

National Smokejumper Association  
Summary of the Executive Committee Meeting  
June 22, 2002,  
Cave Junction, Oregon

Attendees:

- Larry Lufkin, President
- Chuck Sheley, 1st Vice President
- Roland Stoleson, 2nd Vice President
- Dave Bennett, Secretary
- Fred Cooper, Membership Coordinator
- Murry Taylor, Board Member

Missing:

- Dean Longanecker, Treasurer
- Neil Satterwhite, Data Base Manager
- Dan McComb, Webmaster
- Carl Gidlund, Immediate Past President

## OLD BUSINESS

### Treasurer's Report:

Larry Lufkin gave the report for Dean Longanecker. The statement date is for June 12. A new report will be drawn up at fiscal year end closing June 30. Total Assets and Net Fund Balance have grown from \$153,000 to \$182,000 so far in the year. We are very close to matching our yearly budget figure of \$33,000 growth. Merchandise was the major contributor. Dean recommends that merchandise prices be increased on the order of 10%. Our one year income is carrying us expense wise. The long term income is not being touched.

The present statement is \$500 out of balance. This discrepancy will be resolved at the year end closing.

Dean Longanecker recommends that we engage a professional accounting service in the coming year, as the treasurer job is growing to be too large for a single volunteer treasurer to handle the accounting. Dean recommends that he be replaced when his term is up next year.

Several memorials have been received from the families of members who have passed away (Dee Dutton and Rob Dunn). The memorials are being held in the Liston Fund until a final disposition is established. More on this topic is available below under the New Business heading "Memorial Funds".

### Membership:

Fred Cooper reports that overall membership is decreasing slightly. We have 84 Life Members plus 9 more on payments. Life members are very important to our long-term financial viability.

Efforts at recruitment of NSA members include sending gratis magazine copies periodically to non-member jumpers.

Membership data presented during the meeting can be found in [Attachment 1](#) to these minutes.

The Committee suggested that a Life Member brochure might be worthwhile. Fred will contact Carl Gidlund regarding its development.

### Merchandise:

Chuck Sheley reported net income of \$7,023 so far this calendar year. This compares favorably with 2001 full year sales of \$8514. Orders filled this year so far amount to 285 compared to 697 for 2001. Chuck's handout on this topic is provided in [Attachment 2](#) to these minutes. Chuck plans to limit the number of products somewhat to best sellers thereby streamlining the merchandising operation. Chuck will be at the McCall thing next year with a merchandise table.

### Magazine:

Chuck Sheley reported there were 1710 copies of the July magazine issue, 1660 of which were mailed to members, associates, and pilots. The magazine continues to be the premier method of communication within the NSA. Next magazine issue will be in October, and the deadline for submittals is 15 July. Details of magazine production also appear in [Attachment 1](#) to these minutes.

### Board of Directors Election:

Chuck Sheley told the committee that better than previous response from membership was received for the recent BOD elections. 283 votes were cast, over the 213 required to validate the results, or 15% of the membership. Elected to the BOD were Bill Moody, Tara Rothwell, Murry Taylor, and Doug Houston. Larry Lufkin will notify the new BOD members by letter.

### Website Report:

Chuck told us that Dan McComb and Stephanie Cameron are overwhelmed with their business as it continues to expand. Dan has suggested that Jon Robinson in Seattle is a good candidate to assist with our website as the web coordinator. This would take Stephanie's place. She is currently in charge of site updates. We will move forward with this change. Many thanks to Stephanie for her support to the NSA!

There have been recent changes to the web site construction. Added drop downs have improved accessibility and the amount of information on the site has been expanded.

Jon would like to change the web server. He proposes to move it from present our present contractor,

Seattle Serve. This will cost \$50 per month.

Dan now has his own service provider company. The committee agreed that NSA will move to Dan's company.

Jon says we need to upgrade our site operating software.

