



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

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2
3 **Minutes of the Seventh Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors**
4 **held April 8, 2013**
5

6 The sixth annual meeting of the Board of Directors of the SUPER SABRE SOCIETY, duly noticed, was
7 held, as scheduled, pursuant to the provisions of Article III, subparagraph 9.a. of the By-Laws of the
8 SUPER SABRE SOCIETY, at the GOLD COAST HOTEL in Las Vegas, Nevada, on April 8, 2013
9

10 **1. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by SSS President and Chairman of the Board of
11 Directors, Bill Gorton, at 1500 hours PDT.
12

13 **2. Roll Call and Quorum Determination.** Roll was taken by the Secretary and a quorum
14 established.
15

16 **A. Board Members Present.**

17 Bill Gorton, President/Chairman
18 Eddie Bracken, Vice President/Vice Chairman
19 Dewey Clawson, Executive Director
20 Art Oken, Secretary
21
22

23 **B. Officers Present.**

24 Dave Hatten, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer
25 R. Medley Gatewood, Chief Information Officer
26
27

28 **3. FRIENDS OF THE SUPER SABRE (FSS) Presentation.** FSS (and SSS) member Bob Dunham, Chief
29 Operations Officer of the FSS, previewed for the SSS Board of Directors a presentation entitled:
30 *“FSS and the F-100 Super Sabre Museum – ‘It ain’t as easy as it seems!’”* Bill Gorton had asked
31 Bob to prepare and deliver this presentation at the SSS Members Meeting on April 11, 2013. A
32 summary of Bob’s presentation follows.
33

34 Bob reviewed the purposes and objectives of the FSS and its relationship to the SSS; progress on
35 donations of cash and collection of artifacts and memorabilia; pending issues including obstacles in
36 the path towards establishing a dedicated F-100 museum; and ongoing FSS projects. Bob reported
37 that the legacy collection is growing but corporate donors and sponsors are now difficult to find.
38

39 Moving (and preparing for movement) large objects by road has proven very costly As an example,
40 a J-57 engine recently acquired at a cost of \$3,500.00 was moved from Oregon to Texas by SSS
41 member Ed Sandelius, who agreed to do so for expenses only. Expenses amounted to around
42 \$6,000.00 which, in addition to tires, gas and oil, included the cost of hiring heavy duty cranes to on-
43 load and off-load the engine from Ed’s trailer (\$600.00 x 2).
44

1 Borrowing aircraft for display from the NMUSAF through the city of Houston has become
2 prohibitively expensive as the city of Houston now requires a \$50,000.00 deposit for each such loan.
3 Bob emphasized that a “certified” museum is needed before there is any likelihood of real success,
4 and that Houston (Ellington AFB) is currently the most attractive location as we must on the city of
5 Houston to ask for and receive any aircraft.
6

7 In response to questions, Bob reported that F-100 aircraft and parts are available for acquisition.
8 There will be a need to develop interactive displays (e.g., integrating gun camera film videos, etc.) to
9 augment the hardware if the displays are to be sufficiently appealing, especially to younger
10 audiences. The greatest issue, rather than money, Bob has concluded, is a lack of “momentum”
11 which has caused a waning of interest among participants and a loss of appeal to potential substantial
12 donors. In addition, FSS President Ann Coleman-Cohagen is experiencing serious health issues;
13 Bob is seeking someone to step in and succeed Ann as FSS President at such time as she steps down.
14

15 Mention was made of a museum being formed at Colorado Springs. Bob stated his intention to look
16 into that.
17

18 At the conclusion of Bob’s presentation, Bill Gorton expressed his appreciation to Bob and reiterated
19 that he had asked Bob to make this presentation to the SSS general membership to encourage some
20 volunteers to step into the FSS leadership, and to give the SSS membership an understanding of the
21 FSS in an effort to engender their support.
22

23 Bob left a copy of the “**BUSINESS PLAN FOR FRIENDS OF THE SUPER SABRE F-100 MUSEUM**
24 **ELLINGTON AIRPORT HOUSTON, TEXAS**” with the Secretary of the Board (Art Oken) for retention
25 and reference.
26

