

May 2003

Meeting Minutes, May 2003

National Smokejumper Association Board of Directors

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National Smokejumper Association
Summary of the Board of Directors Meeting
October 25, 2003, McMinnville, Oregon

Attendees:

Roland Stoleson, President
Doug Houston, 2nd Vice President
Larry Lufkin, Immediate Past President
Dean Longanecker, Treasurer
Dave Bennett, Secretary
Fred Cooper, Director and Membership Coordinator
Carl Gidlund, Past President
Jon McBride, Director and Trails Coordinator
Bill Moody, Director and History Chairman
Murry Taylor, Director
Leo Cromwell, Director
Fred Rohrbach, Director
Mark Corbet, Director
Steve Smith, Director and Historian
John Twiss, Director
Charlie Brown, Director
Stan Linnertz, NSA Member

EC and BOD Members Missing:

Chuck Sheley, 1st Vice President
Tom Uphill, Strategic Planning
Neil Satterwhite, Director
Dan McComb, Director
Tara Rothwell, Director

OPENING

President Ron Stoleson led the group in the Pledge of allegiance.

Ron Stoleson introduced new board members Charlie Brown and John Twiss (replacing Ted Bergon, who is deceased).

Ron introduced NSA member Stan Linnertz MSO 61 from Nebraska who has plans for advertising NSA, which he will combine with retirement. More on Stan's efforts and results follow in these meeting minutes.

Barry Hicks, MSO 62 is retiring from the Forest Service. Donations for a retirement gift can be sent to MSO Aerial Fire Depot Welfare fund earmarked "Barry Hicks".

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes of the Previous Meetings-The minutes of the Boise Board of Director's Meeting on October 12, 2002 were approved as transmitted to the Executive Committee by Carl Gidlund.

Carl Gidlund moved to approve the minutes from Redding Executive Committee Meeting on April 23, 2003 as transmitted to the Executive Committee by Dave Bennett. Bill Moody seconded the motion, motion passed.

Evening Program at Evergreen Aviation Museum

Fred Cooper and Roy Wagner made arrangements for the program, reception, and dinner at the museum. Fred described the plans for the evening program.

History Chairman's Report

1. The NSA Exhibit at The Evergreen Museum

Bill Moody reported that progress is being made on the NSA Exhibit. A rendering and visualization are complete and will be presented at museum during the evening program. Plans are to complete the exhibit late winter and present the new addition to the museum in a spring 2004 grand opening. The primary theme is the history of Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Jumpers from 1939 to 2004.

Bill recommends we form an exhibit committee to work with the museum this winter.

The exhibit will cost about \$25,000. Some NSA support will be required to complete it. Feedback to the museum should occur during October and November. The NSA will assist Museum Curator Ben Kristy in fund raising. **(NSA has previously donated \$5k)**. The museum estimates that the exhibit will be complete in the April 2004 timeframe.

A committee volunteered to work with Ben Kristy in developing comments and suggestions for the exhibit. Committee members are Mark Corbett, Leo Cromwell, Ron Stoleson, and Tom Uphill. An exhibit fund raising committee will also be assigned.

The following discussion took place:

- Ron Stoleson commented that there should be BLM representation in the exhibit content.
- Fred Rohrbach suggests selling NSA merchandise to help with exhibit cost. Larry Lufkin says Chuck Sheley has tried to get the store supervisor to take on NSA merchandise but so far no positive response. Fred Cooper says there is a new store supervisor who seems more positive. We will make another attempt to place merchandise there.
- Dennis Golik is a smokejumper history buff. Bill Moody suggested that Dennis might be a resource for fund raising. Mark Corbett moved to name Dennis as the assistant history lead for NSA. Lufkin seconded, motion passed.

3. University of Montana Archives

Bill Moody said there is need for funding to support University of Montana in their archiving effort. The amount should be approximately \$500.

Bill received a "good report!" round of applause from the group.

NSA Merchandise Report

Larry Lufkin presented the merchandise report for Chuck Sheley.

Since taking over the merchandising responsibility in October of 1999, Chuck mailed his 3,000th order in September 2003. Total revenue in this time is \$220,967, and profit is \$66,394. Profit to date for 2003 is \$10,058.

