

SPECTRE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, 03 June, 2008, 1845 CST



Pat Carpenter, President
Dick Vancil, Vice President
Andy DeMeyer, Treasurer
Roger Betterelli
Norm Evans
Mark Johnson
Larry Hickey
Tommy Montgomery, Quarter Master, arrived at 1903L
P. J. Cook, teleconference
Kim Coryat, teleconference
Chuck Kaczmarczyk, teleconference, pro-tem Recording Secretary for meeting
Barry Gossman, teleconference at 1854L

CALL TO ORDER

President Pat Carpenter called the meeting to order with the above-listed Board Members present, either in person or via teleconference.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Andy DeMeyer reported the following funds on hand:

\$ 1,824.67 -- Checking Account
1,245.12 – CD/Building Fund
10,000.00 – CD from Gunner Jack
29,129.68 -- Vanguard Bank CD

Andy reported that he received a letter from the IRS concerning our tax exempt status, asking for further explanation of three (3) questions on the application. Andy has responded with the answers to the requested information, and we hope that a decision will be made shortly concerning the status of the tax exempt status of the Association.

Andy also reported that the 2007 Income Tax has been filed with the IRS for a cost of \$200.00.

SPECTRE SPOTLIGHT

Pat still has not forwarded the Spectre Spotlight to P.J. He is having difficulty sending it via e-mail due to the size of the file. P.J. told Pat to send it in any form possible, and he would put it in the correct format to be posted on the Association web site.

BALLOT COUNT

Over 600 ballots were sent out to the Membership concerning the proposed dues increase that was discussed at the 2007 General Business Meeting at last year's reunion. By the suspense date, 141 ballots had been returned – 127 in favor, 14 opposed. The proposed dues increase will go into effect 15 June 2008.

REUNION 2008 INFO

The final menus have not been finalized due to the fact that Andy DeMeyer, the point of contact for our reunion business with the Sheraton Four Points, has been out of town for an extended period of time. This should be finalized by our next meeting. As soon as the final arrangements are made, the information and costs will be posted on the web site.

We all look forward to having Thomas R. Norris, the former Navy Seal and CIA Operative who rescued Lt. Col. Hambelton, as our banquet speaker on Saturday evening.

Roger Betterelli contacted several golf courses and fishing charters concerning the reunion weekend. However, none would commit to a price or reservations until we can supply them with the number of our members who will be participating in each event. More information will be available as individuals respond with their reunion registration.

Mark Johnson and Tommy Montgomery reported that due to the departure of the 16th SOS to Cannon AFB in October 2008 and the anticipated deployment commitments of the 4th SOS, it is very possible that there will be no aircraft on site for a static display. It is possible that the squadrons may be able to put on a presentation regarding current gunship involvement in real world situations. Also, we have access to the key for the First Lady which is located in the Eglin AFB Armament Museum. She has been restored to her original A-model gunship configuration. This may be an alternative to a static display aircraft.

Gunner Jack is in the hospital in Hawaii. His discharge date is unknown, and we are not sure if he will be able to attend our reunion this year. In the past, Gunner Jack through his contacts in Korea has always supplied the year bar for the reunion. We need to begin searching for a supplier who can produce this year's bars.

We are in need of a graphic designer who can create a 40th Anniversary – 1968 to 2008 -- design of the AC-130 gunship for our 2008 reunion tee shirt. Pat is going to contact Denny Bivens in the St. Louis area, who is a graphic designer and former gunner to see if he can accomplish this for us.

PROPOSED MINI REUNION 2008

The mini reunion for 2008 has been canceled due to the fact that our Association is not solvent enough to support this activity in its entirety by ourselves. The 16th SOS and the 4th SOS will not commit squadron funds for this activity. We will try again in 2009.

OUT-OF-TOWN REUNION IN 2010

ATLANTIC CITY: OUT -- Will not book a reunion for us.

BILOXI, MS: Roger Betterelli still has no information.

ST. LOUIS, MO: Kim has at least 17 proposals, and all of her contacts are very eager to book our reunion.

LAS VEGAS: Dick Vancil has several proposals that are very competitive, however, this is the site of our 2006 Reunion.

NASHVILLE: Chuck Kaczmarczyk has numerous proposals, and all of these are very eager to book our reunion.

BRANSON, MO: Norm Evans is still waiting to get the information from the AC-119 organization who will be having their reunion there this year.

RENO, NV: OUT -- Barry reported that this is not a viable location.

COLUMBUS, OH: OUT -- We have received no response from their reunion division of tourism, so they are a dead issue.

PROPOSED SPECTRE CALENDAR

Barry Gossman has been in contact with Kinkos and Staples concerning developing a 15-month calendar for our Association. From the current information that Barry has received, it would be cost prohibitive to produce a minimum of 200 calendars at either of these locations. If a calendar is published, Barry will need at least 15 good action photographs of AC-130s as well as significant dates to be listed on the calendar. Barry and P.J. will continue to search for a lower cost calendar publisher.

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Tommy Montgomery attended his last Board Meeting tonight. He will go PCS to Turkey this coming Friday, 6 June. A replacement Quartermaster still has not been found. Pat Carpenter and Larry Hickey continue to do the Quartermaster duties, but a permanent replacement is needed.

Pat is still attempting to make contact with the Zippo representative who supplies the Spectre money clip.

Our current supply of both polo and tee shirts is at an acceptable level. However, we are purchasing a tremendous number of both styles due to the wide range of sizes that are needed. It was decided to narrow our selection of colors to black, white, and maroon. When the tan and navy blue shirts are gone, they will not be restocked.

Web site sales are going extremely well for both merchandise and memberships. May 2008 sales were almost \$1,300.00. Four (4) Life Memberships were bought, and one (1) member paid their annual dues.

JIM CANIFORD OF ACFT 044 FUNERAL SERVICE

Andy DeMeyer and Chuck & MarthaAnn Kaczmarczyk represented our Board at the funeral service for Jim Caniford on Wednesday, 28 May at Arlington National Cemetery. There were other Spectre Association members present. Please check the web site for information and photographs concerning this service.

We have been notified that three (3), additional crew members have been recovered and identified from the same aircraft. Information concerning their burials in Arlington National Cemetery will be forthcoming.

MISCELLANOUS

Discussion was held concerning a "*possible*" name change for our organization. SPECTRE is associated specifically with the 16th SOS. When Pat and Dick went to the 4th SOS on a membership campaign, about 150 of their members stated they would be interested in joining our group if the name also included them since they are known as SPOOKY. P.J. has already purchased the following Web domain names:

www.fixedwinggunshipassociation.com
www.fixedwinggunshipsassociation.com
www.sidefiringgunshipassociation.com
www.sidefiringgunshipsassociation.com

This will be an agenda item for discussion at the Annual Business Meeting at our 2008 reunion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 1939 CST.