

**Minutes of the General Meeting of  
The Southeast Texas Air Force Academy Parents Assoc.  
January 22, 2006  
Ellington Air Force Base**

Michael Berry, President, called the meeting to order. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and also thanked John and Peggy Omohundro for the barbecue.

**MINUTES.** Minutes of the last meeting were passed out as they were not posted on the website prior to the meeting. Michael allowed a few minutes for members to read the minutes then asked for corrections. There were none noted. A motion to approve the minutes was made, seconded, and approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT.** Nelly Pena, treasurer, handed out a written report to members. She announced the balance in the account after two checks today is \$2332.43. She collected \$460 today for the barbecue which will be deposited into the account. She has an outstanding bill to pay to Laser Graphics for approx. \$70. She asked for questions or corrections. Michael noted placing the Polaris ad and purchasing the butter bars for seniors are the only two expenses left for the year. There being no corrections or questions, Michael asked for a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Motion was made, seconded, and approved.

**MILITARY BALL.** Michael expressed his appreciation for the success of the ball and acknowledged the newspaper article (copies available) written and submitted by Donda Thomasson. He then asked Louanne Reeves, co-chair, to give a final report. She reported the following round figures: plate sales - (profit) \$2200, golf tournament - \$5200, jet ride raffle - \$5100 (winner of the raffle being Matthew Berry), silent auction - \$5063, donations raised by solicitation committee - \$30,000, ticket sales - \$35,000, with total funds for the ball being \$112,000. Cadets were given a total of \$52,775 in cash and Wal-Mart cards in addition to over 60 prizes handed out by ticket drawings. The balance left to forward to Navy is approx. \$8300. Louanne thanked everyone who helped with the ball and Michael asked all those who helped to stand and be recognized.

**FAMILY NEWSLETTER.** Michael asked members to take a look at the family newsletter (copies available) which he noted can also be found on the academy website. He noted this is a great source of information on things going on at the academy and there is a link from our club website. He also commented on another handout he has regarding attrition rates.

**CLUB OFFICERS.** Michael noted the needs of the club have changed over the years and do not exactly match the job descriptions as written in the by-laws, mainly regarding electronic communications. He suggested making these changes and adding the position of web master. He presented a list of proposed changes including having the current webmaster, Frank Buehner, continue to manage the website, but someone would be needed to fill a position of Communications Vice President to maintain the master membership roster, send out mass emails as needed, produce the newsletter to be posted on the website two weeks prior to meetings, submit the Polaris ad to the Cadet Wing Media, maintain/reproduce the association information booklets, and work with the freshman class rep to produce recognition gifts for cadets. (Michael took the opportunity at this point to explain Recognition was a past event at the academy, which was dropped in 2003. In talking with current cadets, Gen. Regni feels they missed passing this milestone and wants to bring back some form of this event. In the past, it was a three-day event, both physically and mentally intense, which culminates in the freshmen cadets receiving their Prop and Wings and complete acceptance into the wing with additional privileges.) Michael asked for a volunteer for the position of Communications VP. Donda Thomasson stated she has a newsletter ready for print and told of the ease in putting one together with publishing software.

Members currently on the roster for 2006 officers are as follows: Steve and Brenda Vorhies – President, Louanne Reeves – Treasurer, vacancy for Secretary, Bruce and Elizabeth May – Admn. Vice President, and Frank Buehner (absent) – Webmaster. Michael asked these people to stand while still recruiting a secretary

and Comm. VP. Karen and Richard Long volunteered to fill the position of Comm. VP and Dody Cortner volunteered as Secretary.

Frankie Berry also announced the club needs someone to take over the laser graphic fundraiser, set up and currently managed by Sandy Carp. Carol Murphy volunteered to handle this. Michael presented the complete slate of officers. They were unanimously accepted and will take over at the next meeting in April.

**COMMISSIONING CEREMONIES.** The current plan is for one group commissioning at the time of graduation. Cadets say those plans may change and have adopted a wait-and-see attitude.

**SERTOMA CLUB.** Michael made the members aware of the Sertoma club that operates a bed and breakfast type service by making available for use bedrooms/bathrooms in the private homes of Sertoma Club members just outside the north gate at a very reasonable rate, handouts are available. Frankie said the rate is around \$60 per night.

**GRADUATION INFO.** Graduation announcements are available and on the academy website. 2006 parents are reminded to bring photos, scrapbooks, etc. to the next meeting for display. Parents were also asked to submit a graduation photo and bio for the April newsletter which will be printed as well as available online. Donda and Karen will send out a form for parents to fill out.

**ALO's.** In Lt. Col. Gary Morgan's absence, Michael asked Steve Vorhies to speak for the ALO's, who in turn acknowledged Lt. Col. Ray Taylor. Steve noted the class of 2010 is still being filled and the ALO's are currently conducting interviews for that class. He also stated Congress has approved an additional 400 slots at the academy but the effective date for that increase has not been announced. Col. Taylor stated between now and 2011, the Air Force will downsize by 40,000, but will increase pilot slots by 1,000. He does not think the downsizing will affect our cadets; however, it is coming in the area of non-rated officers other than pilots.

Michael brought up a situation of a recruited athlete who has not had an ALO interview and the parents' being unable to contact their ALO. Steve advised calling Gloria Otwell at the academy and she would put them in contact with the appropriate ALO. It was also mentioned that athletes recruited for certain sports do not have ALO interviews, so the parents should check with Gloria or they can contact Col. Taylor.

**ALUMNI.** Michael asked past president John DeFilippo to stand and be recognized. John said Marilyn was out of town or would have attended also.

**NEXT MEETING.** John Omohundro announced the next meeting date was yet to be determined as the normal date conflicts with Easter this year. An email will be sent out when the date is determined.

**ADJOURNMENT.** Michael stated that it has been an honor for he and Frankie to serve the club as co-presidents and they will miss the organization and the members. Frankie said they will remain as alumni. He asked for a motion to adjourn, so 2007 parents could "brag" on their cadets. Motion was made, seconded and passed. The meeting was adjourned.

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Louanne Reeves, Secretary

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Michael Berry, President