27 A copy of the slides prepared by Bob for use in this presentation is included with these Minutes at
28 **Attachment-1.**
29

30 **4. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes.** Secretary Art Oken submitted for approval written
31 Minutes of the Board Meeting held on October 2, 2012, and of the Biennial Membership meetings
32 held on April 2, 2009 and April 14, 2011. All of these draft minutes had earlier been circulated to
33 the members of the Board of Directors for review via e-mail. No additions, deletions or other
34 corrections were proposed. There being no corrections proposed the Chair approved without
35 objection the minutes for adoption as drafted.
36

37 **5. President’s Report.** President Bill Gorton deferred his comments to coincide with the
38 substantive agenda items which follow.
39

40 **6. Officers’ Reports.**

41
42 **A. Chief Executive Officer.** CEO Dewey Clawson began with a quick review of on-going
43 projects.
44

45 (1) Nose-Art. SSS member Pete Felts has been collecting pictures of all the F-100 nose-
46 art samples and other artwork (e.g., F-100s with names and/or pictures painted on them) that he has
47 been able to acquire. He has compiled that collection in a book which he will have with him when
48 he arrives at the reunion site on April 9, 2013.
49

1
2 (2) Gun Camera Film. Dewey is taking action to digitize all of the F-100 gun camera
3 film he can obtain. A commercial company (Lou Reda Productions in Pennsylvania) is doing this
4 for us. Dewey has about a half-dozen DVDs from them at this time. Dewey is having two DVDs of
5 each donor's material made (one for us and one to provide to the donor).
6

7 (3) 8mm Family Film. Lou Reda Productions will also digitize 8mm home movie film
8 from the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s. In exchange for a release to use the material, Dewey will provide
9 a copy of the finished digitized film to anyone who provides material used in the film.
10

11 (4) Les Leavoy Capt America Award. There are two recipients whose names will be
12 announced at this reunion: Bill Hosmer and P.J White. Dewey has received from Laird Leavoy the
13 statuette which commemorates the award for presentation to Bill Hosmer. Bill Gorton agreed to
14 have Jerry Key make that presentation at the Members Meeting on April 11, 2013. Laird has mailed
15 the other directly to P.J. White, as P.J. will not be present at the reunion
16

17 (5) Outstanding Member Awards. At the Banquet on April 11, 2013, Medley Gatewood
18 will announce the award to Dave Menard (posthumously); Bob Dunham will accept the award on
19 behalf of Dave Menard (deceased). Hoppy Hopkins will also receive an award at the banquet which
20 John Schultz as Master of Ceremonies will present to him. **Note**. At the Banquet Bill Gorton (not
21 John Schultz) presented the Outstanding Member award to Hoppy Hopkins.
22

23 (6) Banquet Seating. Dewey explained the seating and serving arrangements for the
24 Banquet and the seating diagrams which will be available to the members at the banquet area.
25

26 (7) Ladies Luncheon. This event is scheduled for noon on April 10, 2013. Shirley
27 Vanek will be the Mistress of Ceremonies. The **Happy Hoofers** will perform at 1300 hours local.
28 About 40 ladies have signed up for the luncheon
29

30 (8) Paper Airplane Contest. The **Dave Menard Memorial Hypersonic Papyrus Indoor**
31 **Aircraft Design and Fly-Off** will take place in the hospitality suite Dick Rutan will officiate.
32 Dewey has purchased a laser range finder which, along with a stop watch, will be used to measure
33 performance and determine winners in each category.
34

35 (9) Membership Chairman. Dewey pointed out that when he was appointed to serve as
36 CEO, he was serving as Chairman of the Membership Committee. Those two positions should not
37 simultaneously be filled by the same person - accordingly a replacement Membership Committee
38 Chairman is needed. Bill Gorton asked Dewey to provide him with names of proposed candidates.
39

40 (10) Associate Membership. Dewey inquired whether more specific qualification criteria
41 need to be spelled out to define eligibility for associate membership. Discussion ensued. IRS Code
42 Section 501(c)(19) constraints on the percentage of members who must be "military veterans" or
43 "qualifying relatives" in order for the SSS to retain eligibility for this tax exemption were discussed.
44 Discussion broadened to include the need to look to the future of the organization in light of the
45 aging membership, which suggests, among other things, that membership criteria may have to
46 change, consistent with the core mission, if the organization is to survive. See agenda item 8.D.,
47 below. At the conclusion of discussion, Board consensus was expressed that, at this time, the current
48 applicable SSS By-Laws provisions regarding associate membership are sufficient as written.
49

