



General membership Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2009

1. Meeting convened at 1130 hours. President Thompson declared a quorum.
2. **Opening Ceremonies:** Observed a moment of silent reflection in lieu of Invocation
Pledge of Allegiance led by President Thompson
AFSA Preamble read by Patrick Martin

3. **Members Present:**

Bryan Thompson	Don Sullivan	Terry Turner	Deb Johnson
Rebecca Galambos	Glenda Ipock	Patrick Martin	Yaritzza Liriano
Tim Ossinger	Earl D' Alessando	Joshua Matson	Talana Brown
Jorge Liriano	Brian Rogers	William Stokes, TFCU	

4. **Special welcome/recognition:** CMSgt (Ret) Timothy Ossinger, William Stokes-TFCU and first time attendees stood and introduced themselves. New promotee **MSGT** Deb Johnson

5. **Reports:**

- A. **Secretary's Report:** Secretary Lawrence Bach unable to attend. Don Sullivan advised minutes from the January 6th Executive Council and December 11th General Membership meeting minutes were disseminated via our list server and are posted on our web site. Extra copies were available for members that hadn't seen them. Tim Ossinger motioned to accept the minutes as written, Terry Turner seconded, motioned carried.
- B. **Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Deb Johnson provided a comprehensive briefing of the December 2009 Treasurer's Report. Rebecca Galambos motioned to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Terry Turner.
- C. **Reports:** VP Rebecca Galambos stated all reports are up to date. AFSA FY3Q09 ends January 31st and that quarter's reports (Activities and Americanism and Financial reports) will be due by February 13, 2009.
- D. **Legislative:** President Thompson briefed that a new report from the Congressional Budget Office shows why some military retirees and veterans could face higher out-of-pocket costs if the Obama administration and Congress take bold moves to reform the U.S. health system and to make federal programs more efficient. Among 115 "options" presented, though not endorsed in the CBO report, several focus on raising TRICARE costs and tighten access or raise cost for veterans to VA hospitals and clinics with no service-connected conditions. All could be affected, substantial increased fees: (1) Option 95: for active duty families; (2) Option 97: for working-age retirees; and (3) Option 96: Tricare-For-Life recipients. These options could save the government up to \$25 billion over 10 years. The 111th Congress has just been sworn in. You can contact these members with your goals, resolutions or messages for them. Let them know you are watching. You will be able to contact the President Obama White House at the time of the Inauguration. President Thompson also read a letter received from the Oklahoma State Chamber thanking our chapter for support in disseminating legislative information to Oklahoma veterans.
- E. **Activities/Programs:** Mary Kramer was unable to attend. President Thompson and VP Galambos briefed we had 202 volunteers worked a total of 956 hours for our month-long annual gift wrap fundraiser. Although the proceeds weren't as much as last year, they will fund our budget for the coming year. Tim Ossinger led volunteers with 42 hours worked. President Thompson and VP Galambos followed with 19 hours each

- F. **Airman Activities Coordinators:** Sharona Cortez-Sablan – unable to attend. Yaritza Liriano briefed that we are still furnishing volunteers for ongoing project to different charities such as the Jesus House and Habitat for Humanity. Calls for volunteers have been sent via the AAC email list server for these projects.
- G. **Recruiting/Retention:**
- (1) New Members: Terry Turner briefed that Chapter 985 recruited 21 new members in December with a total of 435 new members recruited in 2008 by 9 different recruiters. As of December 31st, the chapter has a total strength of 1,934 members. We met our goal of 400 new members recruited and 4 SKYhighers for the year. **A challenge agreed upon by the membership is to recruit 450 new members in 2009.** Terry Turner and Don Sullivan briefed 27 FTAC students January 5, resulted in 8 new members and 4 changes of address. The Next FTAC opportunity is January 26th @ 0900 and NCOPEs January 26 @ 1500 hours.
 - (2) Retentions: Bethann Fleming unable to attend. Terry Turner briefed we had 33 retentions for December and a total of 111 for 2008 by 4 different retainers. We met our goal of 100 members retained and 1 HIGHflier. **A challenge also agreed upon by the membership is to retain 100 members again for 2009.**
 - (3) Unit Representatives: Yaritza Liriano briefed she has added 1 more to the current 6 reps now giving us a total of 7.
 - (4) Newcomers Briefing: Terry Turner reminded all that this briefing is held every Friday afternoon and if anyone is interested in helping to please contact him.
- H. **Communications:** Lisa Sears - unable to attend. VP Galambos advised she is working on an article featuring our gift wrap fundraiser. Terry Turner is sending her photos to accompany the article request to the Tinker Take Off.
- I. **Awards:** President Thompson briefed VP Galambos is currently drafting chapter awards packages to be forwarded to Division 9 for further competition. The chapter normally forwards 6 of these packages, plus the AFSA Airman and NCO of the Year award packages. President Thompson distributed the Airman/NCO of the Year guidelines to the Command Chiefs, Chiefs Group and First Sergeants Council on January 2nd. He established a deadline of COB February 10, 2009 for packages to be sent to him.
- J. **Website:** David Weller-Fahy - deployed. President Thompson briefed we had 176 unique visitors visit our website in December and a total of 2,193 unique visitors in 2008. Our e-mail list server distribution is up to 2,179 addressees as of the end of December.

