



## Air Force Sergeants Association

Thunderbird Chapter 985

www.AFSA985.org



### General Membership Meeting Minutes

14 Nov 2013

Meeting Convened at 1130 hours with President Terry Turner presiding, Trustee Don Sullivan motioned to waive the quorum requirements, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Secretary Latoya Irving, motion carried.

#### 1. Opening Ceremonies:

- a. Invocation: Trustee Don Sullivan led with the Invocation
- b. Pledge of Allegiance led by: President Terry Turner
- c. AFSA Preamble Read by: Courtney Rachael
- d. Airman's Creed rendered by: Secretary Latoya Irving

#### 2. Members Present:

Terry Turner	Latoya Irving
Don Sullivan	Mary Rokitka
Richard Porter	Courtney Rachael
Zach Merkl	James Mitchell
David Lowe	Jeffrey Echerey
Nick Pivrnec	Kay Pivrnec
Matthew Jones	William Turner
Kevin Vegas	Brian Lavoie

#### 3. Special welcome: Chief Lavoie, Chief Vegas and **Guest** Lt Col. Vernon Conaway

The new attendees introduced themselves: Matthew Jones and William Turner

#### 4. Reports:

- A. Secretary's Report:** Secretary Latoya Irving reported that the Oct GM Minutes and Nov EC Minutes were distributed list server and posted to our website <http://afsa985.org>. Motion to accept, Treasurer Mary Rokitka, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Richard Porter, motion passed.
- B. Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Mary Rokitka provided a comprehensive briefing of the Oct 2013 Treasurer's Report. Motion to accept, Trustee Richard Porter, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Secretary Latoya Irving, motion passed.
- C. Team Tinker/Quarterly:** Trustee Don Sullivan briefed that the October AFSA Team Tinker was sent out via our list server early this morning.
- D. Legislative:** President Terry Turner briefed November legislative report. Discussion ensued on DoD initiative to scan ID cards at the commissary and writing letters via Capwiz.
- E. Activities and Programs:** President Terry stated that Vice President Mike Mooney is current researching the Christmas card planning party TBD 2013. Outdoor Rec will provide the supplies. The date will be announced soon.
- F. Airman Activities Coordinator(s):** President Terry Turner briefed on behalf of Shelby Platt:
  - ◆ 23 Volunteers for August, 72 Total Hours of Community Service
  - 4 Volunteers for the Military Welcome Center

4 Volunteers for the OKC Regional Food Bank's Rock N' Box Karaoke Night  
7 Volunteers for the Veterans Bingo  
5 Volunteers for Habitat for Humanity  
6 Volunteers for City Rescue Mission (Feeding the homeless)  
2 Volunteers for Schmooza Palooza with Rebuilding Together OKC

- ◆ New events October
  - Military Welcome Center – 2, 9, 16, 23, and the 30<sup>th</sup> of November
  - Regional Food Bank – 6 November
  - Veterans Parade – 11 November
  - City Rescue Mission – 16 November
  - VA Bingo – 18 November

**G. Membership:** President Terry Turner briefed on behalf of Vice President Mike Mooney and stated

1. **New Members:** VP Michael Mooney reported a membership summary for October 2013 as follow: 19 new members recruited resulting in a total of 190 new members recruited year-to-date from 11 different recruiters; and a total strength of 1,913 total members (1814 active and 97 lapsed)
2. **Recruiting Opportunities:**
  - a. **Membership Drives: TBD**
3. **Renewal/Retentions:** 2 members retained this month, 28 YTD from 6 retainers.
4. **Lapsed Member Roster:** Reported we have 94 of 97 members on the lapsed roster contacted via email for a 97% contact rate.
5. **Bad Address List:** President Terry Turner reported advised 31 members are on the Bad Address Listing (BAL), VP Michael Mooney.
6. Year to date Skyhigher is President Terry Turner and no Highfliers thus far.

**H. Communications:** Trustee Don Sullivan reports that the May – Aug 2013 Thunderbird News was posted October 10<sup>th</sup> to our website and available for download. The Sep-Dec preparation is underway. If you have an article to submit, please send to Don Sullivan [ddsullivan@cox.net](mailto:ddsullivan@cox.net).

**I. Webmaster/Content:** We had 1,605 unique visitors and a total of 4,524 list server subscribers to our web site in October. Total unique visitors for 2013 YTD are 12,319.

