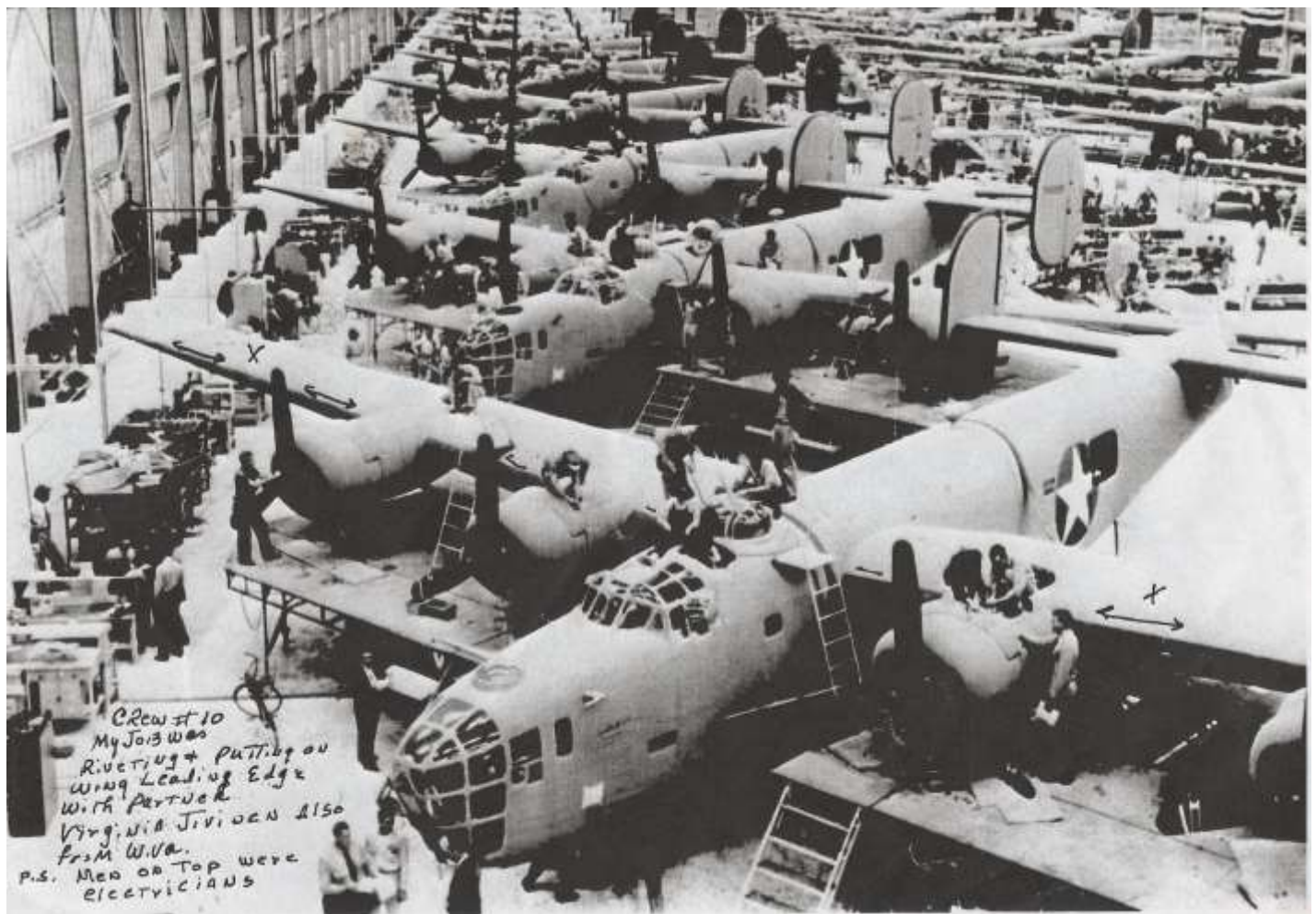
Courtesy of Douglas Jolley
Bluebird with Nest Box

Estimated cost for your contribution: Bluebird houses can be bought for about \$10.00 made in America. They must be put on metal poles so that snakes and cats can't climb inside – the Maryland Bluebird Society and the West Virginia Dept of Agriculture have helped us greatly.

