

VINH LONG OUTLAW ASSOCIATION (VLOA)
Business Meeting
9 October 2010

The VLOA Business Meeting was held in Nashville, Tennessee in conjunction with the VLOA Roundup 2010 on October 9, 2010.

The meeting was opened by Frank Estes, the National Director, who again welcomed all participants to the Roundup. Copies of the 13 September 2008 minutes were made available to the participants and the minutes were read to the membership.

There was no old business.

Al Iller made a motion to approve the 2008 Minutes and it was seconded by Tom Anderson and approved by unanimous vote.

Frank Estes, National Director, presented the financial report which contained an overview of the financial status of the reunion and the overall financial status of the VLOA. The checking account balance as of 9/30/2010 was \$20,256.27 which did not reflect the final payments of the reunion expenses or the proceeds from the silent auction, 50/50 chances, QM sales, donations and membership dues paid during the reunion. The biennial financial audit has not been scheduled at this time. Pat Theriot made a motion to approve the treasurers' report, and it was seconded by Jim Kirkley and approved by unanimous vote. Bob Koonce will direct Chester Voisin to schedule an audit upon completion of the non-profit tax filing being performed by Tony Clemente.

A number of new business topics were discussed and voted on by attendees:

Ernie Isbell made a motion to increase the Regular Membership annual dues to \$25. The motion was seconded by Al Iller and approved by unanimous vote.

Ernie Isbell made a motion to establish a Life Member Associate (non-voting) at \$100 for spouses who desire to support the VLOA. The motion was seconded by Pat Theriot and approved by unanimous vote.

Jim Kirkley made a motion to leave the newsletter in its present form and delivery method. The motion was seconded by Paul Martin and approved by unanimous vote.

Officer/Director Nominating Committee: Tom Anderson made a motion that this committee will be appointed by the serving National Director and should be composed of former Ex Officios/National Directors to nominate a slate of officers/directors for the coming two years. The motion was seconded by Ernie Isbell and approved by unanimous vote.

Election of Officers/Directors: the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee was approved by the Membership; no nominations were submitted from the floor. Included in this listing is the new position of Historian.

Changes to the Constitution: Chapter 5, Paragraph 2 of the VLOA By-Laws (which refers to the Nominating Committee) currently reads:

2. The Nominating Committee will develop a slate of candidates who are willing and able to serve as officers of the VLOA.

A list of nominees will be presented to the membership during Reunion registration. Additional candidates may be nominated by the membership during the Reunion business session prior to the election.

The membership approved the following changes to Chapter 5, Paragraph 2 of the VLOA By-Laws:

2. Approximately 9 to 12 months prior to the next reunion, the National Director shall appoint a Nominating Committee of no more than three members to recommend names of members to fill upcoming open positions on the Steering Committee. The Nominating Committee will be comprised of eligible VLOA members who have either served as members of the Steering Committee, are Ex Officio members of the organization, or are members sufficiently familiar with the VLOA membership body to make appropriate nominations for positions of leadership on the Steering Committee.

The Nominating Committee will recommend a slate of nominees, one for each open position, and forward its recommendations to the Director for review and comment. After the Director's review, Committee members will individually contact each of those on the slate to ascertain their willingness to serve if elected. If not, an alternate will be nominated.

The list of nominees will be presented to the membership at the reunion General Membership meeting. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the meeting.

The changes will be posted on the website in the near future.

Annual Income vs. Expenses: Previous years' incomes has been marginally enough to pay for our quarterly *Outlaw Newsletter* and operation of the newly formatted Outlaw Website. It costs about \$1500 - \$2000 to publish four quarterly newsletters, and an additional \$250 to keep the website online. Numerous issues were discussed, with a number of important decisions being made on how to increase income and reduce expenses. First, we will increase the Regular Membership annual fee to \$25 beginning in January 2011. Second, we will send reminder postcards to members who have not paid their dues by February 15 each year, and again by March 15 each year. Third, we established new levels of Life Memberships: Warrior Life Member at \$200, Leader Life Member at \$400, Patriot Life Member at \$600, and Legacy Life Member at \$1000. Fourth, we established a Life Member Associate (without vote) at \$100; for the ladies who desire to support the VLOA at that financial level. All these efforts clearly enhanced our ability to build the VLOA revenue streams to keep us on sound financial footing.