## 2. Old Business

- A. **Crooked Oaks AFJROTC.** President Terry Turner reported the chapter is still collecting items, so please bring it what you can! This means ABU's, blue's, service dress, and physical training gear. **(Item Open).**
- B. **Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA).** Chapter 985 was accepted as a certifying organization. Our volunteers need to register at [www.presidentialserviceawards.gov](http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov) and use Record of Service Key **BHH-51436** to track volunteer activities. Once hourly milestones are reached, volunteer will be recognized at appropriate time with letter from President, certificate, and lapel pin according to achievement level. Volunteers need to log in to track volunteer hours for the Chapter. Keep tracking volunteer hours; the Chapter will report them at the end of the year. President Terry Turner appointed Trustee Rachael Long to identify and log volunteer hours for chapter members. Volunteer hours need to be input NLT 31 Dec 2013. All members are current as of 10 Oct 2013. **(Item Open).**

- C. **Chapter Education Grants:** President Terry Turner emailed announcement via our list server; resent with new deadline date of December 6, 2013. **(Item Open)**.
- D. **Tulsa Quarterly General Membership Meeting (Date, Time, Place, Etc):** President Terry Turner previously proposed to host meeting in Tulsa in November. ANG (Retired) CMSgt Gary Lanham is our POC in Tulsa and Trustee Richard Porter is POC for the chapter. Chief Lanham coordinated with the Tulsa ANG Command CMSgt and a meeting date of December 7, 2013 was established for the meeting during their Family Day. Chief Gary Lanham arranged for an AFSA table and briefing times for the enlisted leadership. **(Item Open)**.
- E. **Gift Wrap:** Approval has been obtained from BX, 72ABW/FSS and SJA for month-long fundraiser from day after Thanksgiving to Christmas Eve. More will be announced. DJ Hatton will be the POC. All council members are expected to be involved. DJ Hatton will be the POC. Trustee Derick Heflin sent out the month-long schedule for volunteers to add their names to dates and shift times they can work. Some First Sergeants are taking a full day for their units. President Terry Turner will send the schedule via list server. **(Item Open)**.
- F. **Annual Roadshow:** President Turner briefed the date of 7 Dec 2013 was set for 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Christmas/Spring Dance Roadshow. Plans have been finalized and schedule established. Currently seeking volunteers. **(Item Open)**.
- G. Trustee Derick Heflin discussed upcoming recruiting improvements to include slide updates, venue changes and updated EC on current recruiting efforts. **(Item Open)**.
- H. **AFSA APP:** Div 3 President Lutzen emailed that the AFSA app is now available on Google; and also an Apple app. President Terry Turner sent an announcement of these features and the links to download via our list server. **(Item Open)**.
- I. **The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Midwest City Vet Parade** was held 11 Nov 2013, President Terry Turner briefed that Chapter 985 had a total team of 14 volunteers (11 adults and 3 children) participate in this year's parade. More details with photos will be contained in our November monthly AFSA Team Tinker and Thunderbird News for Sep-Dec. **(Item Closed)**.
- J. **Elections:** Chapter elections have been rescheduled from November 14<sup>th</sup> to December 12<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting because of base inspections. 11 positions are available. Trustee Don Sullivan, [ddsullivan@cox.net](mailto:ddsullivan@cox.net) & Senior Advisor Tim Ossinger [tossinger@cox.net](mailto:tossinger@cox.net) will be the nominating committee. If you are interested in an elected or appointed position please let them know (including current executive council members). **(Item Open)**.

### 3. New Business:

- A. Base Thanksgiving Baskets First Sergeants are the new POCs and will be contacted for any support needed from chapter. **(Item Open)**.
- B. Volunteer opportunities, A Christmas dinner event, and weekly Sunday meal volunteer opportunity is available. Great way to get involved, and serve the community. Further information will be sent to President Terry Turner for further distribution. **(Item Open)**.
- C. **Inola AFJROTC** (near Tulsa): Funding requested to support projects for the cadets, such as

marksmanship team, etc. Trustee Don Sullivan motioned at the Nov. Executive Council (EC) meeting to donate \$100, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Brian Brewer, motion carried. **(Item Closed)**.

