

**2008.05.DC**

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**13 MAY 2008**

**CRYSTAL CITY HILTON, VA (WASHINGTON, DC)**

President Jim Thomas called the meeting to order at 1850.

Attending were Vice President Ricky McMahon, Treasurer Errol Hoberman, Secretary Max Moore, members Don Griffin, Bill Ernst, Charles Waters, Michael Cook, George Ross, and Jim Maloney.

Members not attending: Sam Pizzo, Sparky Adams, Joe Gyulavics, Robb Hoover, Denny Haun, Larry Utley, Pete Glenboski, Kevin Todd. Pres Thomas reported that all had expressed their personal regrets to him that they were unable to attend due to a variety of health issues, job or family obligations. Active duty members LtCol Bill Jensen and LtCol Mike Kelly were deployed.

The president called upon the secretary to read the minutes from the last Board meetings of 20 and 23 September 2006. Cook moved to dispense with the reading. Motion was seconded by Griffin and passed.

Hoberman gave in-depth treasurer's and membership reports as of 25 April 2008. Cook moved to approve the report. Ross seconded. Motion passed. Cook had done a complete audit prior to the reunion. Discussion followed on various methods to encourage on-time dues payments by members.

Hoberman announced he was stepping down as treasurer. Pres Thomas acknowledged his ten-plus years service, and suggested it was worthy of awarding life membership. Moore so moved. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Webmaster Maloney reported that feedback regarding the Association's web site redesign and content was favorable, many were first time visitors. Maloney encouraged anyone taking pictures of the reunion activities to send them to him for web site posting as soon as it was convenient.

VPres and Reunion Chair McMahon gave an extensive report on the reunion situation to date. He expected 224 at the banquet. He reported that the MAYDAY postcard helped, especially with the banquet numbers. The bus transportation had some issues to work. The hospitality room supplies were set. He felt confident the reunion would pay for itself, and was hopeful the seed money could be paid back to the Association. His working relationship with the hotel sales staff was good, and he was told more than once by the sales manager, 'don't worry about the room' booking shortfall. The hotel would be able to sell them at a higher rate than the reunion special. The final bills from the hotel and bus company will come in the week after the reunion and 'we' will know where we stand then.

Ernst commented that he felt the membership should be informed how close the reunion came to a major financial deficit due to lower than anticipated attendance.

The president acknowledged that McMahon had done a superior job in planning and executing the reunion and was to be commended for his efforts in overcoming several challenges. All attending agreed, and extended their congratulations on a job well done.

Moore gave the nomination committee report that the eleven sitting elected members had opted to stand for re-election. Thus the slate of nominees would be the same. Cook moved to accept the report. Ernst seconded. Motion passed. All permanent members also chose to remain in that capacity and the active duty reps remained in status.

Thomas reported on the IRS 501C-19 not-for-profit status of the Association. Donations to the Association are not tax deductible, and that was cited in an August 1995 letter from the IRS. He plans a reclama to section 170 of the IRS code based upon the fact that the Association has made many charitable donations in recent years, and that as a war veterans

organization, we now satisfy all requirements for donations to be deductible. We also need to reclassify status of widows in order to help membership percentage numbers to comply with the membership requirements of IRS 170 code.

Under new business, it was proposed that the Association adopt an annual budget beginning in 2009 to cover the regular expenditures to which the Association is committed. Cook gave a detailed financial review from 1997-2008, which had previously been presented at the Omaha caucus meeting on 29 April.

**FINANCES DEC 1997 THROUGH APR 2008**

**INCOME \$218,373.33**

**EXPENSES \$246,187.03**

**NET GAIN (LOSS) - \$27,813.70**

**TOTAL CASH ON HAND APPROXIMATELY \$5,500.00**

**55<sup>TH</sup> SRWA FINANCIAL UPDATE**

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1. RECOMMEND INCREASE DUES TO \$20.00 PER YEAR**
- 2. ALL ADVANCED PAID DUES HONORED - DUES INCREASE COMMENCES UPON CURRENT EXPIRATION DATE.**
- 3. NO SPECIAL OFFERS OR MULTI-YEAR DISCOUNTS**
- 4. CALENDAR YEAR IS DUES YEAR**
- 5. DUES ARE TO BE PAID ANY TIME DURING THE EXPIRATION YEAR.**
- 6. DUES ARE DELINQUENT ON 31 MAR OF YEAR FOLLOWING EXPIRATION YEAR**
- 7. AFTER 1 APR OF YEAR FOLLOWING EXPIRATION YEAR, MEMBER WILL BE NOTIFIED THAT THEIR MEMBERSHIP HAS EXPIRED AND WILL NO LONGER RECEIVE THE ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER. THIS PROVIDES A 15 MONTH WINDOW FOR A MEMBER TO PAY THEIR DUES. TO BE REINSTATED, MEMBER MUST PAY ALL BACK DUES.**

The report also included recommendations for improving income. After a detailed discussion, including many option, Ross moved the recommendations in Cook's report be accepted at \$20 per year and implemented as modified to include \$55 for three years beginning in January 2009. Hoberman seconded. Motion passed. Approved items now read:

- 1. Increase dues to \$20 per year and offer discount at \$55 for three years.**
- 2. All advanced dues to be honored. Dues increases commence after expiration date (year).**
- 3. Dues are to be paid anytime during the expiration calendar year.**
- 4. Dues are delinquent on 31 March following expiration year.**
- 5. After 1 April of year following expiration year, member will be notified that their membership has expired and they will no longer receive the newsletter. This provides a 15 month window for a member to pay dues. To be reinstated, member must pay all back dues.**

A discussion then ensued on how to better manage the Association's finances and methods to be more aggressive in encouraging timely dues payments.