1 (11) Nevada Sales Tax. Dewey pointed out that the SSS paid over \$3,000.00 in sales tax
2 to the State of Nevada for 2011 reunion expenses. Dewey noted that we are exempt from federal
3 income tax liability and expressed the view that we should seek sales tax exemption from the State
4 of Nevada as well. Dewey stated that he has submitted an application to the State for that
5 exemption, and is awaiting a final reply.
6

7 (12) SSS Website password. Dewey announced that he has selected a new password for
8 member access to the SSS website and, as has been the custom, that he will inform the members of
9 that new password at the Membership Meeting on April 11, 2013, effective on that date.
10

11 (13) SSS Internal E-Mail Communications. In response to a question from Vice
12 President Eddie Bracken, Dewey reviewed the source and purpose of *Toss-Bomb* messages
13 (originated and used exclusively by SSS Founding Member Les Frazier to share general information
14 amongst the members); *Skip-Bomb* messages (originated only by SSS CEO Dewey Clawson as the
15 sole official source of information to the members from the CEO); and *RIP* messages (used by CEO
16 Dewey Clawson to announce the demise of a an SSS member). President Bill Gorton added that the
17 *NOTAM* is the means by which he alone, as SSS President, informs the members of action agreed
18 upon by the Board of Directors at a Board meeting. Dewey emphasized that only three people are
19 authorized to (and that the system will allow to) send messages out to the SSS membership list –
20 SSS President Bill Gorton, SSS CEO Dewey Clawson and SSS Website Manager Ron Doughty.
21 Les Frazier’s *Toss-Bomb* messages are transmitted to Dewey, who then releases them (or not) to
22 those on the SSS membership list, at his discretion. Dewey added that Les also uses his own e-mail
23 system to communicate with members and often labels these messages “*Toss-Bombs*.” These
24 messages often appear to contain official SSS information, but they do not.
25

26 (14) Reunion Attendance. Dewey announced that 450 people are registered to attend the
27 reunion, 285 of whom are SSS members; 415 are signed up to attend the banquet – about 200 fewer
28 than attended at the prior reunion (in 2011). CFO Dave Hatten reported 14 cancellations.
29

30 **B. Chief Financial Officer.** Treasurer and CFO Dave Hatten delivered a brief Financial Report.
31 Eddie Bracken asked what a reunion typically costs. Dave (and Dewey), in response to questions,
32 reviewed various reunion costs and expenses (reception, tours, hospitality suites, banquet, etc.) and
33 reported that total cost has been about \$90,000. Bill Gorton emphasized that the objective was
34 essentially to “break even.” Dave reported unrestricted net assets are about \$118,000.00. Bill
35 queried Dave about the profit and loss portion of Dave’s report. Dave pointed out that the “income”
36 figure shown on the report reflects a surge as annual membership dues become payable on January
37 1st; this figure will be reduced substantially as expenses are paid in due course during ensuing
38 months. A copy of the Financial Report is included with these Minutes at **Attachment-2**.
39

40 Bill Gorton reviewed the development and evolution of the SSS Funds Distribution Policy and
41 discussed past distributions made in consonance with the policy then in effect. Bill reiterated that, as
42 a matter of policy, he will notify the membership via a NOTAM whenever the SSS is asked for a
43 substantial contribution consistent with the SSS mission statement. Eddie Bracken mentioned that
44 Les Frazier is seeking reimbursement for costs related to SSS “country store” items (e.g., hats,
45 coffee cups, etc.) he will make available for sale at this reunion. Bill emphasized that Les should be
46 fully reimbursed for those expenditures. Dewey (and Dave) clarified that SSS country store items
47 were donated by the SSS to the FSS for sale at this reunion, all proceeds of which are intended to
48 accrue to the FSS (at no net cost to the SSS). Clint Richards was identified as the SSS member who
49 runs the SSS country store.

