

Minutes
Chennault Aviation & Military Museum
State Governing Board Meeting
11 December 2012

Members and Guests in Attendance

Nell Calloway - Director
Jerry Hicks - Board President
Landon Miles - Board Vice-President
Bo Shaw Jr. - Secretary
Roy Johns
Lee Estes
Alex George
Dr. Bob Weber
Jay Vinyard
Gail Myers - Staff

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

by Jerry Hicks

Secretary's Report

by Bo Shaw Jr.

Director's Report

Old Business

- 1) Nell noted our budget concerns in light of future loss of State funding.
- 2) Nell stated that we need to continue thinking about possible future fund raising events.
- 3) The gift shop will continue to sell American Flags even though our flag sales has yet to generate a profit.
- 4) Nell told us that Terry Baugh, Terry Denmon and Nick Bruno are our new State Board members.
- 5) Nell reported that we had approximately 20,000 visitors in November mostly due to *Moving Wall* and voting. This was a record for a single month.
- 6) Nell stated that our first ever Veterans Day Parade was a big success thanks to the turn out by Monroe City and Ouachita Parish Schools. We had lots of veterans participate. Sgt. Sammy Davis was the Grand Marshal and Gen. Patton's grandson was also in attendance.
- 7) We collected thousands of Christmas cards and letters from both MCS and OPS students for our soldiers currently serving overseas.
- 8) Our "Night of Heroes" dinner was a great success. It was Thursday night before the Friday morning opening of the *Moving Wall*. Sammy Davis and George Patton Waters were our guest speakers. We auctioned off Sammy Davis's harmonica after he played "Shenandoah".

- 9) We had an opening day and closing day ceremony for the *Moving Wall*. Also, Gen. Hunt Downer was our speaker for the Veterans Day event. The Veterans Day event also included a T-6 four-ship flyover, ULM Band performance, and the lighting of our Veterans Christmas Tree in front of the Museum.
- 10) The *Moving Wall* is a very touching monument to many. There is great interest in bringing the *Wall* back in 2014 if the *Friends* and State Board members agree to it. Chase Bank and CenturyLink's Veterans groups would like to aid us in 2014 if the *Wall* does come back.
- 11) Our next big event will be National History Day Competition. It will be held in March, 2013. Ethan Wheeler is a competitor and also a friend of Lee Estes.
- 12) Finally, our continuing concerns are still:
 - A) landscaping
 - B) increased security
 - C) hangar building
 - D) repairs to our main building
 - E) last, but most important, new funding

New Business

- 1) Lee reported on the Endowment fund efforts as follows:
 - A) Goal for 2013 is \$1,000,000
 - B) Named the members of the Endowment Board
 - C) We have \$2500 in the bank
 - D) R. W. Taylor of Rayville was the first person to respond to the Endowment letter
 - E) Larry Cooper helped with postage for the Endowment letter
 - F) Mr. Lee again discussed the names for the different levels of giving
- 2) Nell reported that the *Friends* Board will decide if we should hire a grant writer. Possibly Tonya Slosman.
- 3) Tom Schedler (I.a. SOS Office) is going to stop state funding for all SOS's museums except for the Old Capital and the Louisiana State Exhibit Museum. The SOS says that they will work with us in our quest to find other sources of funding. This loss of State funding will amount to approximately \$100,000 to \$150,000 annually.
- 4) Roy Johns suggested that we continue to cultivate friendships with the Chinese and that they could possibly be a source for future funds. Roy also expressed hope that we might get some future help from the WWII Museum.

There being no further business, Jerry Hicks adjourned the meeting.