

TCTAA BOARD MEETING, WARNER ROBINS, GEORGIA, OCTOBER 18, 2012

Meeting was called to order at approximately 0935 in the board room at the Hilton Garden Inn, Warner Robins, Georgia. With the single exception of Ace Bowman, who was unable to attend due to health reasons, the entire board was present. The meeting opened with Secretary Sam McGowan reading the minutes of the last face-to-face board meeting, which took place in Galveston, Texas on October 22, 2011 at the Victorian Hawthorne Suites.

After the reading and approval of the minutes, Chairman George Dockery took the floor to talk about the need to attract younger members into the organization. He told how that the Sewart Reunion group recently dwindled due to decreasing attendance. He also told how that the former 834th Air Division Association decided to open up its membership in the 1980s and evolved into the Airlift/Tanker Association, with over 5,000 members. George also talked about becoming more than a crewmember organization (*it actually already is – close to one third of the membership is made up of personnel who served in maintenance, aerial port, operations and other support functions.*)

President Mike Welch then went over the agenda of the members meeting, which was due to follow the board meeting. Mike talked about establishing committees, including Nominating, Membership, Reunion and By-Laws committees. Role of Membership Committee was discussed, including advertizing and personal recruiting. Sam McGowan pointed out that at the 2008 Convention Carl Wyrick recommended that the association adopt a policy for each member to recruit three new members per year.

We then discussed the 2014 convention. Jim Esbeck reported that he has obtained a good response from several hotels in the Tucson area that would be happy to host an event. Jim also stated that he would have to have a lot of help due to a physical condition. Jim Elmer suggested we consider utilizing the services of a reunion planning organization called “Reunion Brats” and related how they make their revenue from the hotel and catering services.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 in preparation for the Members Meeting.

Sam McGowan
Secretary

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Meeting called to order by President Mike Welch at 11:06. Mike introduced Ray Snedegar, who survived the crash of a C-5A during Operation BABYLIFT outside Saigon in April, 1975 and Bob Kirkpatrick, Charlie Armistead and Ralph Bemis, who were shot down during the resupply of An Loc in April, 1972. Mike then recognized the officers and board members, all of whom were present with the exception of Ace Bowman, who was unable to attend due to health issues. Mike then asked each member to stand and introduce themselves and give a brief description of their troop carrier/tactical airlift career.

Sam McGowan read minutes of October 22, 2012 Board/Members Meeting. Hector Leyva made motion to accept as read, seconded by Bob Pitts. Minutes approved.

President Mike Welch made his opening remarks. Mike recognized reunion chairman Tom Stalvey, Roger Greuel and his wife Janet (who did much of the work) for their efforts organizing the Warner Robins convention and presented awards to each in turn. Mike commented that Texas led the group as the state with the most members present, followed by California, Georgia, Arkansas, Alabama and Washington.

Mike introduced our Chairman, George Dockery, who made comments regarding the organization. Mike then called on Secretary Sam McGowan to report on membership. Tom Stalvey then gave the treasurer's report, which would quickly change as outstanding bills from the convention were paid. We then moved into unfinished business, of which there really wasn't any as the 2012 elections were held. Mike then covered the Association committees, and made a plea for volunteers to serve. George Dockery then got up and talked about the importance of expanding the membership. Mike asked for members to serve on the membership committee.

Our final item of business was to ask for recommendations for our 2014 Convention. Several places were suggested, including Tucson and Dayton.

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

After lunch, George Dockery conducted the "fun auction" and raised over \$600.00. We then had presentations, with the first being Lockheed/Martin Vice-President of Sales Peter Simmons, who gave a presentation on C-130J production. He was followed by Ray Snedegar's presentation on the Saigon C-5 accident. Our last speaker was the director of the Macon Area Veterans Center.

Sam McGowan
Secretary