Chuck believes that he can make far more money with the NSA reunion merchandise than the reunion organizers can. A discussion among the group determined that in retrospect, the Executive Committee should have provided the Reunion Committee specific guidance on our merchandise philosophy. Since the Reunion Committee's plan is presently being executed, they should continue with their merchandise sales initiative. Larry presented a merchandise report prepared by Chuck on this subject. The following is extracted from the handout: "I believe that the Reunion Committee's moving into the merchandising area will have a serious negative financial impact on the NSA's income. At reunion 2000 (Redding) the merchandising was solely under the control of the NSA and resulted in an approximate \$10,000 NET to the organization. Merchandise control by the NSA was a topic of discussion at several prior board meetings that included reunion committee members. I predict that the NSA will be fortunate to net 50% of the Redding merchandise sales."

A discussion follows relative to a stipend for Chuck Sheley. Ron Stoleson asked: can we afford to give the stipend considering the state of the budget? Up to this point, volunteers have served us. Carl Gidlund stated that we are at the top of a slippery slope. Others also support the NSA; such as Carl's work on publications, and Jon's works on trails. Jon suggested a five-member committee that would identify a bonus to workers that perform above and beyond normal expectations. **We will "pay for performance"**. The committee would recommend to full BOD where the bonus goes. We would have a yearly budget for bonuses. The board would decide if or how much the bonus would be.

Jon asked: what will we do when Chuck quits? Larry said we should compensate Chuck for what he does and also, we need to work out a plan B for replacement of Chuck and other volunteers when they decide to stop. Fred Rohrbach says that Chuck needs a pat on the back, he gets the job done. There is agreement that we should compensate Chuck in some manner.

Ron Stoleson moved that the Board should award a bonus for \$6300 to Chuck. We have considered the efforts of all volunteers this year and have chosen Chuck. And, each year, the Board will follow the same procedure with regard to bonuses. A committee will be appointed to determine bonuses. The committee will also develop a backup plan for order of ascension relative to identifying and training replacements for staff in critical functions such as the Magazine, Trails, Secretary, etc. Stan Linnartz, Fred Cooper, and Dave Bennett are the committee. Dave Bennett seconded, motion carried.

Website Report

Larry Lufkin reported that the NSA website is now state of the art. Jon Robinson is our new website manager. He is not a jumper. Jon works for \$25/hour, which is a minimum rate. The new website has resulted in greatly increased merchandise sales. It has become a clearing-house for jumper information and is more popular than jumper base websites. Jon has switched to a new server that delivers better

economics. In the merchandise section of the website, Chuck has sorted through items that sell well and has discontinued less popular inventory.

Fred Cooper asked if there is a cost available for website. Ron says we spent \$17,000 to develop the website and currently spend about \$600 per month to maintain it. Ron says the \$17,000 wasn't budgeted, we just did it. We had to make the modernizations or go out of business with the site.

Stan Lynertz Citation

Stan Linnertz-volunteer Trails Program participant. Ron read a letter regarding Stan's exemplary actions as part of a trail crewmember during the summer of 2003. Stan volunteered as the crew's cook but took the lead in organizing a firefighting team from a group of campers who, under his leadership, extinguished a fire in the campground that would otherwise have become a major event. The District Ranger said that Stan prevented a major fire. Jon presented Stan with a plaque from the NSA for his efforts. Stan's efforts represent the NSA in the best possible terms. He received a "job well done!" round from the group.

Stan says he is in the communications business and is interested in putting a MS PowerPoint presentation together on smokejumpers. The theme will be who we are as jumpers, and the presentations will speak in behalf of NSA. Stan has experience with websites. His company works in drug and alcohol testing for DOT and other agencies.

Treasurer's Report

Dean Longanecker described our need to decide on focus for our activities and live within our resources. Our current efforts include the magazine, website, reunions, socials, trails, and exhibits. In describing our income from membership dues, our average for memberships is about 5 years. At the current spending rate, we are eating into future years dues. To date, we have used about one year of future dues. Not a crisis, but we have to face reality.

