

Minutes of the General Membership Meeting
Air Academy Chapter NCOA (WWW.AANCOA.ORG)
16 April 2010

1. Chapter Chairman CMSgt Linda Valinho called the meeting to order at 1845. Board members in attendance included Trustees Sir Joe Beasley and Sir Scott Ytzen, and Secretary Sir Jerry Zoebisch. Vice Chairman Sir Patrick Osborn and Trustee/Treasurer Sir Abe Braverman were both excused and working.
 - a. Chapter Member Chuck Fickle led the chapter in the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - b. Chief Valinho then introduced the board members. She noted that each board member's responsibilities were listed following their name on the meeting agenda sheet handed out prior to the meeting.
 - c. Following the board introductions, all Rats and Knights in attendance stood and were recognized.
 - d. There were no newcomers to recognize.
 - e. The Chief then thanked Pepper Beasley and Michael for preparing the meal.

2. Chief Valinho then moved into her prepared agenda.
 - a. The first item was review of the minutes for February. Copies of the minutes had been distributed for review prior to the meeting. There was no discussion of the minutes. Consequently, a motion to approve the minutes as written was seconded and approved by a voice vote.
 - b. Next, the Chief reviewed the Treasurers report for January.
 - c. The next item on the agenda was the member spotlight. Chapter Historian, Jaimee Beasley turned the spotlight on Trustee, Sir Scott Ytzen.
 - d. She then asked Sir Marvin Weaver to brief on Special Olympics.
 - (1) He noted that the chapter provided 52 Volunteer Hours in support of the Regional Winter Games on the 11th and 12th of February. 180+ athletes participated in those events.
 - (2) The next event will be Track and Field in Pueblo on the 8th of May.
 - (3) In addition, there will be an All Schools Day at Memorial Park on May 12th.
 - (4) New Special Olympics Guidelines require that volunteers provide personal information before the events. Those wishing to volunteer must call 719-574-8580 and register as a volunteer prior to the event.
 - e. The next item for discussion was a follow-up on last month's discussion about possible support for the Comics For Courage Fund Raiser in support of the Wounded Warrior Program.
 - (1) Chief Valinho had researched the fundraising costs of the Wounded Warrior Project.
 - (2) She found that they report 5.5% of donations as administrative costs.
 - (3) She also found that they report that fundraising costs 12% of donations.
 - (4) Comics for Courage reports that they donate 70% of their proceeds to the Wounded Warrior Project.

Subsequent discussion noted that the Wounded Warrior Project is a national charity. The members agreed that the Chapter should focus on assisting projects in the local area with minimal admin costs. As a result, the membership agreed to support publicizing the Comics for Courage event, but to make no monetary donation to either Comics for Courage or the Wounded Warrior Project.

