



Pioneers of Stealth



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4 Minutes of the POS business meeting held at the Kimball Terrace Inn, Northeast Harbor,
5 ME, starting at 8:30 am, 10 Sep 2011
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7 POS Attendees who signed the attendance sheet: Rob Bongiovi, John Summerlot, Dave
8 Luippold, Jerry Vanden Bosch, Ed Watts, Dave Maunder, Bob Murphy, Steven
9 Zakanycz, Alan Brown, Steve Smith, Steve Bepko, Patrick Saatzer, Dan Hites, Jim
10 Hogarty , John Griffin, Mark Wilson, Tim Sweeney, Dave Roselius, Bob Schimmel,
11 Dick Scofield, Dave Testerman, Jim Uphold, Bob Sandusky, Larry Simcox, George
12 Zielsdorf, Woody Gibson, Alan Wiechman, John Cashen, Bob Loschke, Ralph Grimm,
13 Tack Nix, Skip Hickey, Tom Moyes, Jim DeStout, George K Grant, Jack Twigg, and
14 Denny Jarvi.
15

16 1. Following a presentation at the social on 9 Sep 2011 by Wayne Hanson, Executive
17 Director and Chairman of the Board of Wreaths Across America, Jack Twigg announced
18 the POS will be making a contribution to the organization. The mission of the
19 organization is: “ Remember, Honor, Teach, is carried out in part by coordinating wreath
20 laying ceremonies on the second Saturday of December at Arlington, as well as veterans’
21 cemeteries and other locations in all 50 states and beyond.”
22

23 2. President’s Report. Rob Bongiovi opened the meeting thanking everyone for
24 attending. He presented an overview of the meeting and asked if there were any
25 additions to “new business”. Steve Smith said he had a presentation on the Western
26 Museum of Aviation that he would like to present. He said Dave Lynch was not present
27 today but had stated his goals as the incoming president at the social last evening. John
28 Summerlot will present Dave’s thoughts. Rob asked for the names of those who have
29 died since the last meeting. A moment of silence was held in their honor and memory.
30

31 3. Vice President’s report: Pete Knauth was not present so Rob presented. The vice
32 president position includes these duties: special projects, interface with the senior
33 advisory group, work with the committees, and help set up conferences.
34

35 4. History. Rob pointed out the history program by the Aeronautical Systems Division
36 history office interviewed many people over the years. He said these interviews were
37 often with only the head of an organization or office and did not reach further into the
38 organizations. The interviews and the document were to be unclassified. He said the
39 document was sent to SAF/AQ and disappeared. Rob pointed out this document was not
40 a true history but rather the recollection of those interviewed.
41

42 Rob mentioned Dick Scofield has found the document in the Pentagon and has a
43 commitment for its release. Dick will get it during a trip to the Pentagon in the near

44 future. Alan Brown pointed out industry was never interviewed. Rob said the interviews
45 were, in part, as a response to Ben Rich's book but knows there are key pieces mission
46 especially the partnership between industry and the government. Rob said there were two
47 sensitive areas in the document that held it up. One was frank comments by some about
48 other people and the second and most important of the two was how business was
49 conducted.

50

51 Rob said once the document is received, it will be reviewed and posted on the POS web
52 site inside the firewall. He said the group should build a true history. He said Dr Perry
53 and Dr Kaminsky were never interviewed among many others.

54

55 John Cashen said there are three other documents. One is an unclassified book by AIAA
56 which includes the F-117, and F-111. It was paid for by General Muellner. He said
57 Piccarillo at ANSER wrote the book. A second is a history of Tacit Blue but never
58 released. He said the next task developed was a history for the B-2 but Tacit Blue needs
59 to be released first. John thought a history written by Hallian was written. of the stealth
60 program, with General Muellner's words, with a new classification guide was needed.

61

62 Tack Nix said he has seen the history by Hallian. He thought it had a good balance of
63 government and industry views. He said it is still classified.

64

65 John Cashen said the documents are in Dave Hamilton's safe in the AQ office handled by
66 the OSI. Steve Zakanyycz has seen the documents.

67

68 Rob thought we want a history of the Pioneers of Stealth as compared to histories of the
69 programs.

70

71 Dick Scofield said he volunteers to get the documents.

72

73 Jim Hogarty said the physical areas of the tests present a problem. John Cashen said it
74 will require a lot of work to scrub the documents and volunteered to do it pro-bono.