Another issue was informing the membership of the importance of keeping their addresses and e-mail addresses up to date with the Association membership chairman.

The president announced he had appointed Robb Hoover to chair a committee to review the Articles and Bylaws of the Association. The purpose being to recommend amendments to simplify, clarify and/or eliminate contradictions, etc, as necessary to bring them up to date with how the Association has evolved in recent years. Cook and Haun will be on the committee and Moore will act as a consultant. Thomas asked for report/recommendations by 15 June 2008.

Potential sites for the next reunion in the fall of 2009 were discussed, but the decision left open until the membership meeting on Saturday, 17 May.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2125.

Respectfully submitted,  
Max R. Moore Secretary

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55<sup>TH</sup> SRW ASSOCIATION

MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

SATURDAY 17 MAY 2008

CRYSTAL CITY HILTON, VA (WASHINGTON, DC)

POTOMAC ROOM

President Jim Thomas called the meeting to order at 0904. He noted that a quorum was present.

He called for Secretary Max Moore to read the minutes from the membership meeting at the Omaha reunion in September 2006. Bill Simon moved to dispense with that reading. Motion was seconded by many and passed. Moore noted for the record that the minutes had been published in the November 2006 *Videmus Omnia* newsletter and was available on the Association web site.

Bill Ernst moved the minutes be approved as published. Seconded. Motion passed.

The president recognized outgoing-Treasurer Errol Hoberman who gave the financial report. The checking account had \$5544.35 with no CDs and no saving accounts. Mike Cook moved the report be accepted. Seconded. Motion passed.

The president gave a Power Point overview of what the Association does and accomplishes on a regular basis: reunions, newsletters, Hall of Fame selection, Tales of the 55<sup>th</sup> event, 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Birthday Ball support, Award for Excellence, Offutt Cemetery flag pole project, sales, donations, and other worthy causes.

He noted that over the course of the past ten years, the financial costs for an increased number of projects, plus inflation, has resulted in expenses exceeding incoming funds and thus, a dwindling treasury balance. He announced that the Board of Directors had authorized a dues increase for the first time in over 15 years. They will rise to \$20 per year and \$55 for three years beginning in January 2009.

President Thomas then introduced Colonel Phil Smith, the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Operations Group Commander. Col Smith gave an extensive and informative briefing on the current active duty wing's organization and worldwide operations. He also answered members' questions. He expressed his appreciation for being invited to the reunion, and then delivered his sincere recognition for the service and continued support the Association provides the 55<sup>th</sup> Wing at Offutt. He professed how it was a privilege to serve in the Wing these past two years and that he would be handing over the Ops Group to Col Jeff Herd on 5 June. Pres Thomas thanked the colonel for his time and presentation.

Thomas called upon Moore to give a nomination committee report. Moore noted that there were three categories of members on the Board of Directors: permanent members who had opted for that status after being elected four or more times; elected members of which the limits are no less than seven, but no more than eleven; and the two active duty representatives. The current Board has a total of 21 members.

He listed the eleven current BoD all nominated for re-election as: Thomas, Ricky McMahan, Don Griffin, Michael Cook, Joe Gyulavics, Dennis Haun, George Ross, Fox Censullo, Kevin Todd, Pete Glenboski, and Larry Utey. LtCol Mike Kelly and LtCol Bill Jensen would remain on the BoD as active duty representatives.

The floor was opened for nominations. There being none, Bill Lewis the Younger moved the nominations be closed. Seconded and passed.

Ernst moved that the slate of nominees for the Board be elected by acclamation. Seconded and passed.

Thomas noted that the next reunion would be slated for the fall of 2009 and opened the floor for discussion on where to hold same. San Antonio, Dallas and Reno were suggested. There were no volunteer chairs for San Antonio or Dallas, and Don Gurney had said he would lead one in Reno. Thomas called for a show of hands for each location and Reno was favored.

Reunion Chairman Ricky McMahon reported that the reunion attendance for the banquet was 230 and total registration was about 240. He also gave an overall assessment of the reunion saying he was extremely happy with the working relationship with the Hilton staff at all levels. Based upon conversations with the hotel sales manager, Ricky was confident that the contracted rooms obligation was met. He discussed the transportation problems and how that was handled. He was relatively confident the reunion had paid for itself pending the final issues, billings and reports.

President Thomas recognized the superior efforts of McMahon and his team for the tremendous slate of events, the organization and overall success of the gathering. The membership acknowledged same with a standing ovation.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1045.

Respectfully submitted,  
Max R. Moore, Secretary

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

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

17 MAY 2008

CRYSTAL CITY HILTON, VA (WASHINGTON, DC)

POTOMAC ROOM

President Jim Thomas convened the meeting at 1051.

Board members present were: Ricky McMahon, Errol Hoberman, Max Moore, Charles Waters, Don Griffin, Michael Cook, Bill Ernst, George Ross, and Jim Maloney.

Not present: Sparky Adams, Sam Pizzo, Joe Gyulavics, Robb Hoover, Dennis Haun, Fox Censullo, Kevin Todd, Larry Utle, Pete Glenboski. Deployed: LtCol Mike Kelly, Lt Col Bill Jensen.

The business of electing the Association officers was opened.

Moore moved that Thomas be re-elected president. Seconded. Motion carried.

Moore moved McMahon be re-elected vice president. Seconded. Motion carried.

Moore moved Cook be elected treasurer and membership chair. Seconded. Motion carried.

Griffin moved Moore be re-elected secretary. Seconded. Motion carried.

Moore stated he would serve until a replacement for the position of secretary can be recruited.

President Thomas announced the reappointments of Hoover as historian; Maloney as webmaster,

Moore as newsletter editor; and himself as awards chair.

Official business meeting adjourned at 1100.

Respectfully submitted,

Max R. Moore, Secretary

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