Tax Exempt Status: Frank Estes discussed the process we went through beginning in October 2009 to research, document, and complete the IRS required application to obtain tax exempt status, and culminating on January 27, 2010 with submission of the application to the IRS. On April 30, 2010, the IRS granted the VLOA nonprofit, tax-exempt status as a 501(c)19 war veterans organization of the U.S. Armed Forces. That means that all donations and contributions to and for the VLOA's use are tax-exempt.

Reunion Committee: Tom Anderson made a motion to let the Steering Committee plan the reunion through a professional Reunion Coordinator. This motion was seconded by Ernie Isbell and approved by unanimous vote.

Reunion Coordinator: Numerous alternatives were discussed, with the final position being to hire a professional for the next reunion. This usually requires a fee of 10-15% of the expected reunion costs.

Next Reunion Location: Various considerations were evaluated in regard to deciding on a reunion location. After discussion, the members identified a number of locations, with Las Vegas and Dallas/Fort Worth being tied in an unofficial pole of members present. The newly elected Steering Committee met afterwards and determined that the primary location will be Las Vegas, with Dallas being the backup.

Continuity Files: Tom Anderson and Frank Estes worked for more than three months to research, document, and develop a set of continuity files that define the processes the VLOA has and/or should be using for proper and legal operations. These files were developed such that each member of the Steering Committee would have a copy, with the National Director maintaining all original copies of key documents. All original documents will be placed in the National Director's Policy Files Notebook, with a backup copy in the Secretary's hands, and DVD copies in the hands of remaining Steering Committee members.

Building the Treasury Status: With all the discussion on annual income versus expenses, this topic became moot. Further, the unofficial financial report at the end of the reunion indicated that we had probably improved our treasury by about \$8,000 from reunion income (silent auction, 50/50 chances, QM sales, donations, Life Member & Life Member Associates joining during the reunion, etc.).

Awards Committee: The National Director appoints this committee to determine if someone is deserving of an award.

Search for Webmaster: Frank Estes will continue serving as the Webmaster until such time that a younger, more knowledgeable, experienced, and hot-shot webmaster volunteers to run our website at no expense to the VLOA.

Website Updates: Let Frank Estes know what you want to see on our website, new, better, different, less of, more of, and similar things. Send to estesf@charter.net.

Future of Sanford Hall: Jeannette Smith provided all of Jack Sanford's files to Jim Donnelly who will scan them into digital format, provide me a copy of the DVD. Frank Estes will coordinate with Fort Rucker personnel to develop the Sanford Hall display better than it currently exists.

Copyright Issues: The VLOA's position is provided on our website's Home Page (bottom of left column). The VLOA National Director will send this information to Joe Kline via letter, asking if he would like to be our official Outlaw artists while informing him of our copyright position.

Mechanism to Merge 62nd, 175th, & B/1-158th: after discussion, the VLOA position is to continue contacting members in other year groups in hopes they will join us at future Roundup

In accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws, the following were made officers of the VLOA:

National Director-Bob Koonce

Permanent Advisor-Tom Anderson

Deputy Director-Angelo Spelios

Secretary-Larry Jackson

Treasurer-Chester Voisin

Members at Large-Duane Truman

-Don Palmer

Chaplain-John Doyle

Unit Historian-Jim Donnelly

Communications Director/Newsletter-Al & Nell Moist

Communications Director/Website-Frank Estes

Quartermaster-Tom Anderson

There being no further business, Al Iller made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded by Pat Theriot and unanimously approved by the membership present. The membership will meet again at the call of the National Director in 2012 during the R2K + 12 VLOA Roundup to be held in Las Vegas, NV.

Larry L. Jackson

Secretary

Vinh Long Outlaw Association (VLOA)