6. Books

When you interview a Rosie, you can help her create a book that tells her story, the company where she worked, what was happening at home and on the front then, as well as other information that will help her leave her story meaningfully to others.

We are currently editing a book with 26 Rosies as contributors, which will be online soon. Here is one photo that Garnet Kozielec, who riveted airplanes in Michigan and in California, has contributed.



Estimated cost for your contribution. Your time and costs for copying.

7. CDS/DVDS (2 photos

These can consist of interviews, conversations between Rosies, and more. If you are a student, put the interview of your Rosie in your school, and ask us for a list of museums and libraries that will take your copies. Be sure to give the Rosie copies.

Estimated cost for your contribution. Your time, CDS or DVDs, and, possibly, a videographer.

8. Conserving

Nothing was wasted during the war – grease from cooking was recycled, rags were used to make quilts, skirts were shorter to save fabric, food was grown in home gardens when possible. Government-issued ration stamps limited food, clothing, gas, and more.

We are looking for a community to help us with a project where Rosies help to teach about conservation. See Victory Garden.

Estimated cost for your contribution: Costs should not be high for interviews and research.

9. Dance

The arts are a great way to pass Rosies' legacy to youth of the future. The girls in the St. Albans Dance Studio have a routine that they often perform in the Charleston, West Virginia area. Here, they are getting to know the Rosies. They have since performed this routine at several other venues.



Estimated cost for your contribution: Dance groups typically perform at no cost. Encourage them to get to know Rosies and to create a routine that tells her story.

10. Displays

Displays in public places can be powerful, and they should be done with pride. Two examples are:

A. Permanent Display:

Find a place with a large wall that many people see, such as a hotel or restaurant, and ask them to let you put in a permanent display of Rosie the Riveters. When you know the wall size, you can plan the design. At the Pullman Hotel in Huntington, West Virginia, we put photos of deceased Rosies from that community on the left, the history of Rosies in the center, and photos of Rosies active today on the right. In the middle we put original art work made of Blenko Glass. Everyone's happy—the public comes to see the display, Rosies are honored, the display educates others, and youth and civic organizations are recognized for their help.



Estimated cost for your contribution: \$1,500-2,800 depending on cost of artwork, photos and printing. Be sure to use good quality printing to show that you respect Rosies.

B. Mobile Display

Until you have your own photos of Rosies in your community, you can use ready-made posters. When you have photos of your communities' Rosies, enlarge them or have a copy center make posters that you can display almost anywhere (e.g. fairs, festivals, events, libraries and events that you hold).



Estimated Cost for your contribution: A good display will cost about \$350.00 for photos, posters and other printing. Lt. Col. Ceryl Johns, whose mother was a British Rosie whom we honored several times in America, is helping us plan displays for aeronautical museums.

11. Events

Large or small events are appreciated by Rosies and the public. Two examples are:

- A. Martin Luther King Day at a library allowed Gladys Reese to tell the story of what it was like for an African-America woman to work in a defense factory in the Detroit, Michigan area during the war. Elvin Campbell (far right), a veteran who grew up in Washington, DC, helped describe the changes she witnessed in America since she was a metal worker during the war. They both feel that (with the right projects) America will pull together around the Rosies. (Ask us for a recording of this event.)



B. Opening of the first community park designed by Rosies on May 26, 2012. In the center is Agnes Smith, a Rosie who operated an overhead crane in Baltimore, MD for a company that made piston rings for engines. The St. Albans Junior ROTC escorted the 18 Rosies that day.



Estimated costs for you to contribute: Costs vary with the event.

8. Film / Video

Video of Rosies can be of their interviews, of their work today, of events and more. Check our website at thanksplainandsimple.org for examples.

Our documentary film, called “We Pull Together: Rosie the Riveters Then and Now” was filmed by Tijah Bumbarner, who got a BFA in film at California School of the Arts.