75

76 Steve Smith remarked the history of Tacit Blue is key to the history of the B-2.

77

78 Rob pointed out the original sets of interviews are needed.

79

80 Tack Nix said it was "scary" to see how well Hallian put the story together.

81

82 A discussion took place on contributions the POS could make for current acquisition
83 programs. Dick Scofield said the environment that existed when the F-117, B-2, and
84 Tacit Blue were built no longer exists. The business practices used then are no longer
85 used and he thought it would not be helpful for us to try to interject what we did then.

86

87 Skip Hickey said a strong prototype program is missing. Dick Scofield said the new
88 DODD 5000.2 lets prototype development using 6.4 monies so the DOD can do Skip's
89 idea, the idea has to be used. He said a behavior change by the Air Force on using 6.4 is

90 needed.
91
92 Dick said he is trying to get Alan Koester's program declassified on put on view for the
93 public. He thought Pete Knauth can help get a lot of film declassified. Pete has been
94 working with Barry Hennesy and Bill Davidson to get the CIA to help preserve the film.
95 The film is 16 mm.
96
97 Alan Brown said the time to get an airplane in the air is directly related to the number of
98 oversight people. It took the F-117 2.5 years and 4.5 years to become operational.
99
100 John Cashen said Tacit Blue was the prototype for the B-2.
101
102 5. Treasurer's Report by Tack Nix. Tack took the job when Rick Abel was no longer
103 able to fill the position. He said he got a check for \$8,383 and \$2,191.50 has since come
104 in. He said he has spent \$370 leaving \$10,204.63 on hand. Jack Twigg forwarded the
105 money for this reunion. Tack will write a check for Jack for \$2,100 which will leave
106 \$8,104.63 in the account on 11 Sep 2011.
107
108 6. Secretary's Report. Denny Jarvi reviewed the duties of the Secretary. They have not
109 changed since the last reunion. He reported Skip Hickey, Tim Sweeney and he met with
110 the Wright State University Library Archives. The WSU library was interested in the
111 information, pictures, and artifacts related to the Pioneers of Stealth. He reported the
112 next step is to identify the people in the POS reunion photograph books assembled by
113 Sue Hoag before turning them over to WSU. The group authorized Denny to have the
114 photos scanned so they can be placed on the web site. That would permit the widest
115 distribution of them with the best hope of identifying everyone.
116
117 Denny reported he drafted a citation for the Pioneers of Stealth to receive the National
118 Aviation Hall of Fame Spirit of Flight Award. He reported the recipient this year is the
119 Blue Angels celebrating the 100th year of naval aviation. He said next year may be a
120 conflict with John Glenn's anniversary in space flight. He reported to stay tuned for 2013.
121
122 7. Membership Committee Report. Ralph Grimm reported he keeps the lists of
123 members and he publishes the list twice a year. He said Lynn Brucker, who retired last
124 month from civil service, maintains the web site. Jerry Vanden Bosch said he is willing to
125 work on developing a new look to the web page. Ralph reported there are 130 official
126 members including 79 new ones since the last meeting. He reported the old roster has
127 over 500 names.
128
129 The web site password is POS Members and HB78SP79ST80.
130
131 The dues are \$25 dollars for one year or \$45 for two years. Send the money to Tack Nix:
132 John B Nix, Jr.
133
134 Ralph reported there were 84 voters out of 130 people (65% voted). He said the voting
135 was very close. Rob reported he asked the Senior Advisory Group for help in

136 encouraging people to put their hats in the ring. In addition to Dave Lynch and John
137 Summerlot, Bob Murphy and Dave Maunder responded. Rob thanked them all for
138 willing to support the organization.

139
140 Ralph said the POS needs to get younger qualified members involved and engaged. He
141 said that may take a mailing vice an e-mail.

142
143 Ralph reported Dr. Peter Collins, AFIT, wants someone to talk to the low observables
144 students, to walk around the aircraft at the museum during the summer of 2012. He said
145 to anticipate 20 to 30 students. Skip remarked this group could put together a design
146 guide on how to teach stealth. Alan Weichman reminded the group ITAR is still
147 effective and the fundamentals are still very seriously protected especially on how to do
148 the integration of several areas to properly do stealth.

149
150 8. Social Committee Report. Social Committee Report. Tim Sweeney reported he had
151 supported the previous two reunion organizers. He make the point that the next reunion
152 organizer can have access to "up-front money" instead of forward financing things on
153 their own, based on the current account levels. Jim Kinnu (co-chair) has always been kept
154 apprised of committee activities and has concurred with any actions proposed.