1 **C. Chief Information Officer.** SSS CIO Medley Gatewood reported that Les Frazier had,
2 about three weeks earlier, contacted him by e-mail asking for a deadline for submission of text to be
3 published in the next issue of *The Intake*, under the title: “*Founder’s Column.*” Medley, after
4 consultation with Bill and Dewey, informed Les that he was welcome to submit such material but,
5 at the same time, reminded Les that he (Medley), as Editor, held (and would exercise) full and final
6 authority to decide what was fit to appear in any issue of *The Intake*. At this point, Bill Gorton
7 raised the policy question whether the Board wished to include (i.e., add) a “*Founder’s Column*” to
8 *The Intake* format. Discussion ensued, after which Bill suggested that Les remains welcome (as
9 does any other SSS member) to submit for publication, subject to editorial review by Medley (as
10 Editor), any articles which contained, in Medley’s opinion (as Editor) appropriate useful and
11 informative information but, in response to his recent request, no dedicated “*Founder’s Column*”
12 would be added to *The Intake* at this time. Bill asked for comments on this suggested policy –
13 assent was expressed by all present.

14
15 Medley reported that he had received from SSS member Ron Standerfer, the originator and first
16 editor of *The Intake*, an article entitled: “*Preserving Our Heritage, How We Got It All Wrong,*
17 *and What We Need to Do to Get Back on Track.*” Medley expressed his view that the “essence” of
18 Ron’s paper is the contention that, in our mission statement (“*The mission of the Super Sabre*
19 *Society is to preserve the history of the F-100 Super Sabre and the men who flew the aircraft.*”)
20 we got the cart before the horse. Ron is suggesting that, in placing mention of the *aircraft before*
21 mention of the *men* who flew the aircraft, there is an erroneous inference that preservation of the
22 history of the people involved is less interesting or less important than preserving the history of the
23 airplane. Ron suggests applying some of the evolving “social media” technology similar, for
24 example, to *Facebook*, to attract and address questions, comments and discussion by former
25 participants to recover and record the human history. For this purpose, SSS member Wally Mason,
26 who was the first photo editor of *The Intake*, has suggested creating an additional net similar to the
27 SSS PIF but devoted specifically and exclusively to members’ comments about their personal
28 experiences with the airplane in the conduct of its various assigned missions. Medley added that he
29 has had discussions via teleconference with Winslow (“Win”) Reither, an expert professional
30 website designer, on the subject of improving the SSS website (i.e., making it inter-active and more
31 user-friendly). Win Reither’s idea is to integrate the SSS website with some social media by means
32 of currently available website creation software. Win has a nephew who does this professionally.
33 Medley plans to meet further with Win and with Ron Standerfer (who have known each other for
34 some time and share similar interests) to blend their respective vision. Medley commented on the
35 utility of goal setting and reported that Win has set, as a goal, doubling SSS membership within a
36 year or two. Medley estimated cost of this interactive website initiative at around \$10, 000.00.

37
38 Medley then reported progress on the SSS airfoil at Udvar-Hazy. SSS member Hoppy Hopkins is in
39 charge of developing the design for this F-100 commemorative panel. Medley is working with SSS
40 members Bob Dunham and John Schultz to refine the design. This group, in consultation with
41 prominent American aviation artist Keith Ferris, has developed a preferred design for the panel,
42 which highlights the organization (the SSS) as well as the airplane. This proposed design includes a
43 statement which highlights the contribution of the F-100 to the safety of the free world during the
44 “cold war” and the extensive role of the F-100 in the war in Viet Nam, and dedicates the
45 commemorative panel to all of the men who flew the airplane and who otherwise served in
46 accomplishing the multiple global missions performed by the F-100 aircraft.