Outflows so far for the year are \$47,000 vs. the budget of \$36,000. We have an operating loss of \$6-7000. Merchandise income is a significant factor.

Fred Rohrbach asked what have we spent on the reunion-We have given the reunion committee \$6000 and they have asked for another \$1000. The committee will be able to handle the rest of the costs out of registrations. Merchandise sales at the reunion will be a major additional source of income.

Life memberships are currently 118 plus 3 on payment plan. All money is in CDs. This is a very conservative and appropriate approach with regards to investment.

Dean presented the draft budget for 2003-04 fiscal year. Not included in the budget are approximately \$2000 for donations and cost of Trails newsletter is \$1900, both of which should be included. Dean will make changes to the budget as discussed.

Dean is submitting a Tax Exempt basis for the NSA to the IRS.

Dean is still in the process of converting to a double entry bookkeeping system. He has procured the software. He will work with his bank to get the new bookkeeping system started then transfer the account to a larger, internet capable bank.

Fred Rohrbach asked if we need liability insurance. Fred Cooper suggests that we look into insurance. John Twiss volunteered to investigate insurance for NSA. The Forest Service covers us on liability for the Trails program.

NSA Video Activities

Steve Smith received a call from an advertising agency for Ford motor Co. who is doing a commercial piece on "Extremes". Steve recommends against NSA participation. The proposed activity would use films of government employees. This is contrary to what we have told base managers and employees. There may be a lot of money in it for the people in the footage. Since this activity may return a considerable amount of money to people featured in the footage, the Directors determined that further investigation is warranted, and a decision will be reached later. Steve will send footage to the advertising agency next week for examination, but without permission to use it.

Steve is also working on a documentary of history of the Forest Service, and wants to use portions of our video at no charge. Steve asks what our position is on this. This film will be on PBS in 2005. Steve guesses there will be about 2-3 minutes of footage. Fred Rohrbach suggests that we go forward with it on the basis of free press for the jumper program and for NSA. The group adopted Fred's suggestion.

Membership Report

Fred Cooper, Membership Chairman, reports there are currently 1500 NSA members, essentially the same for last two years. Associate members numbers are growing slowly. Life members are at 118 and still growing. He expects approx 130 life members by end of the FY. Older members are being replaced methodically with younger ones. Attachment 1 to these minutes provide membership details.

Carl Gidlund suggests that we recruit a pilot as a board member. His job would be to recruit pilots into the organization. Carl suggested Nels Jensen as a candidate.

NSA Recruitment Brochure

Fred Cooper reported that the recruitment campaign includes a brochure. Fred has recruited John Daniels (CJ56) to help and the brochure is nearly complete. The campaign is targeted at approximately 500 jumpers from the 50s and 60s.

There are also plans for a general NSA brochure for the public. This effort is being lead by Tom Uphill.

KIA Memorial Plaques

Carl Gidlund, who leads this activity, reported that 13 plaques have been prepared, with 30 names of those killed in the line of duty. These are being presented to nine active bases, the National FS museum, Museum of Mountain Flying, and Evergreen Museum. There is also a notebook of information on KIAs that accompanies each plaque. All of the plaques have been presented with the exception of the Evergreen Museum.

Trail Program

Jon McBride, Trails leader, reported that 2003 was 5th year of the Program. It continues to expand in popularity with NSA Members, and demand from the Forest Service. Projects in Montana, Idaho, and Oregon and encompass several national forests. A grant has been received from Mobile Exxon.

Jon says Trails is running into a cultural problem. Old jumpers don't subscribe to present day wilderness ethic. We had our hands slapped twice last summer. On one occasion, we set up camp too close to creek, and a member washed out his plate in creek. Another time, our food boxes weren't hung out of bear range. A round of applause was offered for Jon's work. Jon believes thanks should go to volunteers. There is a new Trails tee shirt. A hat and shirt are also available.

Folk Life Festival

Fred Cooper described the NSA partnership with the Forest Service for the FS 100th anniversary celebration in 2005 to be held at the Capitol Mall in Washington DC. Bob Beckley (Redmond Air Center) has been recruited to work with Fred on this effort. The program is soliciting veteran jumpers to be interviewed about their experiences. The interviews will be recorded on video and presented during the celebration. The videos will be preserved at the Smithsonian. Fred has contacted several jumpers to participate.

