

SPECIAL FORCES ASSOCIATION

Chapter 47, Oregon



Minutes

18 Jan 2014

Bamboo Grove Hawaiian Grille 515 SW Carolina Street Portland, OR 97239

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 1340 hrs:

SF Prayer, Flag Salute and a Moment of Silence for Our Fallen.

INTRODUCTIONS: Guest Joe Williams of the PDX USO Program was introduced, then all our members gave self introductions.

MINUTES of Nov 16 meeting approved as read (M/S/C... unanimous)

FINANCIAL REPORT: (Hono)

Year End Report, cash in bank account - Total \$10,362.44

OLD BUSINESS:

Web site:

Roger Cherry reported on his findings with respect to our web site and the possible range of alternatives/improvements we might consider. Lively discussion ensued... apparent consensus was that we need to update or replace it.

John Boyce **moved we drop the old site in favor of a new one**. Motion seconded by Paul Henderson. The motion was passed unanimously.

Steve Summers **moved we set up a web site committee** to decide the site's acceptable price range, choose the web master (and a back-up). John Boyce seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

Bob Beisner, Roger Cherry, Jerry Powell and Charles Glidden volunteered to be the web site committee. Steve Summers agreed to serve as an advisor. to the commitee.

SFA Convention:

Jerry reported on the status of this enquiry. There was a lot of discussion on the subject at our November meeting with some important information coming from the AAR from Chapter 15's Convention last year, and a decision to look into securing a Headquarter Hotel and exploring the initiative further.

We have set up a committee of those willing to work on our Convention 2015. The members are: John Boyce, Roger Cherry, Ivan Davis (via skype), Bill Gritzbaugh, Dave

Ch 47 POC: Janis I Zuments 7815 S.E. 35TH Avenue Portland, OR 97202-8409

Tel: 503 775 4940 Email: jzuments@comcast.net

Hancock, Gene Rappe, Janis Zuments and Jerry Powell. The committee has not yet met, but there is now a prospective HQ hotel. The committee expects to meet soon.

NEW BUSINESS:

MEETING PLACE: Today is the first day in our new meeting location. We have moved our meetings from Tom's Restaurant on 39th and Division in Portland. The meeting place has been moved because as our membership grows we are using too many parking places that would otherwise go to the regular tavern crowd that would be spending money there while watching the sports on TV. Today we are meeting at the Bamboo Grove Hawaiian Grille at 515 SW Carolina street, also in Portland. Our president Jerry Powell took a quick verbal vote and our members voted that they like the place and want to give it a try. Hono had been aware of this place and brought it up when he knew we would have to be moving soon.

USO CENTER at PORTLAND INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT: Jerry introduced us to COL Joe Williams, the advocate for setting up a USO Center at the Portland Airport. Many of us were surprised to find out that there never has been a USO at our airport. Joe had worked to get one there for several years. He cited the needs of the different military personnel (active, veteran and their families) who go through that airport and sometimes have extremely long waits between flights. This would give them a safe place where they could sleep or just relax between flights.

Some of the services the USO will provide will be lounge, TV and movies, snacks and refreshments, discounts from airport restaurants and vendors, Wifi access, laptop stations with Skype and e-mail access, writing supplies, calling cards, travel assistance, luggage storage, XBOX 360 System and a United Through Reading Program. There are 183 USO locations around the world. They receive no government support all of their funding and staffing is voluntary.

Our Portland Airport USO will open up in 2014 as soon as they get the staffing and other details finalized. The primary need the USO has now is for funds to finish the project with and provide some operating money for the first few months. Donations, particularly corporate donations are welcome. Funds can even be donated online at www.usonw.org/pdx.php or by check to USONW-PDX, 17801 International Blvd, PMB 313, Seattle, WA 98158. Bill Gritzbaugh has been working on this project for several months. Anyone wishing to volunteer his time should contact COL Williams at 503-467-9775 or e-mail at pdx@usonw.org.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 1530 hrs

NEXT MEETING; March 15th, 2014

ATTENDEES:

MEMBERS: John Allen, Byron Barnett, Bob Beisner, John Boyce, Roger Cherry, Paul Druse, Charles Glidden, Bill Gritzbaugh, Dave Hancock, Paul Henderson, Jerry Powell, Steve Summers, Steve Walker, Bruce Watson, Hono Yacapin, Doug Zaharko

GUESTS: Jim Meyers, COL Joe Williams (representing USO)