

**Minutes - General Membership Meeting**  
**September 17, 2016**

National Director Larry Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM and welcomed all attendees to the 9<sup>th</sup> Outlaws Roundup. He gave a brief overview of reunion activities and turned the podium over to Frank Estes to discuss administrative items and provide updates concerning a number of VLOA policies, procedures, and actions.

Frank Estes stated that the minutes from the 2014 General Membership meeting have been posted on the VLOA website since the prior reunion, and available for all to review. A motion was made and seconded, and the members unanimously approved the 2014 Minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Frank Estes discussed a number of Old Business items:

- Provided the current status of the VLOA website; a recent upgrade cost the VLOA \$2000 and markedly improved the look and ease of maintaining the website; cost to operate is \$240 per year to the webhost and \$39.99 for three domain names; anticipated future updates/maintenance will cost about \$100 per hour; website started 2008 with 19,000+ hits and passed 500,000+ during the week of the reunion.
- Called on Chester Voisin to report the status of the treasury: currently stands at about \$32,000-\$33,000 with quarterly report ending September. Chester will end his tenure December 31, 2016 and Frank Estes will become the VLOA Treasurer on January 1, 2017.
- Called on Bob Sharp to give a current status of the *Outlaws Newsletter*. Bob reported on the progress made to date in reducing costs to produce and mail an increasing quantity of newsletters, from 328 when he started to over 528 now.
- Called on Jim Donnelly to report on the status of documenting Outlaw's history. Jim reported that he has amassed more than 16,900 photos, 1678 document pages, 82 audio files and 24 videos.
- Spoke on the importance of participating in the Silent Auction and 50/50 efforts because the funds raised are key to supporting the quarterly newsletter and annual website costs.
- Discussed the documentation of one hard copy of the Policy Files that goes to the National Director and DVD copies being provided to each Officer/Director at the end of the Business Meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Frank Estes discussed a number of New Business items:

- Changes to the Constitution and ByLaws were posted in the Hospitality Suite for the duration of the reunion for attendees to review. Motion was made and seconded to approve the changes to the Constitution and ByLaws, and members unanimously approved the proposed changes.
- Discussed the primary duties of the Secretary.
- Discussed the primary duties of the Treasurer.
- Reiterated the appointment of the new VLOA webmaster, Phil Van Alst and discussed the process the two have followed for the last two months to ensure Phil is up to date on managing the website.
- Provided an update on the status of changes to the Policy Files to mainly incorporate policies and procedures already in place by not institutionalize in the files, adding Bushwhacker information, updating history files, adding color logos to files, updating unit designations, updating committee purposes/structures, updating reunion processes, how to search for "lost Outlaws," updating the website, and appointment of the new webmaster Phil Van Alst. Motion was made and seconded, and attendees unanimously approved the changes.
- Updated attendees on the status of Sanford Hall on Outlaw Street at Fort Rucker, AL and need to continue visiting the building to ensure that history of Jack Sanford (the first Maverick Lead who was killed in June 1965) continues to be displayed in that building.
- Discussed the future of the VLOA. Attendees unanimously agreed the VLOA needs to continue as an organization. Attendees unanimously agreed the VLOA needs to continue having biennial reunions. When asked

to name future reunion sites, attendees suggested: Niagara Falls, NY; Savannah, GA; Colorado Springs, CO; Las Vegas, NV; Indianapolis, IN; Branson, MO; New Orleans, LA; and Fort Rucker, AL. Jim Donnelly stated that an article would be placed in the next issue of the *Outlaws Newsletter* requesting input on potential locations.

- Discussed IRS rules for disbursement of VLOA records and funds if/when the organization ceases to exist. One copy of the records will be sent to the Army Aviation Museum, Fort Rucker, AL and one copy will be sent to the Texas Tech University Vietnam War Project. Any funds remaining in the treasury will be dispersed to nonprofit organizations selected by the VLOA Steering Committee.
- Discussed the type of awards (Directors' Award and Outstanding Outlaws Award) presented to deserving VLOA members and costs to purchase each award. A discussion ensued on awarding multiple statues, smaller trophies, teak Huey model helicopters, or just dog tags. It was moved and seconded to keep the current set of statues but that only the dog tag be presented to the person receiving the second award of the Outstanding Outlaws Award in order to reduce costs, and attendees unanimously approved.

#### OTHER BUSINESS:

- It was suggested to raise the 50/50 drawing amount for the first two nights of future reunions from \$50 to \$100. Motion was made and seconded, and attendees unanimously approved.
- Question arose as to why the VLOA has three domain names (.org, .net, and .com). Estes discussed it was to protect the VLOA from another organization for getting one of those domain names and confusing site visitors concerning what the site was about. An attendee suggested that the webmaster link the three together so that any visitor to one would be routed to [www.vinhlongoutlaws.com](http://www.vinhlongoutlaws.com).
- Estes called attention to the printed list of nominees to fill upcoming VLOA officer/director positions.
  - Jim Donnelly, National Director, Virginia Beach, VA
  - Bert Rice, Deputy Director, Odenton, MD
  - Doug Wilson, Secretary, Costa Mesa, CA
  - Frank Estes, Treasurer, Ozark, AL [appointed position]
  - Jim Donnelly, Historian, Virginia Beach, VA
  - Bill Hensinger, Member-At-Large 1964-65, Palmyra, PA
  - Irwin Katz, Member-At-Large 1966-67, Buffalo Grove, IL
  - Eric Ragsdale, Member-At-Large, Mesa 1968-69, AZ
  - Bob Allen, Member-At-Large 1970-71, Piqua, OH
  - Vacant, Member-At-Large 1972-75
  - Bob Sharp, Newsletter, Albert Lea, MN [appointed position]
  - Phil Van Alst, Web Master, Hau'ula, HI [appointed position]
  - Paul L. Martin, Chaplain, New Edinburg, AR [appointed position]
  - Vacant, Distaff Advisor [appointed position]
  - Tom Anderson, Permanent Advisor, Springfield, VA [appointed position]

Chester Voisin moved the nominations be approved, Norris Marshall seconded, and the attendees unanimously approved. Estes reminded attendees that the National Director has the authority to appoint persons to fill vacant positions.

CLOSING: Larry Jackson, outgoing National Director made brief comments about his time as National Director and thank all who supported him during his tenure. Jim Donnelly, incoming National Director made brief comments about the honor of being elected as the National Director and asked for support during his tenure. There being no further comments from the floor, Bert Rice moved the meeting be adjourned, Allen Theriot seconded, and the attendees unanimously approved.

Signed,  
Doug Wilson  
VLOA Secretary