Estimated cost for your contribution: Videographers fees vary from \$25-90 hr for taping and editing.

10. Health Education

Rosies are living examples of longevity. They care about a healthy America.



Maxine Marshall was an office worker in Baltimore, married a man who was taken as a prisoner of war at the Battle of the Bulge, and now helps Lions Clubs International teach diabetes prevention. She is diabetic and tells that the pig was the first animal used to make insulin. Also in the photo are Lora Hammack with the West Virginia Dept. of Agriculture, and her son Garrett, who helped raise the pig, which he named, "Rosie."

Estimated cost for you to contribute: Health fairs and events often welcome Rosies to speak up about taking care of yourself at no cost. (Be sure to practice with Rosies so that they and you can make the best presentation.)

11. Interviews

Interviews can be by the media, but don't rely on that. To assure accuracy, your education and America's need to save more Rosies' stories, conduct interviews of Rosies and get others to interview Rosies, as well. Be sure that interviews are recorded (digital

is best) and transcribed accurately. Veterans will often help you. Ask “Thanks!” for our questions, protocol and examples. Two of many Rosies we have interviewed are:

- A. Crena Anderson riveted cargo planes in Hagerstown, MD. She married a Pearl Harbor survivor and took care of other Pearl Harbor survivors. Here, she is being interviewed by the founder of “Thanks!”



- B. Janice Wright made Tiny Tim Rockets in South Charleston, WV. She married a radio operator who was in Japan when the atomic bomb was dropped. She is being interviewed by reporter Ben Caldwell.