6. Old Business:

- A. **Education Grants.** VP Galambos disseminated the chapter grant information and applications via e-mail to the Tinker First Sergeants Group and additional addressees on Friday, January 9, 2009. The number of recipients and monies per recipient awarded will be dependent upon total applications received and approved. The deadline for the application to be sent to her is February 27, 2009. **(Item Open).**
- B. **AFSA Annual Recognition Ceremony.** Brian Rogers. Trustee Kramer has reserved the club for 1200-1600 hours, March 20, 2009 for this ceremony. In lieu of an evening formal banquet this year, the format will like a retirement ceremony set-up with uniform of the day (AFSA Airmen/NCO of the Year Nominees will wear service dress. New officers will be installed prior to the start of the

recognition ceremony as always. Brian and Mary will be meeting soon to begin planning. More to come on this program. **(Item Open)**.

- C. **Elections:** Chapter elections will be held at the February 12th general membership meeting. A President and 3 Trustees will be elected. All other positions, except the Vice President, are open and will be appointed by the new president. Bryan Thompson is the Nominating Chair. Please contact him if you are interested in a position, elected or appointed, even if you are already serving in one. Time is running on this; please make your desires known soon. **(Item Open)**.

7. New Business:

- A. **Vice President Vacancy:** VP Galambos is completing one-year of a two-year term. She will be attending school and then deploying for 1 year during the next few months. In the best interest of the Chapter and AFSA, she requested to resign at the close of this meeting. President Thompson appointed Trustee Terry Turner to fill the remaining year of her term as approved by the Executive Council, subject to the approval of the General membership. This appointment will provide continuity during a mass turnover in leadership due to deployments and PCS. It will also retain the integrity of the term limits, which is to elect a vice president for 2 years in even years. Don Sullivan motioned to approve Terry Turner's appointment, Tim Ossinger seconded, motioned carried. **(Item Closed)**.
- B. **Standing Rule 2008-04:** Currently the portion pertaining to the election of 3 Trustees reads that the Trustees will be elected on a single pre-printed ballot with the top 3 candidates receiving the most votes winning. President Thompson and the executive council would like to elect the 3 Trustees for specific duties this year. Consequently SR 2008-4 would read: "A Membership Trustee, A Legislative Trustee and a Programs/Activities Trustee will be elected on a single pre-printed ballot by members circling their choice in each of the three categories offered. The candidate receiving the most votes will be the winner. The President Elect can use the remaining candidates on the pre-printed ballot to help in his selection of appointed officers or not." Tim Ossinger motioned to accept this change, Yaritza Liriano seconded, motioned carried. **(Item Closed)**.
- C. **Lifetime Trusteeships:** Since President Thompson and Vice President Galambos will be deployed when our installation of new officers is held, it was preferred to bestow Lifetime Trusteeships on them and Trustee Fleming at this time. Therefore the presentations were made to Thompson and Galambos. President Thompson will give Trustee Fleming her certificate of appointment at a later date. **(Item Closed)**.

8. President Thompson asked if there was any other new business or comments from around the room.

- A. First Sergeant Glenda Ipock advised a chapter funded light lunch "meet and greet" to afford ALS students an opportunity to meet and interact with base enlisted leadership (command chiefs and first sergeants) was held again January 2 and is a very productive function. She thanked the chapter again for their support of base enlisted objectives. President Thompson also attended.
- B. Don Sullivan briefed that due to accommodation problems the date for the combined Division 8 and 9 annual convention will be April 30 – May 2, 2009 in the Scott AFB, Illinois area. These two divisions intend to merge at this convention; restructuring from 5 states each to one division encompassing 10 states. This merger has been approved by AFSA. He recommended attendance by all that could go.

9. There being no other comments or business, President Thompson asked for a motion to adjourn. Tim Ossinger motioned to adjourn, Rebecca Galambos seconded, the meeting adjourned at 1225 hours.

///signed Don Sullivan for///
Lawrence G. Bach, Jr., Secretary

Approved as written
///signed///
Bryan K. Thompson, President