



Super Sabre Society (SSS)
Board of Directors
P.O. Box 341837
Lakewav. TX 78734

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3 **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**
4 **held January 15, 2015**
5

6 A Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the SUPER SABRE SOCIETY, duly noticed, was
7 held, as scheduled, by telephone conference, on January 15, 2015, pursuant to the provisions of
8 Article III, paragraph 9 of the By-Laws of the SUPER SABRE SOCIETY.
9

10 **1. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by SSS President and Chairman of the Board
11 of Directors, Don Shepperd, at 1400 hours MST.
12

13 **2. Roll Call and Quorum Determination.** Roll was taken by Acting Executive Secretary Dewey
14 Clawson and a quorum verified.
15

16 **A. Board Members Present.**

17
18 Don Shepperd, President/Chairman
19 Eddie Bracken, Vice President/Vice Chairman
20 Robert (Hoppy) Hopkins, Executive Director (and CEO)
21 Duane (Dewey) Clawson, Acting Secretary
22

23 **B. Officers Present.**

24 Dave Hatten, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
25 R. Medley Gatewood, Editor and Publisher of *The Intake*
26 Win Reither, Information Officer
27 Jerry (Killer) Key, Historian
28

29 **3. Approval of Prior Board Minutes.** A motion to approve the Minutes, as submitted, of the
30 SSS Board of Directors Meeting held June 26, 2014 was made by VP Eddie Bracken and seconded
31 by CEO Hoppy Hopkins. There was no discussion. The Motion carried by unanimous voice
32 vote.
33

34 **4. President's Remarks.** President Don Shepperd expressed his thanks for the BOD's help in
35 running the SSS and helping him in his new role. He expressed his sincere desire to quell the
36 dissension that had occasionally occurred in the past. He expressed his belief that it is all about us,
37 the airplane and our legacy.
38

39 **5. Officers Reports.**

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41 **A. Chief Financial Officer.** CFO Dave Hatten stated that we lost money last year and we
42 are forecast to lose about \$12,000 this year. Current balance is about \$135,000 with
43 \$101,000 unrestricted funds. The Intake will cost about \$27,500, Web site maintenance

1 will be \$11,000, web site access \$1,080 and miscellaneous expenses at \$5,500. Income
2 from the upcoming reunion is unknown at this time but the event is forecast to be cost
3 neutral. With no changes, our unrestricted cash balance this time next year will be about
4 \$89,000.
5

6 **B. Chief Executive Officer.** CEO Hoppy Hopkins stated that the financial goal of the
7 reunion is to be cost neutral to us. The Military Reunion Planners (MRP) make their
8 money from commissions from the hotel and other events and we have a good working
9 relation with them. Hoppy reported that we have 105 people, 67 members and 38 guests
10 signed up for the reunion so far. The 90TFS Dice Men will have a mini reunion dinner
11 Thursday evening during the reunion. The NMUSAF restoration tour on Friday is almost
12 full. "Flying the Feathered Edge," a biographical movie about Bob Hoover, will be shown
13 at the NMUSAF on Friday evening. IO Win Reither added that sending out an email thru
14 the web site creates significant interest in the web site content. Hoppy reported that he will
15 periodically send out marketing type emails. An aerial demonstration of Radio Controlled
16 F-100 models is also being planned by Al DeGroot. The question of the early cutoff date,
17 February 26 2015, for the reunion registration arose. Hoppy will investigate and report
18 back on moving the registration cutoff date a little later.
19

20 Hoppy reported that neither he nor the Smithsonian object to keeping the Wall of Honor
21 registration open for another year. After a brief discussion, all agreed that this is a good
22 recruiting tool and should be kept open for at least another year, or when the limit of 1007
23 names is reached.
24

25 The Auxiliary Equipment Store will be reduced to just internet links to assorted items on
26 our web site. We will not actually sell stuff. No objection was raised if anyone else wants
27 to sell T shirts, coffee cups, etc that is customized with SSS/F-100 logos.
28

29 **C. Information Officer.** IO Win Reither reported that our web site draws more interest on
30 the web than another organization that has over 40,000 members. He reported that our
31 previous web site drew 18 visitors per week and we now get up to 500 unique visits per
32 week, one day peaking at over 850. Our web designer, Brian Butler, has submitted a web
33 report (Attachment 1) and a proposal (Attachment 2) for our consideration. VP Eddie
34 Bracken moved to accept Brian's web site proposal for the coming year at the proposed
35 flat rate of \$11,000, \$7,000 less than we spent in 2014. Brian will be the web master and
36 Win, as the SSS IO, will be the single POC for all web site entries except "blog" entries.
37 Motion was seconded by Hoppy Hopkins. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Win
38 also reported that the "Constant Contact" software might be used in the future to replace
39 our membership module - "Wild Apricot" - at a savings of nearly \$1,000 per year. He will
40 look into a comparison of these systems.
41