1 Bill Gorton commented that a final decision on design of this commemorative panel was not yet
2 determined and would not be made at this time. When Hoppy Hopkins, in conjunction with Medley
3 and his group, agrees on a final proposed design, the SSS Board of Directors will make the final
4 decision. This is a work in progress. Medley added that their current goal is to dedicate the panel at
5 the same time that the F-100 aircraft (Tail Number 440) now being prepared for display at Udvar-
6 Hazy is dedicated - sometime during the Fall of 2013. This would mean a deadline (for final panel
7 design) sometime during July of 2013.
8

9 **D. Historian.** Historian Jerry (“Killer”) Key was delayed by weather enroute to the reunion
10 site and did not arrive until after the meeting had concluded. President Bill Gorton advised the
11 Board that he had asked Killer to report on the effort led by Hoppy Hopkins to roll out the F-100
12 aircraft (Tail Number 440) being prepared for permanent display at Udvar-Hazy. Bill stated that
13 Hoppy has been doing an absolutely outstanding job over the past four years on this effort. Hoppy is
14 scheduled to make a presentation to the SSS membership on this project at the Biennial Members
15 Meeting on April 11th. Bill added that he has asked Ron Standerfer to work with Hoppy to prepare a
16 condensed presentation (about ten minutes long) of Hoppy’s briefing (visuals and narrative),
17 originally thirty minutes in length, suitable for delivery within the time constraints at the Members
18 Meeting. Hoppy also has some videos suitable for display in the hospitality suites.
19

20 **7. Unfinished (Old) Business.** Executive Director and CEO Dewey Clawson reported that he had a
21 model (F-100) airplane painted in the colors of Les Frazier’s former squadron, mounted on a stand
22 with a plaque at the base which displays Les Frazier’s name. This award was created to honor Les
23 Frazier for his achievement in forming the **SUPER SABRE SOCIETY**. As Les indicated a family
24 emergency prevented him from attending reunion events later in the week, CFO Dave Hatten agreed
25 to deliver the award to Les after the reunion. President Bill Gorton will present the award – Dave
26 Hatten agreed to ask SSS member Peach Vanek to accept it on Les’ behalf - at the Biennial Members
27 Meeting on April 11th. The Board agreed that, in making this presentation, Bill would also
28 announce the Board’s decision to honor Les Frazier by publicly recognizing him as “**Founder**” of
29 the **SUPER SABRE SOCIETY**.
30

31 **8. New Business.**

32 **A. 2013 Reunion Final Arrangements.**

33 **(1) Biennial Members Meeting.** Final planning details were resolved.

34 **(2) Banquet Seating.** Final planning details were resolved.

35 **(3) Presentations.** Final planning details were resolved.
36
37

38 **B. 2015 Reunion Site Selection.** CEO Dewey Clawson reported that a number of members
39 have expressed dissatisfaction with the **GOLD COAST** as a reunion site. **GOLD COAST** management
40 has informed Dewey of extensive renovation, redecorating and other improvements, some of which
41 are already completed. Some members have asked for a change of location because of distance, but
42 most SSS members reside in the south and southwest. Close to half of the members, however, reside
43 east of the Mississippi. Dewey recently completed a survey of members which disclosed that, of
44 those who have not attended any of the reunions, twenty percent (20%) preferred Dayton to Las
45 Vegas. Dewey compared room prices for comparable hotels in Las Vegas and found the **GOLD**
46 **COAST** provided nicer rooms for less money. Also, the largest hotel in Dayton (the **MARRIOTT**) had
47 only 390 rooms and could seat a maximum of 500 at a banquet. The NMUSAF seats a maximum of
48 400 for a banquet but has agreed to seat 500 if we have our reunion banquet there. There were 650
49 attendees at our reunion banquet in 2011. The **GOLD COAST** will seat up to 660 (12 at a table).

1
2 Rooms at the Marriott will be a little over \$100.00 per night. There are several other **MARIOTT**
3 hotels in Dayton; one is about half a block away, for overflow. The large one has verbally agreed to
4 hold 300 rooms for us if we decide to go there. We would schedule the reunion dates to avoid
5 conflict with the F-86 reunion (and to allow travel time between the two). Whereas rooms are
6 cheaper during the week in Las Vegas, in Dayton they are cheaper on weekends. Accordingly our
7 reunion there would take place on Thursday (or Friday) through Sunday. Long lead times (2-4 year
8 advance bookings) are a constraint on our planning. There are no SSS members who reside in
9 Dayton, and only a few nearby, therefore we would rely on local professional reunion planners to
10 handle those arrangements; cost for that service is about ten dollars (\$10.00) per attendee.