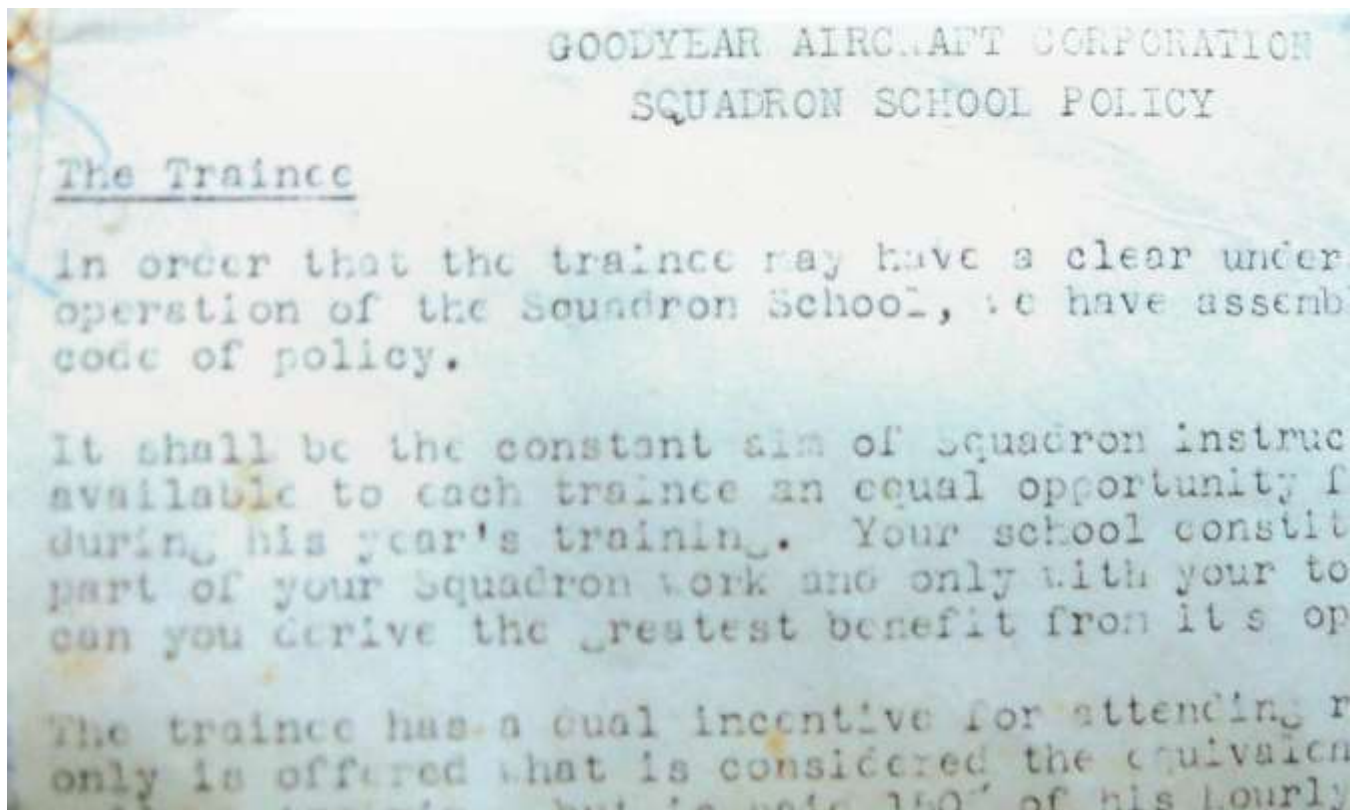


Estimated cost for you to contribute. Interviews and CDS or DVDs are inexpensive. (See above for filming costs).

12. Letters

In the interest of our historical record and in order to foster deeper understandings between people letters are very important. You can help find those from the past and write letters today to Rosies, leaders and others. Examples are:

- A. Letters written today by Rosies and their supporters. Examples are: Buddie Curnutte who wrote a post card to all female members of Congress; Maxine Marshall who wrote to US Senator Barbara Mikulski; Tim Wilson, a volunteer, who wrote to a US Senator; letters written by people to encourage “Thanks!” for our work with Rosies.
- B. Letters written during the war. These include love letters, V-mail that saved paper during the war (the paper was thin and the letter folded to make the envelope).



- C . Letters written to Rosies today. Letter writing is diminishing greatly in America. Please work with us to get people to write more letters.

Estimated cost for your contribution: Only your time, plus postage.

13 . Lesson Plans

You can help us by making suggestions to our lesson plans – we'll put them online soon.

Estimated cost for your contribution: Your time only.

No photo as yet – need a teacher and a classroom

14. Mannequin

Rosies will help you dress a Mannequin in clothing like she wore during the war. The mannequin can be displayed at events, at libraries that keep CDs/DVDs of interviews to be played or checked out, and for mobile displays. Don't forget to take photos!



Estimated cost for your contribution: We have found Mannequins online for about \$180, plus shipping. You might ask a clothing store for a mannequin they are discontinuing.

15. Marbles for Remembering

These small packets of red, white and blue marbles contain a message written by Rosies. When people must separate, such as when a parent is deployed in the military or when college students leave home, the person leaving gives two marbles to loved ones; when they come back together, they "bring the red, white and blue together again" (we need a song with this line or telling the story of a soldiers who carried them.

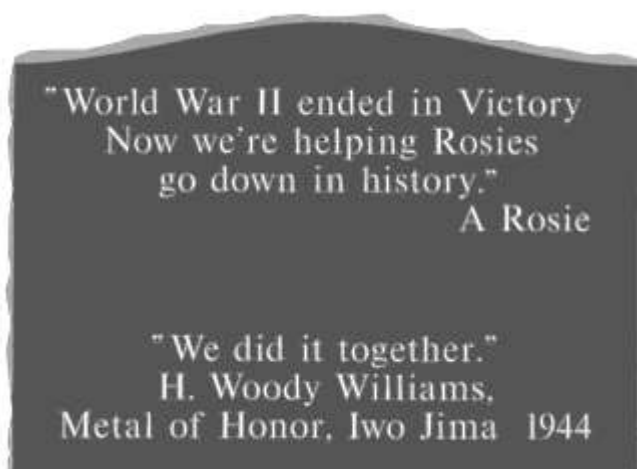
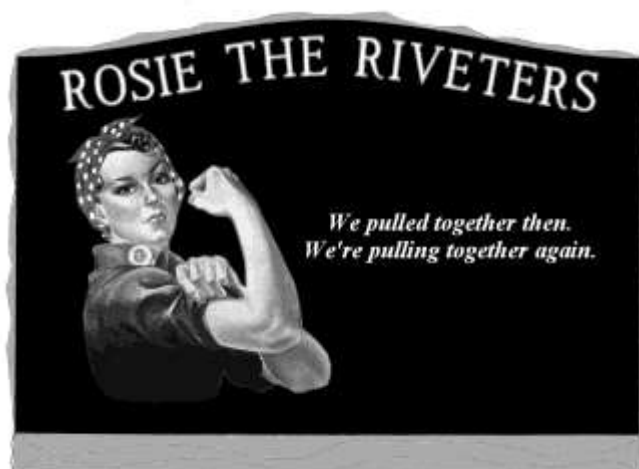


