



Air Force Sergeants Association
Thunderbird Chapter 985
<http://www.afsa985.org>
General membership Meeting Minutes
September 11, 2008



1. Meeting convened at 1137 hours. President Thompson declared a quorum.
2. **Opening Ceremonies:** Invocation given by Lance Turner
Pledge of Allegiance led by President Bryan Thompson
AFSA Preamble read by Christine Partigianoni
3. **Members Present:**

Bryan Thompson	Lawrence Bach	Don Sullivan	Jon Bennett
Michael Crawford	Bethann Fleming	Terry Turner	Mary Kramer
Lance Turner	Duaine Ross	Timmy Snelling	Christine Partigianoni
Tiffany Gordon	Rob Binard	Lowell 'Doug' Bynum	Tim Ossinger
Dick Russell	Mary Hagan	Gemma Clark	Tiffany Gordon
Yaritza Liriano	Eric Harmon		
4. **Special welcome:** CMSgts Harmon, Hagan, Ossinger, and Russell; guest Steven Crowder
5. **Reports:**
 - A. **Secretary's Report:** Secretary Lawrence Bach advised minutes from the August 7th Executive Council and August 14th General Membership meetings were disseminated via our list server and are posted on our web site. Some hard copies were in the back of the room with the sign-in sheet. The June 12th General Membership meeting minutes were also posted on the website. Don Sullivan motioned to accept August 7th, August 14th and June 12th minutes as written, Bethann Fleming seconded, motioned carried.
 - B. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Rebecca Galambos - unable to attend. President Bryan Thompson reported the Treasurer's report will be disseminated to all members via another means or during the next general membership meeting.
 - C. **Reports:** Rebecca Galambos – unable to attend. President Bryan Thompson stated all reports are up to date.
 - D. **Legislative:** Lance Turner briefed that there will be more to come from the AFSA PAC/convention.
 - E. **Activities/Programs:** Mary Kramer reported that all of the POW/MIA coins have been sold. Also, the gift wrapping booth fundraiser at the Base Exchange is fast approaching and the contract will need to be submitted. She also noted that volunteers for the booth must be AFSA members and President Thompson proposed sponsoring memberships for the volunteers not yet AFSA members, this will be discussed at the next Executive Council meeting.
 - F. **Airman Activities Coordinators:** Sharona Cortez-Sablan – unable to attend. President Thompson briefed that we are still furnishing volunteers as an ongoing project to the Jesus House to serve food. A few other volunteer opportunities that are upcoming include World Fest and providing volunteers for youth services for Oklahoma county. More information for these and other volunteer opportunities will be sent out via the new email listing.
 - G. **Recruiting/Retention:**

- (1) New Members – Terry Turner. Chapter 985 recruited 61 in August, 334 new members YTD for a total membership of 1,968. Three have qualified for Skyhigher status; Terry Turner, Jon Bennett, and Bryan Thompson.
- (2) Retentions – Bethann Fleming briefed we have 59 retentions YTD.
- (3) Unit Representatives - Mike Crawford. Briefed the purpose and value of the program and that we currently have 7 unit representatives. Further, anyone interested to please contact him and he would schedule them for a brief training session.

H. **Communications:** Lisa Sears (deployed). President Thompson advised that the AFSA Team Tinker for August 2008 is attached to the September 4th Executive Council minutes and was e-mailed to Debra Kirby for our PO folder. Notice of today's general membership meeting was published in the Tinker Take Off.

I. **Awards:** President Thompson briefed that no awards are currently due.

J. **Website:** David Weller-Fahy/Bryan Thompson. President Thompson briefed we had 68 unique visitors in August. Our e-mail list server distribution is up to 2,107 addressees as of September 10th. Webmaster David Weller-Fahy is nearly complete with creating the model for our new website.