- f. The next item on the agenda was Cadet Graduation. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Navy Admiral Mike Mullen will be the Commencement Speaker. Volunteers supporting seat back rentals are need to report to the Chapter Clubhouse about 0630 on May 26th for breakfast and vendor badges. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board. We need about 20 volunteers to support the event. Volunteers not wishing to attend the graduation will be excused and allowed to leave the stadium prior to the 1000 lockdown of the stadium gates.
- g. Chief Valinho then asked Sir Jerry to brief on the upcoming WWII Legacy Event he is working. He noted that he is working with Lady Barbara Weatherill of the End of the Oregon Trail Chapter in Portland Oregon on an event that will take place at the Homewoods Retirement Home in Portland Oregon. She is coordinating the people who will support the event, along with several members of the local NCOA chapter.
- h. The Chief advised the members that the Chapter was asked if members would like to participate in the Veteran's Day Parade on Saturday, November 6th. The USAFA football schedule was reviewed and it was found that the Parade would not conflict with a Football Game. Following some discussion about prior participation, the members voted to participate in the parade. Mike volunteered to drive his truck to pull a trailer, providing the chapter could come up with a trailer.
- i. She then noted that in the absence of Sir Dave Erb, there was no Legislative Update prepared for the meeting. She also noted that she is working with Sir Dave to perhaps get Legislative data put on the chapter web site along with e-mail updates.
- j. The Chief then advised the membership that three JROTC units had contacted the chapter and provided names for their annual awards programs. Sir Scott Ytzen has agreed to cover the Denver schools and the Chief will be handling the Harrison Program. The Mitchell High School program is scheduled for the 29th of April and no one has yet volunteered to cover that program. So Chief Valinho asked the membership if anyone was interested in representing NCOA at the Mitchell High School event. When no one from the membership volunteered, Sir Jerry agreed to cover the event.
- k. The next agenda item was an update on the Honor Flight program. As briefed at the last General Membership meeting, Chief Valinho and Martha Lovell will be acting as Escorts for veterans participating in the Honor Flight trip to Washington DC on the 14th through the 16th of May. The person in charge of the program sent a donation request to the chapter. Chief Valinho briefed those in attendance on the costs of the program. After some discussion, three suggestions for financially supporting the event were proposed. The motion to donate \$850 to the Honor Flight to pay for the cost of one WWII veteran's trip was seconded and approved by a majority vote. This motion and vote was necessary since chapter bylaws require a vote of the membership for any expenditure of funds for non-budgeted items. UPDATE: the donation will be made in honor of WWII vet Ben Benzel.
- l. The Chief then advised the membership that the NCOA's Online Journal is now up and running. The first edition was released earlier in the week. It will be updated quarterly. The Air Academy chapter has agreed to furnish an article on Sir Ben Benzel following his induction into the NCOA Hall of Fame. In addition, Sir Jerry has agreed to put together an article about the joint effort Legacy event that will take place at the end of August.
- m. The next issue regarded the Chapter Flag. The flag and several streamers awarded for Chapter of the Year were lost in the fire in 2001. The flag and a couple of the streamers were replaced within a year, but some streamers were not replaced. The membership agreed with the idea of replacing the destroyed streamers. Chief Valinho will contact International Headquarters and confirm the years to be represented by the lost streamers, then get them made and attached to the chapter flag.
- n. Chief Valinho then updated the membership on support of the Crawford House. They have provided a wish list that is posted on the bulletin board. Members are encouraged to donate any items possible from the wish list. In addition, they could use the new ice machine that is in storage in the Garage (the ice machine was purchased with insurance money to replace the ice machine lost in the fire that destroyed the old clubhouse). It has never been hooked up or used in the current

clubhouse due to issues with the water supply. After some discussion, the membership agreed to donate the ice machine to the Crawford House.

- o. Still working from the agenda, Chief Valinho then broached the subject of supporting the Colorado Springs Springs Spree. It will take place on June 19th and 20th at Memorial Park. The event coordinator would like between four and eight volunteers each day. Based on the number of people who agreed to participate in supporting the event, the Chief will advise the coordinating committee that the chapter will support the event on both days. Members did ask the Chief to check on parking for those who may work a half-day, starting in the afternoon.

- p. Next, the Chief reviewed upcoming events:

- (1) The NCOA Career Expo at Fort Carson on the 20th of April (next Tuesday) is still in need of a couple more volunteers. It runs from 1000 through 1400 and volunteers need to be in place by 0930 at the Elkhorn Center on Fort Carson.
- (2) The clubhouse Garage cleanup is scheduled for April 24th, beginning at 1000. The Chief briefed the membership on the goals of the cleanup, to include demolishing the shed that currently houses the remains of the Nightmare on Pine Drive supplies, as well as a thorough cleanup of the garage with the objective of getting rid of the majority of the “Junk” that has been stored in there for several years. Pepper Beasley agreed to cook for the cleanup.
- (3) Trustee Sir Scott Ytzen will be retiring soon. His retirement ceremony is scheduled for 1230 on the 23rd of April at Carabbas Grill at I-25 and Woodman Road. Cost is \$23 for the luncheon. See the E-Invitation on the website and let the event coordinator know you are coming.
- (4) Rat and Knight packages are due to International Headquarters by the 1st of May. Chuck Fickle inquired about eligibility and was referred to Sir Abe Braverman, the Trustee for Awards. Chuck was provided with Sir Abe’s phone number since Sir Abe was absent.
- (5) All were reminded of the convention coming up July 20th through the 23rd in Las Vegas. As discussed at the last General Membership Meeting, the chapter will subsidize members attending. Room reservations are the responsibility of the person attending, but be sure to let the Hotel know that the reservation is to be part of the NCOA convention package rate.
- (6) Members were advised that the Golden Nugget has a special rate below that of the NCOA Convention rate, but were encouraged to use the NCOA rate due to the cost the NCOA International if the block of rooms reserved for convention is not fully utilized.