Question: Do you know a musician to write a song called, “Bring the Red, White and Blue Together Again?”

Estimated Cost: About .50 per packet, plus postage.

16. Monuments.

Monuments can be in parks or stand alone (e.g. at the entrance to a building). They can be large or small. After helping to design two monuments, Rosies we asked decided on a smaller, less expensive, “ready-made” monument for their first park. Inscribed quotes were contributed by a Medal of Honor recipient, Woody Williams, and Rosies. The monument meets our goal to keep things SASSY – Sustainable, Achievable, Simply Stated and helped by Youth.



Many Americans think that Rosies deserve a notable monument in Washington, which you might help advance.

Estimated Cost to for your help: Granite monuments start at about \$3,000. Special designs and wording cost more.

17. Music

Great music will come from this Program, and we already have 3 original songs, with one for High School bands. If you write a Rosie song, let us know! We need to produce a compilation of Rosie music soon, so tell composers and performers about the project.

See our website for music commissioned by us for Rosies.

Estimated cost: Many songwriters charge little because they believe the Rosie the Riveter Project will be know. Be sure that permission is obtained to use the music, whether or not the artist charges.

18. Name it, "The Rosie the Riveter"

A. Name a Building

This is the first government building in America to be named, "The Rosie the Riveter Building" is in Huntington, West Virginia on the grounds of a factory that made precision optics during the war.

Don't forget to ask your County and State School Boards if they have new schools that might be named, "The Rosie the Riveter."



Estimated cost for your contribution: The owner of the building may pay for signage and a plaque. If you hold an event, that may be expenses for food and photographers.

B. Name a Room

Schools, museums, and libraries are very good candidates. This room is in Hostel International in Knoxville, Maryland. Rosies are: Crena Anderson who riveted airplanes in Maryland, Paula Abelow who designed lenses, Dorothy Davenport who worked on a dairy farm that raised food for troops, and Ruth Staples who worked on the railroad.



Estimated cost to you: A room can be named and signed for less than \$100.00.

C. Name a Highway or Street

These can range in size and scope. The Logan County Commissioners in West Virginia named a small street in Barnibus, WV for Gloria Farmer who riveted B24s in Michigan. Tim Wilson, a volunteer from Maryland, is researching a significant project that would name a National Highway, "The Rosie the Riveter Way."

Estimated cost to you: Your time, especially to get local, state or national cooperation.

D. Name an Animal

Gloria McCormick, a Rosie who worked in Wheeling, WV near her father who worked in the steel mills, named her race horse, "Rivetin' Rosie."

Lilly Wolfe, a 10 year old has a dog named Rosie.

19. Parks

The first park that Rosies helped plan and design is in St. Albans near Charleston, the Capital of West Virginia. We consider it the First Rosie the Riveter Community Park in America, because Rosies helped choose its location, design, plants, and grand opening.



If you create a park, get the Rosies involved, from the ground up (pun intended), so that the location and design represents their work from the past to the future. Be sure to ask city, county, state and federal parks if they will provide the land and the maintenance. Also, be sure to include veterans.

Estimated cost for your contribution: Costs will vary with the design, the degree of volunteer help and donated supplies. The park above cost \$11,200. We will guide you, if you like.

