

## **2003.09.Ohio.**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**3 SEPTEMBER 2003 – FAIRBORN, OH**

**BOARD ROOM – HOLIDAY INN**

**Meeting called to order by President Bill Ernst at 1930 (7:30 p.m.)**

**Also attending were: Vice Pres Robb Hoover, Secretary Max Moore, Treasurer Errol Hoberman, Webmaster Don Griffin, Sparky Adams, Charlie Waters, Sam Pizzo, Jim Maloney, and Reunion Chairman Jack Kovacs. Absent were: Mike Cook, Ben White,**

**Not attending were Bob Krist, LtCol Will Hampton, and Capt Beth Kelly.**

**Pres Ernst welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then praised Kovacs for his dedicated and thorough work in planning and setting the reunion in motion. In recognition of his dedicated service for the past three years, Kovacs was presented with a jeweled world globe in a burnished copper cradle from the Association.**

**Ernst read letter form BGen T.C. Jones, 55<sup>th</sup> Wing commander, expressing his appreciation for the contribution the Association made to the 2003 Birthday Ball.**

**Ernst mentioned that the RC-135 coming in from Offutt AFB was due to arrive at Wright-Patterson AFB with the wing commander at 1330 Saturday, 6 Sep, and should be ready for static display and tour by 1430. He noted that BG Jones had official duties during the afternoon, but would attend the banquet Saturday night.**

**The minutes from the Board meeting in Savannah, May 2002 were previously transmitted and approved via e-mail, so the secretary dispensed with reading of those minutes.**

**Treasurer Hoberman presented a detailed treasury report to the Board. A hard copy was given each member and is attached to these minutes. Adams moved the report be accepted. Motion was seconded and passed.**

**The president asked Maloney and Cook to audit the treasurer's accounting before the membership meeting.**

**Pres Ernst presented his report and gave a copy to each member of the Board. The report was on business and actions taken during the year since the last Board meeting. *Copy is attached to these minutes.***

**A major action which occurred is that the Association has accepted the responsibility for nomination process for selecting inductees into the 55th Wing Hall of Fame. He stressed the need to solicit the names of worthy individuals or crews for that honor.**

**Also included was a detailed report on the status of the 55<sup>th</sup> SRW Assn Cold War Memorial and its funding breakout.**

**Hoover reported on the monument Honor Roll process and how much it was stressed to be sure the names were correct and no one omitted who should be included. He also reported that the sequel to *We See All* had become unworkable since the declassification of necessary historical documentation had been stalled indefinitely.**

**Webmaster Griffin presented a point paper to the members (*copy attached to these minutes*) essentially stating the necessity to recruit a new webmaster, and how that transition process should occur. He also suggested a committee to find his successor be named, and that the Association should take steps to be sure it owns the domain name for the web page. Action pending.**

**In the absence of Awards Chairman Mike Cook, who was still enroute, Ernst led a discussion and explanation of the Award of Excellence and the Hall of Fame processes.**

**Clothing sales reports were given by Pizzo for the Assn ties and Moore for polo shirts and caps. Pizzo said that the bulk of the 316 ties ordered were sold and that he expected the remaining ones to be gone by the end of the reunion. Moore related he had re-ordered shirts in January, July and late August. Sales of shirts and caps had picked up considerably as the reunion neared, and that he would have a complete report after the reunion sales were complete.**

Reunion Chairman Kovacs reported that between 600-650 were registered for the Recon Rendezvous 2003. He further discussed the status of tours, events, and finances.

As chair of the nominating committee, Pizzo presented the slate of nominees to be for the Association Board of Directors, which was to be presented at the membership meeting on Saturday, 6 September.