- q. The Chief then reminded all in attendance of the ongoing collection of can tabs (for the Ronald McDonald House), Manufacturers Coupons (for dispatch to overseas commissaries), and small toiletries (for the Crawford House).

- r. Finally, she reminded all to submit their volunteer hours to Sir Marvin Weaver. This can be done by e-mail or by filling in the form on the bulletin board.

- 3. Chief Valinho then asked for input from the board and membership.

- a. Sir Jerry reminded the Chairman that he would miss both the Board Meeting and the General Membership Meeting in May due to a lengthy overseas vacation. A substitute secretary will be needed at both meetings.

- b. Sir Scott had several items:

- (1) He noted that the Rocky Mountain Knights Council is running a Golf Tournament at Fort Carson on the 16th of August.
- (2) He also noted that the Rocky Mountain Knights Council is planning training for Chapter Trustees and Chapter Officers, most likely in conjunction with the Columbus Day Holiday Weekend in October. There is an Air Force Football game that weekend and it is anticipated that the Knights will be able to offer complimentary tickets to the game for those attending the training session.

- c. Sir Marvin noted that he had talked with Betti Jo Benzal about her trip to the Convention. Sir Vincent Johnson will escort her. She agreed to attend a chapter lunch, if one is set up. In addition,

Betti Jo advised Sir Marvin that she has no information about the NCOA Scholarship set up in Sir Ben's name.

- d. As a follow-up to that information, Chief Valinho announced that she would formally inquire about the Scholarship by contacting the board of directors at Hq NCOA.
 - e. Speaking for Sir Oz, the Chief advised the membership that there would be a meeting at 1000 at the clubhouse tomorrow (Saturday, April 17th) for the purpose of setting up an outline of the training the chapter has agreed to coordinate at the upcoming convention.
 - f. Martha Lovell mentioned that the next TREA meeting would be on Wednesday, April 21st at 7:00 PM.
 - g. Pepper Beasley asked if it would be possible to e-mail minutes to the membership. The Chief advised her that they could be attached to the monthly newsletter.
 - h. Chief Valinho inquired if the group was interested in an outing at the Sky Sox Stadium. The membership authorized the chief to pick a date later in the summer.
 - i. The last item brought to the attention of those in attendance was a reminder that the Quilts of Valor quilters were still working to complete more quilts to be ready for the Wounded Warrior Games at the Olympic Training Center the week of 10 – 14 May 2010.
4. The Chief then presented awards to several members in attendance.
- a. Super Saxon awards were presented to Jaimee Beasley, Chuck Fickle, Keith Cook and Lyle Hagelberg.
 - b. Chief Keith Cook was presented with a Going-Away gift as he is being transferred from Schriever to the U.K. He was also presented with a Thank You card.
5. With no further agenda items or input, Chief Valinho asked the secretary for action items from the meeting. Sir Jerry reviewed his notes and passed on the following action items:
- a. Paragraph 2f: Volunteers are needed in support of Cadet Graduation on the 26th of May.
 - b. Paragraph 2j: Members of the board to represent the chapter at various JROTC Awards programs.
 - c. Paragraph 2L: Sir Jerry to put together an article for the NCOA On-Line Journal after the Legacy event in August.
 - d. Paragraph 2m: Chief Valinho to contact Hq NCOA regarding the Chapter of the Year streamers.
 - e. Paragraph 2p(1): Volunteers needed to support the Job Expo at Fort Carson on April 20th.
 - f. Paragraph 2p(2): Clubhouse Garage cleanup on April 24th is in need of workers.
 - g. Paragraph 2p(4): Abe will put together Chuck Fickle's rat package
 - g. Paragraph 2r: Volunteers need to submit their hours to Sir Marvin Weaver.
 - h. Paragraph 3d: Chief Valinho will contact Hq NCOA regarding the status of the Ben Benzel scholarship.
6. With no further business to be conducted, Chief Valinho entertained a motion to adjourn. It was so moved and seconded. By voice vote, the meeting was closed with a reminder to sign in on the attendance roster. CMSgt Keith Cook read the NCOA creed and the meeting was adjourned at 2010.

CMSgt Linda Valinho
Chapter Chairman

Sir Jerry Zoebisch
Chapter Secretary