

Minutes
Chennault Aviation & Military Museum
State Governing Board Meeting
July 31, 2014

Members and Guests in Attendance

Jerry Hicks - Board President
Nell Calloway - Museum Director
Bo Shaw Jr. - Board Secretary
Lee Estes
Mary Durusau - Louisiana Secretary of State's Office

(this meeting did not have a quorum)

Call to Order, Invocation, and Pledge of Allegiance

By Jerry Hicks

Director's Report

- 1) Nell reported that June was a busy month with 1751 visitors, 3 events, and 8 tour groups.
- 2) On June 4th the French Consulate General from New Orleans presented the *French Legion of Honor Metal* to Ernest St. John and Lee Estes for their service in France during World War II.
- 3) The *Museum* celebrated the 70th anniversary of D-Day on June 6th. We had special exhibits and showed D-Day movie clips in the theater.
- 4) In June the *Museum* sponsored our first "*Chennault Boot Camp*". There were two groups of children. The first group was made up of 7-11 year olds and the second group were 12-15 year olds. Lt. Governor Jay Dardenne spoke to the first group and Sen. David Vitter talked to the second. Tanya Shlosman was our coordinator and she did a great job.
- 5) The remodel work for the *Chennault Room* has started. Special thanks to Whitney Alger, Jim Glass, Jerry Smith and OCC for all their help.
- 6) We have a new phone system which is much improved over the old one.
- 7) Our current internet system is a problem; however, volunteer Chuck John is working with Nexus to try to get a fix. A reliable internet is critical to the mission of the *Museum*. The SOS Office will also try to help with the internet problem.
- 8) Big upcoming events are:
 - a) Spirit of 45 Day on 08/10/14 at the *Northeast Louisiana Veteran's Home*
 - b) *Vietnam Wall / Veterans Day* 11/06/14 through 11/11/14
- 9) Nell has been talking to General Whitehead about a moving exhibit with a Chennault theme. General Whitehead in turn will try to work with Madame Lee - who is with the *Chinese People Friendship Group* - to make this happen.
- 10) Nell says that Wendell and the Judge need to go again soon to see Mr. W. Lee in Houston. Wendell wants to brief Tom Schedler, (LA SOS) on our association with Mr. Lee. Stu Bashner introduced Nell to Major General Bill Chinn, U.S. Army Retired. He is a Chinese American and a retired U.S. army general. General Chinn will be our keynote speaker for our *Veterans Day* event.

Presidents Report

- 1) Jerry Hicks introduced Mary Durusau who is with the Louisiana Secretary of State's office.
- 2) Mary thinks that the SOS's museum budget will be flat this year. She even fears that there may be a midyear budget cut.
- 3) Nell told the *Board* that the State has been very supportive with the Chennault Room project. They have approved all the requests that we have made.
- 4) Mary says that she is working on a fire suppression system and also a security camera system for the *Chennault Room*, and for the front door and hallways.
- 5) Lee reported that the *Endowment Board* received approximately \$10,000 so far from our most recent mailing. The *Endowment's* cost for the mailing was approximately \$1,300. A Mr. Johnson on Emerson Street in Monroe set us \$5000.
- 6) Nell told us that our Beechcraft C-45 aircraft is almost complete except for being painted. It is being restored to look like a Beechcraft that General Chennault flew in the pre AVG days in China.

There being no other business, Jerry Hicks scheduled the next meeting for October 23rd, 2014 at 4:00pm and then adjourned the meeting.