The list is as follows: Permanent members, Adams, Waters and Pizzo. For elective membership: Ernst, Hoover, Moore, Hoberman, Maloney, Cook, Griffin, Joe Gyulavics, Jim Thomas and Dennis Haun. Jim Maloney nominated George Ross to be added to the slate. There being no objection, his name was added. Waters moved the slate be accepted. Motion seconded and passed unanimously. (*Note: Krist did not chose to run and White retired from permanent status.*)

The subject of the next reunion was an open issue, although a chair to host a spring 2005 event in San Diego was being sought. Action pending.

Ernst stated that an effort to disseminate the Board's responsibilities among more members was essential to functioning more efficiently. Maloney agreed to take over custody of the Assn's official flags. Waters agreed to be the recipient of the final newsletter and see to the printing and mailing of same.

The subject of multiple e-mail lists being maintained by the membership chair (Hoberman), the web site, and the informal yahoo AIG list established by Maloney, had led to some confusion among the membership about which was the 'official' list and how appropriate and legitimate Association information could/should be disseminated.

The consensus of the Board was that Membership Chairman Hoberman would maintain the e-mail address list of members in good standing who wanted to be included thereon, and it would be the official list. Moore so moved. Waters seconded. Motion carried. *The list is not to be used for commercial or personal contact, nor spam, jokes, or other extraneous uses. (Note: the yahoo AIG was subsequently discontinued on/about 12 September)*

Ernst outlined the agenda for the general membership meeting. He reminded Board members that the Board elected at the membership meeting would convene immediately after that session.

Moore moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by several. Motion passed at 2210 (10:10 p.m.)

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED

Max R. Moore, Secretary

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## 55<sup>TH</sup> STRAT RECON WING ASSOCIATION

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

6 SEPTEMBER 2003 – FAIRBORN, OH

### HOLIDAY INN BALLROOM

President Bill Ernst in accordance with notice given in the Association newsletter date April 2003, called the meeting to order at 0830. He opened the meeting with introductory remarks and welcomed the members. He then introduced the Board of Directors: VP Robb Hoover, Sec. Max Moore, Treas. Errol Hoberman, Webmaster Don Griffin, Awards Chair Michael Cook, Jim Maloney; permanent members: Sam Pizzo, Sparky Adams, Charlie Waters and Ben White; 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Representatives Capt Beth Kelley, and LtCol Will Hampton who was to arrive later in the day. (*Member Bob Krist was unable to attend the reunion.*)

Secretary Moore read the minutes from the membership meeting held in May, 2002 at the SAC reunion in Savannah, GA. Hoover moved to approve the minutes as read. Seconded and passed.

Treasurer Hoberman gave a summary report on the Associations finances and membership status. The Association is in good financial shape. He reported there were 1233 members in

good standing and the number is increasing. *(The treasurer's books were audited by Cook and Maloney and no discrepancies were noted.)*

Pres Ernst gave a comprehensive report on the 55<sup>th</sup> SRW Cold War memorial/monument status and finances. He stated money continues to come in for commemorative bricks and that orders will be taken until the end of 2003.

LtGen (Ret) George Miller was recognized as the donor of \$5555.55 to put the memorial bench project over the top. *(BGen (Ret) Reg Urschler, who spearheaded the drive among former commanders of the Fightin' Fifty-Fifth to raise the funds for the benches, and also started the fund with a \$5000 check, was not at the meeting due to an airshow commitment.)*

Ernst reported that the reunion commemorative coins commissioned by the Association were distributed, or would be, to 55<sup>th</sup> SRW members attending the reunion, to all donors to the memorial fund, and to those Association members who could not attend the reunion. *(Cook and Maloney were responsible for designing and procuring the coins.)*

It was announced that the RC-135 from Offutt AFB would arrive at 1330 this day with BGen T.C. Jones, the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing commander, on board. He will attend the banquet.

VP Hoover announced there would be another SAC reunion May 14-16 2004 in the Barksdale AFB, LA, area to be hosted by the local area Air Force Assn chapter. He also told of the reunion cruise by former members and friends of the 82<sup>nd</sup> SRS who will sail the Caribbean 8-15 February 2004.

