

Shoot Like a Girl Leaves a Mark

By Tara Wallace

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Shoot Like a Girl (SLAG) is a non-profit organization that certainly knows how to have an impact. On Sunday, November 11, the group made a \$45,000 donation to the Cameron Veterans' Home Assistance League (Assistance League). The charity, whose mission is to offer a safe and encouraging atmosphere that promotes recreational shooting for women while raising money for veterans, raises money throughout the year. They host three annual shooting tournaments: An Open ALL Shooters event, a Ladies' Only event, and a Couples event.

This is the fifth year SLAG has donated to the Assistance League and according to Gary Summers, "they are always our largest single contributor". But no one was expecting the figure they were able to donate this year. Not even the charity's President, Neva Woody, "I set a goal each year. Last year was \$30,000 and we made that so I thought why not try for \$40,000... I am a goals person. I like to have a target to aim at. Maybe we don't make it. Maybe we only get 38,000, then okay". Including this year's donation, Shoot Like A Girl has donated \$127,682.50 in total to the Assistance League.

Neva is the daughter of an Air Force

Korean War Veteran. "Growing up my dad always said I could be anything I wanted. Being a girl never entered the equation. It was anything I want-period". Neva went on to become one of the few female competitive shooters in shotgun sporting clays. SLAG came into existence as a way to combine her passion for empowering women through shooting sports and provide for the social, moral, physical, and educational welfare of Missouri Veterans.

According to Neva, "Prisoners are awarded more luxuries than our Veterans". The televisions, computers, transportation, and ability to attend social events are all items or services that are purchased and maintained by the Assistance League, not government money. According to Neva, SLAG can contribute so much to the Assistance League because they have been able to pair with industry providers like a gun manufacturer out of Kansas, CZ USA, and this year they were awarded a match grant by the Goppert Foundation. "For every \$2 we raised they would give us \$1 up to \$15,000. I told them they will be writing that check". The goal for next year is to raise \$50,000.

Interested in participating, volunteering or donating to our Veterans? SLAG can be contacted at 816-632-9539 and is based out of Boot Hill Shooting Grounds in Hamilton.



Photo: Kenny Rucker (President of Veteran's Council Cameron Veterans Home, Resident), Glynda Hascall (Shoot Like A Girl Vice President, Cameron), Neva Woody (Shoot Like A Girl Founder and President, Cameron), Mathew Peterson (US Navy Veteran), George LaPrade (Veteran's League Board Member, Chillicothe), Gary Summers (Veterans Assistance League Chairman, Cameron), Eric Peterson (Shoot Like A Girl Volunteer), Tom Pettijohn, (Veteran's League Board Member, Bethany), Truman Hardy, (Veteran's League Board Member, St. Joseph)