

SPECTRE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, 03 March 2010, 1835 CST



Pat Carpenter, President
Dick Vancil, Vice President
Bill Patterson, Treasurer - Conducting FWB Business
P.J. Cook, Web Master, teleconference
Kim Coryat, teleconference
Norm Evans
Roger Betterelli
Barry Gossman
Mark Johnson
Larry Hickey - Humanitarian Effort, Thailand
Bill Walter
Tommy Montgomery

CALL TO ORDER

Pat Carpenter called the meeting to order with the above-listed Board Members present, either in person or via teleconference. Pat introduced all of the attendees and called the meeting to order. Pat requested that PJ remove the “joint reunion” T-shirts from the store inventory listing as the quantities were out. We had two special guests this evening and Pat welcomed the “Promiscuous Pachyderms” to our monthly meeting and briefly explained their significance. The Board Members present were honored to be photographed with the lovingly, eternally coupled-pair.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Pat submitted the following report in Bill Patterson’s absence.

Treasurer’s Report as of 01 March 2010:

\$ 3,651.71 – Checking Account
10,240.90 – Gunner Jack CD at Regions Bank
6,680.85 – Scholarship Fund
2,576.70 – Special Operating Fund
25,269.45 – The Life Membership Fund CD #1
6,000.00 – The Life Membership Fund CD #2

\$54, 419.61 – TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

Pat explained that he, Bill P, and Dick V rolled over the Gunner Jack CD for 1 ¾ % for 18 Months. Also, Pat noted that payments were made per last month’s meeting instructions for the “Spirit ‘03” posters purchased throughout the year, and that the February Pay Pal Payments had not yet been credited to the account.

It was moved by Norm and seconded by Roger to accept the Treasurer’s report, subject to audit. Motion carried unanimously.

SPECTRE SPOTLIGHT

The Spotlight is posted for website viewing. Pat mailed the necessary copies to our membership without email access.

BALLOT INFORMATION

Pat has 168 of the 550 ballots sent last month returned, so far. There has only been one ballot returned for an incorrect address (all time record). Pat explained that there were still a few days left to get the ballots in for counting. Pat needs help counting and verifying the ballots cast for the two changes to the Bylaws and the nominations for board members. He will call on folks as he deems necessary. The full slate of board member nominees will be inducted to fill current vacancies; however, the individual receiving the least number of votes will be designated to complete Chuck's unfinished term and accept his longevity.

WEBSITE STATISTICS

The board discussed the GREAT website statistics and how impressed everyone is with the number of "hits" and "page views" we were receiving. PJ and those that help him keep the data current were thanked for their hard work. Great job!

2010 REUNION INFORMATION

Pat explained that the Imperial Palace Casino, Biloxi, MS, was basically the only location in Biloxi for the next reunion based on numerous factors. There is a large event planned for the entire Gulf Coast area that causes our reduced room rates to rise markedly during the three-day weekend. There are no other hotels with the capacity or facilities to support our needs in the area. The current estimated rates will be \$80 for Thursday, \$179 for Friday, and \$179 for Saturday with a 40 room commitment (80% guarantee), which appears to be high. The meals were suggested to be in the neighborhood of Thurs-\$10, Fri- \$30, Sat-\$35, and Sun-\$20, which appears to be reasonable enough. Norm suggested moving the dates to Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday as a way to reduce the room costs for out-of-town guests. RV parks, alternate quarters at Keesler and surrounding area, and etc. were mentioned. A lively discussion ensued and several alternatives were discussed. In the end it was determined for the purposes of ensuring a venue was available and to allow proper planning to proceed, that Pat be authorized to sign a contract with the hotel next week to finalize the arrangements and report back to the board at next month's regular meeting. A motion was made (Dick) and seconded (Norm) and a vote was conducted to validate the decision to allow Pat to move forward, one dissenting vote. Pat explained that the hotel would honor Room Comps and credit those with room Comps to our room totals. Pat will make a formal deposit to secure the hotel services next week. Pat will try to hold prices down as much as possible and bring the pricing and meeting/social venue layout specifics

and all meal/room costs to the next meeting. Tommy volunteered to bring alternate local hotel rates and contact information to the next meeting.

Roger B confirmed that MG Comer will be our guest speaker for the reunion. Pat will get with the General and finalize the speaking/travel/lodging details.

Pat, Dick, and others will get together next week after the hotel information is solidified and build a "Reunion Flyer" for publication and advertising purposes.

PJ requested that a Web Version of the Flyer be made available as soon as possible; however, not later than 12 Mar.

The IP has graciously agreed to arrange for a reasonable (~\$50) Golf Venue and Tommy will check into the Deep-sea Fishing expeditions available during that same time frame.

Pat discussed the rooms that the IP had planned for us to use for our events and he will finalize this at his meeting with the IP next week and hopefully bring diagrams/locations to share via the minutes.

Tommy and Bill W will handle the store at the reunion. Pat, Dick, and Shell will do the registration.

QUARTERMASTER REPORT

Tommy briefed that the store quantities looked good and also that all sales were up-to-date. Tommy fixed a merchandise mistake with DC Ford to his satisfaction. The "Boomin' and Zoomin" T-Shirt sales were still going strong. Tommy will verify quantities remaining. There was some discussion about the amount that we charge for postage being too high but we were reminded that the fee is for postage and "handling" which is a business norm and does help to offset the shipping materials costs and the other handling requirements.

OLD BUSINESS

Bill P sent \$108 to the Special Operations Warrior Foundation Fund for the 2009 Spirit '03 prints sold last year.

NEW BUSINESS

Pat led a discussion regarding potential unlawful actions of Association member(s) and the need for a means to remove them from the membership rolls should the member's actions be such as to cause defamation or extreme embarrassment to the Association. We currently have no "validated" avenue to remove a member from our organization.

Bill W volunteered to draft a Bylaw Article or Sub Article regarding "Membership Removal" for the next meeting's discussion.

Kim asked that we remind Bill P to submit the Association for the CFC funding line. Pat will remind Bill P to pursue the CFC registration requirements.

Norm noted that Don Wilson's memorial/funeral was at the Hurlburt Airpark by the base chapel tomorrow.

Tommy requested an opportunity to help Pat and others on the board foster an Association "name change" at the next reunion General Membership Meeting. Tommy briefly explained the rationale, much of which has to do with a steady decline in Spectre Association Memberships and a need to revitalize the organization by making it more inclusive of other Gunshippers.

Bill Walter briefed the SPECTRE Memory Book project and the fact that it was generating interest among the active and retired gunship personnel. Bill W offered to help with PJ and the website's assistance to make the book project include all and possibly use it as a tool/lever to help explain what the association is and its value.

PJ, by meetings end, had already updated the website and removed the "Joint T-Shirt" from the website. Also, PJ was making a trip and would be visiting with Charley Spicka and would bring back photos for the board/website. All said to pass on our greetings to Charley.

Norm requested to know the liaisons/POCs at Cannon AFB, NM (Barry Wilkins and Jim Gary) and suggested that we get an update on how things are going for the 16th and what all they were up to. Pat will touch base with his contacts at Cannon and see what's up.

Pat reminded us that Bill P is one of ours and will be making a run for County Sherriff ... feel free to go to <http://Billpattersonforsheriff.com> and show your support. Donations graciously accepted.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved by Dick and seconded by Norm that the meeting be adjourned. Majority ruled ... Meeting adjourned at 1935L.

DVancil - Recorder