11
12 President Bill Gorton opened a discussion on the alternatives. After extensive discussion, Bill called
13 for a vote. The Dayton site was selected by majority voice vote (3 votes for Dayton; 1 vote for the
14 **GOLD COAST**). Bill then announced that he would notify the membership at the Biennial Members
15 Meeting on April 11, 2013 that the 2015 SSS reunion would be held in Dayton.

16
17 **C. Election Policy Review.** CEO Dewey Clawson proposed a change to the SSS Election
18 Policy & Process adopted on 24 June 2012. Dewey proposed that the final sentence of the Policy
19 section, as provides: “Any member may suggest candidates for Board of Directors or Officers of the
20 Corporation” be changed to provide: “Any member may nominate one candidate for each elected
21 Board of Directors or Officers position of the Corporation.” The purpose of the proposed change is
22 to limit to one the number of candidates any member may nominate for any one office in any
23 election. A Motion by Secretary Art Oken to adopt the proposed policy change, effective 8 April
24 2013, as submitted by Dewey Clawson, was seconded by Vice President Eddie Bracken and, after
25 brief discussion, passed unanimously by voice vote, and it is **SO RESOLVED**. A copy of the
26 amended SSS Election Policy & Process document is included with these Minutes at **Attachment-3**.

27
28 **D. Membership Policy Review.** President Bill Gorton raised the matter of membership policy
29 in view of the advancing age of the current membership. All agreed that, to perpetuate the
30 organization, serious and comprehensive review of existing constraints on membership is necessary.
31 It was also agreed that Bob Dunham’s and Ron Standerfer’s observations regarding mission
32 emphasis on the human element, and Medley Gatewood’s ongoing work towards improving our
33 website, were closely related to this objective. After some discussion, Bill asked Vice President
34 Eddie Bracken to form and lead a committee to explore this matter and to formulate
35 recommendations for presentation to the Board of Directors.

36
37 **E. Publication of Meeting Minutes.** President Bill Gorton asked the directors and officers for
38 their views on whether the Minutes of Meetings held by the Board of Directors should routinely be
39 published on the SSS website. Discussion ensued. It was noted that all of the minutes have always
40 been available to any member who wished to see them or to obtain a copy, upon request. Also,
41 shortly after each Board meeting the President has transmitted a NOTAM message which provided
42 all of the members a summary of action taken or directed at each meeting. Policy statements
43 adopted by the Board are routinely published on the website. Consensus was reached and the
44 discussion ended with a decision that a copy of the Minutes of each Board of Directors meeting will
45 be furnished to the SSS webmaster for publication on the SSS website. In addition, the President
46 affirmed his intention to continue to publish a NOTAM message shortly after each Board meeting to
47 inform all of the members of action taken or directed at the meeting.

1 **F. SSS-FSS MOA Annual Review.** Secretary Art Oken called the Board's attention to the term
2 of the SSS-FSS MOA which requires review, at least annually, of the MOA to ensure that it is
3 fulfilling its purpose and to make any necessary revisions. The effective date of this MOA is 4 May
4 2011, with a four year term renewable upon written mutual consent. Art moved that SSS President
5 Bill Gorton notify the FSS President that the SSS Board of Directors had conducted its annual
6 review of the MOA in accordance with term IV.B. of the MOA and that the Board in so doing
7 concluded that the MOA continues to fulfill its purposes without need for revision. Executive
8 Director Dewey Clawson seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice vote, and it is
9 **SO RESOLVED.**

10
11 **9. Directors' Comments.** None.

12
13 **10. Announcements.**

14 **A. Next Scheduled Meeting.** To be determined.

15
16 **B. Other.** None.

17
18
19 **11. Adjournment.** There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1815
20 hours PDT.

21
22
23 Three (3) Attachments

- 24 1. FSS Presentation Slides (15 pages)
- 25 2. Financial Report (1 page)
- 26 3. SSS Election Policy & Procedures, Amended 8 April 2013 (2 pages)

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28
29
30 **Respectfully submitted:**

Approved and Adopted:

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32
33
34
35
36 _____
37 **Arthur J. Oken, Secretary**

38
39
40 _____
41 **William A. Gorton, President**

Date

Date