6. Old Business:

A. **2008 AFSA PAC/Convention:** Held 23-27 August in San Antonio, Texas. Thompson, Bennett, Turner and Devenitch attended as chapter delegates. **(Item Closed).**

- (1) Intl President 'Doc' McCauslin was reelected as President.
- (2) Donated \$200 to AFSA 4-worthy charities at parade of checks. The total raised at the convention exceeded \$60,000.
- (3) Donated \$100 thru AFSA CEO for CMSAF Scholarship Fund
- (4) Won both AFSA International Legislative of the Year Awards; Organizational for Chapter and Mike Devenitch the Individual – 4th consecutive year for the Organizational Award.
- (5) The AFSA Executive Council approved the merging of Divisions 8 & 9, but disapproved the overall divisions reorganization, which involved merging all divisions in some fashion.
- (6) Division 89 will now encompass 10 states comprising of 18 AFSA and 8 Auxiliary chapters.
 1. ND, SD, NE, KS, OK, MN, WI, IL, IA, & MO

B. **International President John "Doc" McCauslin Visit:** President McCauslin visited the Tinker chapter August 13-14, 2008. His last visit was in 2006. A summary of his visit is attached to the AFSA Team Tinker for August 2008 with a record 123 in attendance at the GM meeting. **(Item Closed).**

7. **New Business:** President Thompson asked if there was any new business that we needed to discuss.

A. **Trustee Michael Crawford** resigned. He has an assignment and only about 3 weeks left on station. **(Item Closed).**

B. **Standing Rule:** JAG is performing an annual review of our by-laws/policies and procedures to determine if we are in compliance with AFI 34-223 and recommend approval/disapproval for us to continue operating as a Private Organization on Tinker AFB. The JAG review stated we need 3 changes:

- i. Disclaimer on all electronic media stating our Private Organization status.
- ii. All AFSA members must be notified of personal liability.
- iii. By-laws must be updated every two years.

President Thompson had already started using the disclaimer, so he and Historian Sullivan drafted Chapter 985 Standing Rule 2008-7 to comply with the other two. President Thompson was advised the JAG will accept SR 2008-7 if the membership approves it. Don Sullivan motioned to accept SR 2008-7 as written, Tim Ossinger seconded, motioned carried. **(Item Closed)**.

- C. **Standing Rule:** Amend standing rule 2008-1 to allow the Chaplain to be a voting member of the Exec Council. Tim Ossinger motioned to accept granting the Chaplain a voting position, Don Sullivan seconded, motioned carried. **(Item Closed)**.
 - D. **Chapter Chaplain:** President Thompson briefed the change to the ruling on allowing a chapter assigned chaplain to give our invocation. President Thompson also announced Chapter 985's new chaplain will be Lance Turner. **(Item Closed)**.
 - E. **ALS Ice Breakers:** Mary Kramer proposed supporting the Ice Breakers orientations for the Airmen Leadership School with the remaining funds raised from the POW/MIA coin sales. She briefed that ALS would need \$250 - \$300 per picnic (\$2,100 - \$2,400 per year) to fund the events. Terry Turner motioned to donate the remaining funds from the POW/MIA coin sales to ALS for the Ice Breaker functions, Lance Turner seconded, after discussion motion was amended. Terry Turner amended motion to only donate \$250 to help with the first Ice Breakers function and wait until next meeting to further discuss funding of future Ice Breakers, Tim Ossinger seconded, motion passed. **(Item Closed)**.
 - F. **POW/MIA Month:** September is POW/MIA month and September 19th is POW/MIA Recognition Day. **(Item Closed)**.
 - G. **Legislative Awareness Week:** President Thompson briefed that Oct 13th – 19th is Legislative Awareness week and the importance of voting and completing absentee ballots. You can visit www.FVAP.gov to register for your absentee ballot. **(Item Open)**.
 - H. **AFSA Executive Director/CEO CMSgt (Ret) Richard Dean** has resigned his position as AFSA CEO effective March 1, 2009 when his contract expires. The announcement advertising his position is being published. **(Item Closed)**.
 - I. **Dorm Improvements:** Chief Harmon informed the membership on some upcoming dorm campus changes and improvements. A team will be touring some local college campuses to determine what they do to attract the dorm population to give them a better dorm campus experience.
8. There being no further new business, President Thompson asked for a motion to adjourn. Terry Turner motioned to adjourn, seconded by Rob Binard, the meeting adjourned at 1235 hours.

///signed///

Lawrence G. Bach, Jr., Secretary

Approved as written

///signed///

Bryan K. Thompson, President