

SPECTRE BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, 08 July, 2008, 1836 CST



Pat Carpenter, President
Dick Vancil, Vice President
Andy DeMeyer, Treasurer
Norm Evans
Larry Hickey
Chuck Kaczmarczyk
MarthaAnn Kaczmarczyk, Recording Secretary
P. J. Cook, Web Master, teleconference
Kim Coryat, teleconference
Mike Skerrett, teleconference
Barry Gossman, teleconference at 1906L

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:

\$ 1,220.24 -- Checking Account
1,245.12 – CD/Building Fund
10,000.00 – CD from Gunner Jack
29,129.68 -- Vanguard Bank CD

\$41,595.04 – TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

The CD that is currently invested at Vanguard Bank will mature during July. Andy suggested that instead of reinvesting the entire amount into a long-term CD that we divide the money into 1/3 increments and invest it for 3, 6, and 9 months so that it will mature at different intervals during the calendar year. This will give us more flexibility to access funds if needed. The Board agreed with Andy's recommendation, and Andy and Pat will contact Vanguard Bank to determine which terms will yield the best interest.

Andy reported that in January he completed IRS Form 1024, Application for Recognition of Exemption Under Section 501 – Tax Exemption and mailed it along with the filing fee and IRS Form 8718, User Fee for Exempt Organization Determination Letter Request. On June 23, we received a letter of determination from the IRS granting us Tax exemption under section 501 (c) (19) of the Federal

Tax Code as a Veteran's Organization. This also means, that all donations to the association are now tax deductible.

We had to wait until we received our tax exemption from the IRS under section 501 (c) before we could file the Florida DR-5, Application for Consumer's Certificate of Exemption from Florida Sales Tax and use Tax. Andy has filed this paperwork and foresees no problems in getting this certificate granted.

In a discussion with the Florida Department of Revenue in Pensacola, Andy learned that we have not been charging state sales tax correctly on the web site. The merchandise cost and shipping fee must be totaled and then sales tax figured on that amount. P.J. Cook immediately corrected the situation while the meeting was in progress.

Postal Service Form 3624, Application to Mail at Nonprofit Mail Rates was completed by Andy on July 1; and along with the required supporting documentation dropped off at the Mary Esther Post Office for processing. Andy was informed that this will take 4-6 weeks.

SPECTRE SPOTLIGHT

Pat Carpenter still forwarded the Spectre Spotlight from the 2007 Reunion to P. J. Cook, Association Web Master. PJ did his "Magic" and it is on the web!

REUNION 2008 INFO

Andy DeMeyer has worked up a proposed budget for this year's reunion. His proposal is for the reunion to be totally self-supporting with no funds being withdrawn from our checking account or our savings. We went "in the hole" terribly last year, and we cannot afford to do this again.

On July 1, Pat Carpenter and Andy DeMeyer met with Jennifer from the Sheraton Four Points to sign the reunion paperwork and make the required \$500.00 deposit. All menus for the reunion were finalized at that time and will be posted on the association web site along with the reunion registration form in a few days. Andy asked the question that if our numbers drop off due to the high fuel prices, would the prices of the meals increase. Jennifer said that as long as we give her a guaranteed head count per meal, three days in advance of the reunion, the prices will not change. Also, there will be discounted coupons for breakfast at the hotel front desk for registered guests at the Sheraton Four Points.

Arrangements have been made to purchase the annual reunion year bars from a local trophy shop. They require a \$125.00 set-up fee and \$4.25 per bar.

Denny Bivens is working on the reunion T-shirt design. This is the 40th Anniversary of the AC-130 Fixed Wing Side-Firing Gunship and the 35th Reunion of the Spectre Association.

We will have a Hospitality Hootch, and \$250.00 has been budgeted for the beverages and snacks. Donations will be accepted and appreciated to replenish the stock.

Chuck and MarthaAnn volunteered to run the "Country Store" this year since we have lost our Quartermaster. They plan to set up at the Ice Breaker on Thursday night as well as in the designated room at the Four Points for the remainder of the reunion. Andy passed out the Sales Receipt that will be used at the reunion for the purchase of any and all items from the "Country Store". Only Cash and Checks can be used to purchase merchandise. We will not have the capability to process Credit Card sales or Pay Pal transactions.

We all look forward to having Thomas R. Norris, the former Navy Seal and CIA Operative who rescued Lt. Col. Hambelton, (BAT 2-1), as our banquet speaker on Saturday evening.

It was suggested that we solicit sponsors for the cost of our printing needs and accept any other donations that are offered to help defray the cost of the reunion.

As in the past, we will have a Golf Tournament on Sunday morning as well as a Fishing Trip. Information on both of these activities will be available at registration.

It is possible that the 16th SOS or 4th SOS 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.

OUT-OF-TOWN REUNION IN 2010

ATLANTIC CITY: Pat reported that Vito sent him information on three (3) hotels off the strip.

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.

Pat said that we will need to put together a spreadsheet of information on each of these locations to be passed out at the annual business meeting on Saturday morning during the reunion. A city will be voted on at that time by the members present.

PROPOSED SPECTRE CALENDAR

After Barry Gossman received cost quotes for the printing of a proposed Spectre Calendar, it was determined that moving forward with this project would be cost prohibitive. We will revisit this issue next year.

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Sales of merchandise are excellent on the web site. Orders have been placed for Ghost Rider t-shirts and black hats to replenish the needed supplies.

MISCELLANEOUS

Gunner Jack is in the hospital in Hawaii, and 4 August is his proposed date of surgery.

Les Klinke recently contacted Pat Carpenter to let him know that his son Donald has earned the Eagle Scout Award. His Grandfather, SSgt Donald Klinke, IO, was KIA on 18 June 1972 while aboard Aircraft 043. Pat had a certificate of accomplishment made and framed to send to Donald along with a letter of congratulations and telling him how proud his grandfather would be.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 1943 CST.