**D. Mid-Del Food Pantry:** Trustee Don Sullivan motioned at the Nov. Executive Council (EC) meeting to donate \$100.00 to the Mid-Del Food Pantry and \$100 to the OKC Regional Food Bank to help feed the needy during the holidays. 2<sup>nd</sup> by, AAC Shelby Platt, motioned carried. He will deliver the check tomorrow along with his and wife Grace's matching donation. **(Item Closed)**

**E. Charter T-shirts:** President Terry Turner explained at the Nov. Executive Council (EC) meeting that chapter t-shirts are needed to identify our volunteers at some functions. Trustee, Brian Brewer motioned up to \$300 for the t-shirts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by, Trustee Derick Heflin, motioned carried. **(Item Open)**.

**F. Compton's Thank you Card:** The chapter received a card from Eddie and Joanne Compton thanking the members for years of service, support and the retirement attendance/gifts. The Memories plaque and AFSA coasters presented at his retirement ceremony by President Terry Turner, VP Michael Mooney and Trustee Don Sullivan are prominently displayed in his man-cave. **(Item Closed)**.

**G. Military Spouses Protocol Dinner:** President Terry Turner solicited an email vote of the Executive Council to fund up to \$300.00 (one time) for printing the training booklet for the Military Spouses Traditions and Protocol Dinner. Each military spouse attendee will receive booklet on the do's and don'ts of military functions (changes of commands, awards and promotion ceremonies, retirements, Dining-outs, etc.). For example: Volunteers will receive hands on training how to set a formal military dinner table without being overwhelmed. These booklets are 48-50 pages with detailed information that can be used for a lifetime by the military spouse. The Tinker Top 3 shared the expenses last year and may co-sponsor again. The vote to support was approved on November 13, 2013. **(Item Open)**.

**H. Home Away from Home:** Lt Col Vernon Conaway, Deputy Commander 552 Operations Group, briefed the membership about the new Tinker Home Away from Home Program. This program offers young Airmen a safe haven to relax, have fun and unwind from the daily rigors on an Active Air Force Base. More details of this program can be found in the September 23, 2013 Tinker Take Off Edition in an article by Darren Heusel. For more information about the Home Away from Home program, contact Colonel Conaway at (405) 734-2944 or e-mail [552oq.cca@us.af.mil](mailto:552oq.cca@us.af.mil); or Pam Kloiber at (405) 503-5041 or [pamkloiber@aol.com](mailto:pamkloiber@aol.com). The requirements to sponsor an Airman follow:

1. Live in the local area (about a 45 minute radius).
2. Civilian or retired military (active duty families are not preferred at this time).
3. Be willing to host the Airman on a regular basis (minimum of once a month) and to commit and mentor that Airman. **(Item Closed)**.

**4. President Terry Turner asks if there was any other new business or comments from around the room.**

**A. Chief Lavoie Comments:**

The service provided for the Veterans Parade was phenomenal, and will not be taken for granted. The AF Portal is a great way to stay informed, and seek information. Inspection is our top priority; dates are 14 - 22 Nov 2013. A 24 hr. gym is coming soon, more information will be given.

**B. Chief Vegas:**

552 ACW CCM - CMSgt Avery Woolridge has arrived and has assumed his position as America's Wing Command Chief.

E9 Promotion Release Occurred today 14 Nov - 3 New TAFB Chiefs were selected for Promotion.  
Thanksgiving at the DAFC 28 Nov/1100 Open to Retirees as well as AD  
Base Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony 4 Dec/1500/Tinker Club.  
Holiday Dinner for Airmen 5 Dec/1700/Base Chapel hosted by the Special.  
Emphasis Group - Hispanic Heritage Committee.  
Operation Home front Annual Secret Santa for Military Families -Date/Time/Location TBA.  
CCAF Degree program - Thanks to AFSA for their continual support and please know that CCAF  
education is available for Wounded Warriors - To date 6 WW have earned their CCAF degree.

**C. REMINDER:** Please make sure you sign in on the sheet at the back of the room before you leave.

**D. Door Prize Winners:**

**OKC Thunder Beach towels** were given to Richard Porter, William Turner, and Chief Kevin Vegas. **AFSA T-shirts** were given to Mary Rokitka, and Kay Pivnec  
**Warren Theater Hunger Games Show tickets** were given to Nick Pivnec

With no other new business, Trustee Rich Porter motioned to adjourn, seconded by Secretary Latoya Irving.  
Meeting adjourned at: 12:48 hours.

///signed ///  
Latoya Irving, Secretary

///signed///  
Terry Turner, President