20. Photographs

This document you are reading contains just a few of more than 2,000 photos we have taken since we started the Rosie the Riveter Program in 2009, in the hope that many Americans will be inspired to know our Rosies if they see others working with them. Your photos can be a collage of Rosies then and now, Rosies and your group creating something that tells about the war and the people in it, photos that tell about the abilities of Rosie to pull people together today, or events you hold - the list is endless.

Estimated cost for your contribution: Costs are low, but it takes time to have a pictorial story to tell. Be sure to give proper credit for photos by others that you use, and remember that photos of youth usually must be approved by their parents.

21. Public Service Announcements

Rosies can be very good at delivering television and radio messages that are good for the community, including announcing a Rosie the Riveter Project in your community. Here, Dot Finn is making a radio PSA.

[Photo about here](#)

Estimated cost for your contribution: Most television and broadcast stations will make a PSA, but they will not allow you to run it on other stations. Thus, try to raise about \$250 to hire them done, and then be sure that many stations run them. Public service announcements are seldom run at prime time, and shorter ones are run more frequently. However, you can put them online.

21. Quilt

Here is a quilt designed by a group of Rosies to represent their history of quality workmanship, scarce resources during the war, their feminine nature; their concern for veterans (a young veteran helped make the quilt), their belief in pulling together, and their concern that many Rosies be included (the names of 110 Rosies are on the quilt).



Here is a quilt by Mazie Mullens, a Rosie who designed and quilted it by herself.



22. Speeches

When Rosies and leaders speak at your events, save copies of their speeches. We believe we have several speeches that are historic. See our website at thanksplainandsimple.org for copies.

Estimated cost for your contribution: It costs little more to get a printed copy of the speaker's words, and you can ask them to sign the speech, so that its value is greater.

23. Tree.

Here, a firs tree was planted by veterans and Rosies from America and Britain on July 6, 2010. Rosies chose a dogwood, which a World War II veteran bought for the occasion.



Estimated cost for your contribution: Land will need to be approved for planting, and the highest cost is the tree itself. Be sure to ask your Agricultural Extension Agent to advise you on the depth and other issues, since our tree was planted to low at first and had to be replanted. If you put a bronze plaque at the tree, it will cost about \$225.00.

24. Victory Gardens

Families grew their own vegetables for their own food and to save food for the troops.

The artist, Sally Steranko, is from the Pittsburgh area, where much steel was made during World War II. She is now an artist in California.



Stephanie Lanham, a young woman in Dunbar, West Virginia is working with her community to include a Victory Garden in their community garden. Watch for photos on our website.

Estimated cost for your contribution: Your time mostly.

25. Writing

Good writing with valid facts that get people working with our nation's Rosies is critical to the spirit and purpose of the National Rosie the Riveter Movement. So far, we have helped create and save poetry by Rosies and about Rosies, quotes by Rosies and others, many articles in newspapers and magazines, biographical sketches of Rosies, and much other writing that helps to awaken America to the need to know and work with Rosies before they die.

Tell us if you know freelance writers and script writers for plays and movies.

Estimated cost to you to contribute: There is no cost to ask writers to help, and go to newspapers and magazines with stories. Some writers want to be paid, and they will tell you how much. Be sure to ask them where they plan to try to publish.

Thank you helping us to seize this brief and important time in America to learn from the women of “The Greatest Generation” before they die. We end with three of our favorite quotes from Rosies:

“We pull better when we pull together.”

“All we had was hope and our commitment to do the best work we possibly could. “

“We believed Good was on our side, and that helped us all.”

Look again at these quotes by Rosies.

We believe they are very relevant today, and that you will join us to make a new kind of difference in America by following Rosies’ quality work and commitment to America.

How We Thank People Who Help

Thanks! is a word we hope people say across America, to the Rosies and to each other as we unify to show that we can pull together to do the right thing in America.

We sometimes give awards when people do outstanding work with Rosies.

Please let us know about your work with Rosies and

How you might feel you qualify for an award from Thanks! Plain and Simple.

Help Rosies to Keep On Impacting America’s Future



**Pull together now,
Help Americans do what we should before the last Rosie is gone.**