Use of the NSA logo

Larry Lufkin said that John Finnsterbush from Seattle has asked to use the NSA logo. Finnsterbush has renovated an old Willys forest fire truck and wants to place the logo on his truck. Ron Stoleson asked Larry to lead a group that will develop a policy for use of our copyrighted logo. Opinions offered during the meeting favored keeping the use of the logo somewhat discriminatory.

2004 Reunion Update

Ron Stoleson tells us good progress is being made on the reunion scheduled for 18-20 June 2004 in Missoula. A mailing has been completed to all members, associates, and pilots. A discussion on policy for NSA merchandise sales at reunions appears in the Merchandise section of this report.

The NSA should make sure that the CPS is mentioned in reunion presentations. The CPS reunion at Hungry Horse will follow the Missoula reunion. The NSA should be represented there.

50th Year Re-dedication of the Missoula Aerial Fire Depot

Fifty years ago, President Dwight Eisenhower dedicated the new Forest Service Aerial Fire Depot. Fred Rohrbach described the plans for re-dedication of the AFD. The Forest Service will take lead roll in rededication. NSA potential activities were discussed.

Bill Moody described the possibility of NSA members doing a re-dedication jump from Evergreen Museum Ford. Group discussion concluded that the jump would be too risky both from the standpoint of NSA and to the Directors.

An invitation to the re-dedication should go to Senator Baucus of Montana.

Aerial Fire Depot Visitor Center

There are plans for a new visitor center at the AFD; however, the estimated \$3-5M is not available. Construction plans include a new visitor center and parking lot. The Forest Service would like the NSA to be a participant in some manner. NSA members could lobby senators and congressmen, while government employees can't. Fred Rohrbach suggested that an article be included in the magazine regarding the need for individual support for the Visitor Center.

New NSA chapter in Colorado

Active NSA members in Colorado are interested in starting a chapter there. We have guidelines for establishing chapters. Jon McBride has written these guidelines several years ago. Ron Stoleson will work with the people in Colorado towards starting their new chapter.

Next Meetings

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be in Seattle on April 17, 2004, at 0900. It will be located at Fred Rohrbach's business. A social for the evening of April 17 is planned and Bill Poppy will be asked to organize it. A full board meeting is planned in June in MSO immediately before the reunion. Carl Gidlund moved that a fall 2004 board meeting in Denver be planned. Bill Moody seconded, motion carried.

Other topics

Carl Gidlund says that current employer information for NSA members would be useful and is not included in the database. Many companies have a corporate giving program in which NSA could participate. Ron Stoleson says we should remind members to ask their company to match individual contributions.

Bill Moody moved that the meeting be adjourned. John Twiss seconded, meeting adjourned.

Attachment 1
**NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER
ASSOCIATION**
PERIODIC MEMBERSHIP REPORT

October 2003

Submitted by Fred Cooper

MEMBER CATEGORY	SEP 2000	FEB 2001	APR 2001	JUN 2001	SEP 2001	MAR 2002	JUN 2002	OCT 2002	APR 2003	OCT 2003
1 Year Jumper	471	494	463	358	330	194	176	182	147	139
2 Year Jumper	393	462	479	481	472	454	375	392	398	389
5 Year Jumper	249	337	354	375	430	457	527	555	592	603
10 Year Jumper	197	209	218	230	239	242	254	255	241	238
Life Jumper	42	46	52	67	71	82	84	87	105	113
TOTAL JUMPER	1,3552	1,548	1,566	1,511	1,542	1,429	1,416	1,471	1,483	1,482
1 Year Associate	170	218	220	185	127	131	105	142	119	162
2 Year Associate	33	43	46	45	48	51	52	55	66	57
5 Year Associate	14	18	18	17	18	19	23	23	12	24
10 Year Associate	4	4	5	4	4	5	8	8	7	7
Life Associate	1	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	4	4
TOTAL ASSOCIATE	222	284	290	253	199	208	190	230	218	254
1 Year Pilot	2	6	8	7	7	7	5	4	4	4
2 Year Pilot	2	3	3	5	5	7	6	6	6	6
5 Year Pilot				1	3	6	9	9	12	12
10 Year Pilot				1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Life Pilot	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL PILOT	5	10	12	15	17	22	22	21	24	24
GRAND TOTAL	19579	19845	1,868	19779	11748	19659	1,628	19722	19725	19760
Average Length of Jumper Membership	3.31 Years	3.35 Years	3.43 Years	3.64 Years	3.77 Years	4.31 Years	4.58 Years	4.55 Years	4.26 Years	4.61 Years

NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBERSHIP REPORT

October 25, 2003
Submitted by Fred Cooper

#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ROOKIE BASE	ROOKIE YEAR
1	ALLEN	JAMES C.	NCSB	1946
2	ANDERSEN	ROLAND H. (ANDY)	MSO	1952
3	BAKER	DONALD A.	MSO	1965
4	BEARTUSK	KEITH L.	MSO	1969
5	BELTRAN	TONY G.	IDC	1969
6	BENNETT	DAVID W.	MSO	1961
7	BLAINE	JAMES E.	MSO	1963
8	BOUCHER	ALBERT N.	CJ	1949
9	BRAUER	FRED O.	MSO	1941
10	BROWN	CHARLES W.	IDC	1956
11	CABLES	MERLE L.	MYC	1948
12	CAHILL	JOHN W. (JACK)	MSO	1958
13	CARPENTER	PETER F.	RDD	1959
14	CHERRY	JAMES L.	MSO	1957
15	CLATWORTHY	JAMES F.	MSO	1956
16	CONNER	WILSON B.	NCSB	1948
17	COOLEY	EARL E.	MSO	1940
18	CROSS	GEORGE W.	MSO	1974
19	CUPLIN	DAVID R.	MSO	1948
20	DELONG	STAN J.	RDD	1965
21	DEMMONS	JACK	MSO	1950
22	DERRY	ROBERT L.	MSO	1943
23	DIXON	JERRY S.	MYC	1971
24	DOLLARD	JIMMIE F.	CJ	1952
25	DOMINGOS	C. LESTER	NCSB	1964
26	DONNER	FRED	MSO	1959
27	DUNN	ROBERT H.	MSO	1958
28	DUNTON	ALAN J.	FBX	1967
29	DUTTON	DELOS M.	MSO	1951
30	EASTEP	ERIC D.	MYC	2000
31	ERIKSSON	RICHARD C.	MSO	1960
32	FILLER	MERL C. (BUD)	MYC	1952
33	FRICKE	CHARLES A.	MSO	1961
34	GASTINEAU	ORVAL W. (BILL)	MSO	1963
35	GERSBACH	RICHARD O. (RICH)	RDD	1979
36	GOLIK	DENNIS M.	MYC	1974
37	GONZALEZ	GREG J.	CJ	1976
38	GORSUCH	ROBERT V.	MSO	1947
39	GOWEN	GEORGE W.	MSO	1954
40	GREESON	MIKE J.	MSO	1959
41	GUTKOSKI	JOSEPH J.	MSO	1950
42	HALLORAN	DONAL W.	MSO	1953
43	HARPER	RONALD K. (KENT)	RDD	1975
44	HARTMAN	STEPHEN M.	MSO	1967
45	HELMER	J014N C.	RDD	1959
46	HENDERSON	WALLACE D.	MYC	1946
47	HINKLE	GENE E.	MSO	1947
48	HOOPER	ROBERT B.	CJ	1967
49	KOVALICKY	THOMAS J.	MSO	1961
50	KREITZBERG	RICHARD A.	MSO	1952
51	LAI CONSULTANTS INC.	Associate		
52	LAUBER	ADAM L.	RDD	1999
53	LINNERTZ	STANLEY	MSO	1961
54	LINTON	GERALD J.	MSO	1949