Webmaster Griffin reported on the Assn web site, eight years in existence, and recognized member Dave Johnson for his invaluable and creative efforts in assisting in maintaining the site. Griffin stated it was time for a new web team to take over and lead the process into the future. A new webmaster will be sought.

Awards Chairman Cook covered the Association's Award of Excellence purpose and process. He also told of the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing's Hall of Fame induction criteria. Cook recognized Moore for his past efforts in preparing and submitting nominees which were chosen for induction over the past three years.

Ernst elaborated on both the Award of Excellence and the Hall of Fame. He said that the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing had turned over the selection process to the Association and it was up to members of the Assn to put forward those individuals or crews who were worthy of induction.

Pizzo was introduced to present the slate of nominees for election to the Assn Board of Directors. He first thanked the membership for buying all the 'regimental' ties. He read the slate of nominees for election to the eleven positions as follows: Ernst, Hoover, Moore, Hoberman, Griffin, Maloney, Cook, Joe Gyulavics, Jim Thomas, George Ross and Dennis Haun. Permanent Board members remaining are: Pizzo, Adams, Waters. LtCol Hampton and Capt Kelley continue to represent the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing. *(Note: Krist chose not to run and White retired from status as a permanent member.)*

Pres Ernst asked for nominations from the floor. There being none, George Miller moved the nominations be closed. Seconded by many. Motion carried.

Miller then moved the slate be elected by acclamation. Seconded by many. Motion carried in voice vote.

Ernst announced the new Board would meet immediately following the membership meeting to elect officers and conduct any required business.

Reunion Chairman and Monument Coordinator Jack Kovacs was recognized for his dedicated and detailed work on the Recon Rendezvous 2003 and received a standing ovation. He announced the attendance at the Friday bar-b-que and the Saturday banquet would be about 700. *(The AF Museum staff said it was the largest military reunion they had ever hosted.)*

Kovacs stated the reunion was well financed and should be in the green. He urged folks to sign up for the panoramic picture that was taken at the memorial dedication. He also mentioned that the AF Museum's archives were available and a valuable place for research and study.

It was announced that the next reunion would be in San Diego, CA, in/about the spring of 2005. *(Due to intense lobbying by Carol Moore, Bill and Carol Lewis accepted the responsibility to chair that reunion.)* Bill Lewis (the younger) was recognized and said he already had eager volunteers ready to assist the effort. Dates and details will be forthcoming in the ensuing months via the web page and newsletters. *(Item noted as "action pending" in 3 Sep board minutes is now closed.)*

Gyulavics announced plans are underway for an Aviation Cadet reunion and the building for a museum. Details pending.

The aborted project to produce a sequel to Bruce Bailey's "We See All" book was covered by Ernst, but he encouraged the continued submission of stories, history, etc. for compilation and archived for future use. Hoover is the History Chairman.

Moore pointed out the displayed two flags commissioned by the Assn, one with the 55<sup>th</sup> SRW shield and one with the official Assn dual-shield emblems. They were debuted at the "Tales of the 55<sup>th</sup>" event at Offutt last January, were displayed at the memorial dedication and would be so at the banquet that night.

Hoover announced the next 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Birthday Ball was scheduled for 24 January 2004, to be preceded by another edition of "Tales of the 55<sup>th</sup>". Ernst urged all who desired to attend to do so, and others who receive invitations to respond. Moore elaborated that 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Protocol culls the invitation list of those who consistently do not reply to invitations, nor attend the Ball. So members who desire to attend the Ball need to be proactive in letting 55<sup>th</sup> Protocol know they want to come.

Miller moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by many. Motion carried at 0917.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED

Max R. Moore, Secretary

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## 55<sup>th</sup> STRAT RECON WING ASSOCIATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

6 SEPTEMBER 2003 – FAIRBORN, OH

The meeting of the newly elected Board of Directors took place immediately after the Association membership meeting in the main ballroom of the Holiday Inn.

President Bill Ernst called the meeting to order at 0935.