155
156 9. New Business.

157
158 Charter. Rob reported the Charter is to be reviewed every meeting. He said there are
159 two proposed changes that he will pass on to Dave Lynch and John Summerlot. He
160 said the objective of the POS is unchanged. He reported Steve Smith suggested doing
161 away with the dues and adding an initiation fee of \$50. Dave Lynch previously
162 reported he would eliminate the dues. Dave Luippold recommended the POS hold
163 the dues fast. Alan Brown said \$45 is not a large amount. John Cashen if perhaps
164 PayPal could be used. He wondered if it would make Tack Nix's job easier.

165
166 Steve Smith said documentation is not in the Charter. John Griffin said it is not
167 precluded. John Summerlot said he "took a note and we will look at it."

168
169 Rob proposed changing the length of the officers to four years and to change the
170 senior advisory group to add the past president and past vice presidents.

171
172 Steve Smith suggested voting on the Vice President and he takes the President's job
173 in two year.

174
175 Tim Sweeney said he wondered if the potential size of the SAG would become
176 ponderous. Dick Scofield said no... the only professional member is Twigg.

177
178 Rob recommended the wording of the Charter set the reunion every two years.

179
180 10. Next Reunion. Rob asked when and where. He suggested 2013. Jack Twigg said we
181 should pick a place that does not cost 2 to 300 hundred a night.

182

183 Bob Sandusky suggested 2013. He suggested Williamsburg because the area also has
184 Jamestown and Langley and the Museum of flight reasonably close by..

185

186 Alan Brown said it took 2 full days to get to Maine. He suggested a place that is easy to
187 get to by air. Perhaps Monterey, CA.

188

189 John Cashen reported that Irv Wallen was impassioned about having a reunion on a
190 cruise.

191

192 Dayton was suggested with the rollout of Alan Koester's program, the potential Aviation
193 Hall of Fame recognition and changes made in the Dayton area.

194

195 Steve Bepko remarked the reunion should be put on a military base.

196

197 Steve Smith and John Cashen reported they vote for Dayton.

198

199 Dick Scofield suggested the group take six months to figure out where to hold it.

200

201 11. John Summerlot's comments following the hand over of the gavel to Dave Lynch.

202 John thanked the group for their confidence and votes. He thanked Rob and Pete for the
203 leadership for the past several years.

204

205 John reported Dave and his focus are:

206

- 207 - Continue the focus on reunions
- 208 - Use the web page to communicate (using password protection)
- 209 - Recruit new members
 - 210 i. Find those on past lists
 - 211 ii. Find those not on past lists
- 212 - Put all useable histories on the webpage
- 213 - Reduce dues

214

215 John reported in regard to the Charter revisions he would talk with Dave about keeping
216 the dues as they stand. He suggested a change to the process by adding a certificate of
217 POS membership.

218

219 Dave Luippold reported he liked the idea of e-mails because they trigger people to action.
220 He also thought we need to inform the group when our members have died.

221

222 Alan Brown proposed elimination of the initiation fee and keep a one year dues of \$25 or
223 two years for \$5. The group voted yes to the proposal.

224

225 Materials to be saved. Steven z. He thought anyone who has materials they have
226 collected over a career is faced with the question of what do you do with these. He

227 thought perhaps the WSU archives is the right place for them. He was thinking of the
228 early days of stealth, the work of Ken Perko and his concern with survivability.

229
230 Western Museum of Flight. Steve Smith presented the changes and expansion plans for
231 the Western Museum of Flight. He said the museum moved from Hawthorne to Torrence
232 in 2006. He should several exhibits in the museum including the F-23. He reported there
233 are numerous volumes of books in the museum. He said very interesting lectures are
234 regularly presented, Steve remarked the museum needs to expand its space and it
235 currently costs \$8,500 a month to operate. While the museum is currently leased at \$1 a
236 year for the next 30 years, they need cash. They are building Butler buildings to move
237 aircraft under shelter. The web site is: www.wmof.com He mentioned donations can be
238 made on the web. He said anything we provide will be met by him. John Cashen said
239 the web site is very good and it retains all the lectures given at the museum.

240
241 John Summerlot closed the meeting, thanking everyone for their attendance and
242 participation.

243
244
245 Denny Jarvi
246 Secretary
247 Pioneers of Stealth

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