55	LIPSCOMB	LEE G.	MSO	1958
56	LITTELL	WALLACE W.	MSO	1944
57	LITTLE	GENE R.	MSO	1947
58	LONGANECKER	DEAN M.	NCSB	1968
59	LONGLEY	LARRY D.	NCSB	1972
60	LUFKIN	FRANCIS B.	NCSB	1939
61	LUFKIN	LARRY C.	CJ	1963
62	MACPHERSON	COLE L.	MSO	1955
63	MAERZLUFT	KARL H.	FBX	1967
64	MANSFIELD	CHARLES R.	CJ	1959
65	MCBRIDE	JON H.	MSO	1954
66	MCCULLOUGH	MICHAEL D.	MSO	1956
67	MCINTOSH	J014N W.	MSO	1960
68	MILLS	WILLIAM H.	MSO	1965
69	MOODY	WILLIAM D.	NCSB	1957
70	MURPHY	JAMES L.	MSO	1948
71	MUSQUEZ	BENITO O. (BEN)	MSO	1956
72	BEESON	H. JAMES	CJ	1953
73	OSTPOVICH	RAYMOND	CJ	1973
74	PEPPARD	LEE E.	MSO	1962
75	PETTERSON	JON E.	MYC	1964
76	PETTY (STEWART)	PHILIP D.	MSO	1968
77	PHIFER	GREGG L.	MSO	1944
79	POPPIE	WILFORD D. (BILL)	MSO	1959
79	PRESTON	MILFORD M.	RDD	1974
80	QUILLIN	ROBERT L.	FBX	1971
81	RABIDEAU	CLARENCE J. (JIM)	NCSB	1949
82	RAHN	PERRY H.	MSO	1961
83	RATHBURN	JAMES F.	MYC	1958
84	REID	ROBERT E.	MSO	1957
85	RHODES	STEVE A.	NCSB	1958
86	ROHRBACH	FRED G.	MSO	1965
87	ROST	MAYNARD T. (SAM)	MSO	1958
88	ROTROFF	LOREN C. (BUD)	RDD	1967
89	SATTERWHITE	NEIL E.	MYC	1965
90	SAVAGE	ROGER L.	MSO	1957
91	SCHLAEFLI	ROBERT	Associate	
		Retardant Pilot		
92	SCOTT	JONATHAN L.	MYC	1948
93	SEALE	MICHAEL D.	Pilot	
94	SHEARER	THOMAS P. (PAT)	MSO	1967
95	SHELEY	CHUCK	CJ	1959
96	SMITH	STEVE	Associate	
97	SQUAD VI	All 9 Jumpers in Squad VI (Sponsor: Bill Woolworth)	MSO	1968
98	STEPPE	MICHAEL E.	IDC	1961
99	STINSON	DOUGLAS P.	CJ	1954
100	STOLESON	ROLAND M.	MSO	1956
101	STRATTON	H. W. (SKIP)	MSO	1947
102	SUNDT	MATTHEW A.	RAC	1983
103	TAYLOR	MURRY A.	RDD	1965
104	THOMAS	ROGERS M.	MSO	1965
10-5	THOMPSON	THOMAS J.	MSO	1955
106	TOBIN	JOHN J.	MSO	1959
107	TWISS	JOHN C.	RAC	1967
108	UPHILL	THOMAS R.	MSO	1956
109	VOELZ	JAMES F.	MYC	1971
110	WALKER	ROBERT A.	AMC	1970
111	WARNER	SCOTT A.	RDD	1969
112	WELCH	GARY E. (TEX)	CJ	1960
113	WERHANE	WILLIAM L.	MSO	1966
114	WHEELock	MICHAEL D.	CJ	1976

115	WILSON	DICK	MSO	1948
116	WOODWARD	HOWARD R. (RANDY)	MSO	1967
117	WOOLWORTH	BRIAN	Associate	
118	YENSEN	WILLIAM A. (WILD BILL)	MYC	1953

In addition, there 3 member who are paying on one of the Life Member installment plans.

They are:

#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ROOKIE BASE	ROOKIE YEAR
1	DALZELL	CLIFFORD D.	MSO	1961
2	DANIELS	DOUGLAS E.	MSO	1961
3	PETTIGREW	THOMAS	MYC	1987