Attending were: Vice Pres Robb Hoover, Secretary Max Moore, Treasurer Errol Hoberman, Webmaster Don Griffin; permanent members Sam Pizzo, Sparky Adams, Charlie Waters; members Jim Maloney, Mike Cook, Jim Thomas, Capt Beth Kelly, Joe Gyulavics, and George Ross. Not in attendance: LtCol Will Hampton and Denny Haun.

Hoover moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes from the last Board meeting.

Seconded by several, motion passed.

Pres Ernst welcomed the new members to the Board and thanked them for their willingness to serve the Association. (Gyulavics, Thomas, Ross, Haun)

*(Note: the Board now has the allowed maximum eleven elected members, plus three permanent members, and two active duty representatives.)*

Pizzo moved that the members currently holding offices be reelected. Motion was seconded by Waters. Motion passed unanimously.

Ernst mentioned that the duties and responsibilities of the Board needed to be more judiciously spread among the members.

Maloney accepted responsibility for the Association flags. *(He took possession of the two Association flags and a US flag from Moore on 12 September)*

Waters accepted the duty of receiving the completed newsletter issues in order to get them to the printer/mailer in Florida.

Ernst commented that this organization is probably the only military veteran group whose membership is growing vice the national trend of veterans organizations that are experiencing dwindling membership rolls.

A discussion of the new distribution process for the newsletter was led by Hoberman. He mentioned that the number of members who desired to receive the newsletter by e-mail, and/or via the web page, was substantial (over 300), and saved the Association significant money in mailing costs.

Discussion of the 'official' Association members e-mail addresses listing ensued as concerns were expressed regarding privacy, potential misuse, et al, of the list. Hoberman adequately explained the usage process, safe guards, and gave assurances to alleviate those concerns. The procedure of parliamentary procedure by e-mail was reviewed by Pres Ernst:

If/when a topic for discussion is originated by any Board member via an e-mail, the members are free to discuss the subject, express opinions and suggestions. No motion should be made until the president calls for same. After a reasonable time of discussion, the president will call for a motion, most likely from the originator of the discussion, but not limited to that person. Once done, the president will call for a second and subsequently a vote. Please wait for the call to vote before casting same. This process is intended to consolidate the process by reducing the amount of e-mails and the need for amendments. Once the vote is concluded, both the president and secretary will tabulate the voting, and the president will announce the result. The secretary will then prepare a memo for record of the action taken and send it to the BoD.

Cook opened a discussion on BoD matters that call for a vote. He opined that the Board should determine that if the issue/proposed action was of such significant importance, the issue should be held over until the next reunion and brought before the membership meeting for action. Moore pointed out that the Assn by-laws authorize the BoD to conduct the business of the Assn. It was the consensus that if/when such an issue arose, the BoD would make the determination if it was to be brought to the membership.

Ernst explained that the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing had willingly turned over the selection process for the 55<sup>th</sup> Hall of Fame to the 55<sup>th</sup> SRW Association at a session with the Wing Vice Commander last summer. That means persons or crews worthy of that distinction from the 55<sup>th</sup> SRW's past needed to be identified and nominated for induction at the annual 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Birthday Ball, the next of which is 24 January 2004. Historically, there have been two inductees each year. There are monetary obligations in hosting guests and providing display plaques to be assumed by the Association.

Pres Ernst appointed Adams to chair the Hall of Fame screening committee. Adams asked Gyulavics and Pizzo to serve on the committee. The committee is to gather nominations for induction and forward their recommendations to Cook as Awards Program chairman. Ernst stressed that members should note for future planning, that Board meetings at the reunions are usually scheduled during the evening of the first day of registration for the reunion, and will be announced in the newsletter, reunion registration material, and via e-mail. Hoover moved the meeting be adjourned. Seconded by many. Motion carried and the proceedings ended at 1010.

Respectfully submitted,

**SIGNED**

**Max R. Moore, Secretary**