42 **D. Membership Chairman.** Dewey Clawson reported that membership increased by 33
43 over the same time last year, despite 44 members having flown West and 21 members
44 who have dropped out for various reasons. Year over year statistics are included in
45 Attachment 3. The Membership Committee will actively pursue the 57 members that are
46 delinquent in an attempt to recover them.
47

1 **E. The Intake Editor.** Medley Gatewood reported the Spring issue of The Intake is on track
2 to go to the printers the end of February. The SSS calendar published the last 2 years cost
3 about \$3,000 per year plus about 80 cents each in postage. Medley will track the demand
4 for the calendar and make a determination in the future whether or not to continue
5 publishing it. President Shepperd thanked Medley again for his efforts in putting out the
6 finest Journal he reads.
7

8 **F. Vice President.** Vice President Eddie Bracken expressed his confidence in our new
9 leadership. He expressed his views that our membership needs to be involved in any decisions
10 made to change the structure of our membership. He would like to see a much more definitive
11 list of qualifications for Associate Membership in our Bylaws and this too should be put to a
12 vote. He also suggested that IRS 501c(19) status may not be correct for us in the long term. A
13 discussion ensued summarized by President Shepperd's proposal, in conjunction with Eddie
14 and Hoppy, to write up a strategic plan for the organization. Eddie brought up the FSS and
15 our future relations with this organization. President Shepperd reported that the leadership of
16 the MAPS museum and FSS is meeting on 28 January at the museum in North Canton, OH.
17 More about the status and future of both organizations will be known after that meeting.
18 Hoppy and Shep plan to visit the MAPS museum prior to the Dayton reunion.
19

20 **6. Old Business.** None
21

22
23 **7. New Business.**
24

25 **A. New Director at Large.** President Shepperd proposed appointing Dick Pietro to fill the
26 remaining 2 years of Gordie Peterson's (RIP) term. After a short discussion, Shep made a
27 motion to appoint Dick Pietro as Director at Large to fill the term running until December
28 31, 2016. Motion was seconded by Eddie Bracken and passed by unanimous voice vote.
29

30 **B. New Executive Secretary.** Three members were proposed to fill this position. The
31 position of "Legal Advisor" was also discussed and whether or not it should remain
32 combined with the Executive Secretary position or be made a separate position. The Legal
33 Advisor could also be made a BOD position or an Officer position. After discussion it was
34 decided to continue this subject to the next Board meeting.
35

36 **C. Current relationship with MAPS and FSS.** This was discussed in conjunction with the
37 Vice President's report.
38

39 **D. Memorabilia Displays.** Hoppy will investigate having several nice display cases
40 constructed to hold displays at various museums, MAPS, Smithsonian, etc. He will report
41 back after the relationship with MAPS and FSS is clarified and after visiting MAPS prior
42 to Dayton.
43
44
45
46

1 **E. Outstanding Member Awards.** Discussion ensued about the history and makeup of this
2 award. The award was not intended to cover any particular time period and there are no set
3 criteria. Don Shepperd made a motion to make this award as proposed and present it at the
4 coming reunion. Seconded by Eddie Bracken and the motion passed by unanimous voice
5 vote. The award will include a model F-100 and Hoppy will be in charge of the award.
6

7 **F. Ideas/Plans to End the Rancor.** President Don Shepperd stated that he is committed to
8 ending the rancor that has appeared in the recent past. Secondly, he stated that nothing will
9 be said about a member that will not be said to his face. Shep asked for the cooperation of
10 the Board and promised they will be kept informed.
11

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13 **8. Directors' Comments.** President Don Shepperd asked everyone to think about a Dues
14 increase. An increase to \$40 per year would increase dues income from \$35,000 to \$56,000. This
15 would allow us to maintain a working capital of around \$100,000 to cover any programs we may
16 initiate in the future in support of our mission statement.
17

18 **9. Announcements.**

19
20 **A. Next Scheduled Meeting.** To be determined. Tentatively scheduled for February 19
21 2015, 1400 MST. There will also be a BOD meeting Thursday afternoon, April 9, 2015 at
22 the next reunion.
23

24 **B. Other.** None.
25

26 **10. Adjournment.** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1533 hours
27 MST.
28

29
30 **Respectfully submitted:**

Approved and Adopted:

31
32
33
34 _____
35 **Duane W. Clawson, Acting Secretary**

_____ **SS** _____
Donald Shepperd, President

36
37
38
39 19 February 2015
40 **Date**

19 February 2015
Date