Ron Stoleson asked if there will be changes to our web merchandising and accounting. Yes there will be, responded Chuck.

Jon operates on a work order basis. Chuck organizes the work orders so the process to instigate changes is to contact Chuck who will prepare the work orders.

As an order of business, we will work out a plan for the web site that might include changes to the performers.

The committee suggested that a Life Membership would be appropriate for Dan in view of his contribution to the NSA. This proposal will be brought before the full BOD to act on. NSA has only given away one or two life memberships. These awards were made to Steve Smith and Jack Demmons. This will be an agenda item for the next BOD.

#### Trails Program:

Larry Lufkin reported for Jon McBride that we have more trails opportunities than we can staff. Under Jon's leadership, the NSA's reputation as a valuable resource in the forest is reaching more and more districts, causing a huge influx of inquiries for trail maintenance support.

#### Smokejumper Database:

The committee discussed the current state of the database and feel that immediate action is necessary to bring the information up to date. We are two years behind in obtaining and entering jumper data. Roger Savage has offered assistance. The committee will ask Roger to take this on again for a year or two. This is an immediate priority.

#### Changing of the Guard:

This meeting was Larry Lufkin's last meeting as President of the NSA. He turned the meeting over to Ron Stoleson, the new NSA President. Larry was presented with a plaque as an indication of our appreciation for the job that he has done for the NSA. Thanks to Larry for his contribution to our organization.

## NEW BUSINESS

#### Trade Mark:

Larry Lufkin reported that Fred Rohrbach has engaged his lawyer to accomplish the trademark research.

The cost was \$700, which will be re-reimbursed to Fred by the NSA. Additional costs to come are \$650 for filing and \$50 for art work. An additional \$325 is required to protect it for application on apparel.

#### Termination of Agreements:

Larry has prepared two letters, one to Frank McKinney, executive director of the FS Museum, one to Stan Cohen of the MMF. The letter to Mr. McKinney terminates our agreement with the Forest Service Museum

The letter to Stan Cohen documents the NSA's intention to work with the Museum of Mountain Flying on a non-exclusive basis. Our agreement with the MMF includes a payment of \$1200 per year for storage of our office equipment. The MMF doesn't have a website. The committee suggests that we can assist the MMF in communications on the NSA website.

Fred Rohrbach has prepared and sent a termination letter to Act Now related to our agreement for video production and distribution

We have received interest from other television production companies. Murry Taylor is assisting with his contacts. Steve Smith is selling video clips.

The telephone line was terminated at the NSA office. This creates a saving \$100 per month.

#### Regional NSA Gatherings:

Fred Cooper is organizing a Willamette Valley NSA group. A gathering at the Evergreen Museum is planned for September 7. NSA Director Ted Burgon is also involved in the organization. Perhaps volunteers can be organized as docents for the soon-to-open NSA exhibit. Kathy Huitt is the contact at the museum. Fred will enter a notice of this event on the web site.

#### CPS Reunion:

The CPS Unit 103 reunion will be 13-16 July at Hungry Horse, Montana.

#### Memorial Funds:

Larry Lufkin led a discussion regarding the Liston Fund for support to deceased smokejumpers families. There is an issue with the present Liston fund and the NSA's involvement in it. The NSA should not be involved in a regional fund; the Liston fund is administered by the Alaska Jumpers.

Ron Stoleson moved to set up separate smokejumper memorial fund within the NSA. Chuck Sheley seconded, motion carried. We must direct the treasurer to break out memorial contributions and place them in the new memorial fund. Murry Taylor will contact the Alaska Jumpers to discuss our plans.

#### NSA Committees:

Ron Stoleson described Ted Burgon's suggestions for committees. Ted suggests that BOD meetings should be two days in length with a significant portion of the agenda dedicated to committee work on

various issues that affect the NSA. An example of work that could be realistically performed by committees formed by board members is NSA history work. This would amount to identifying and evaluating all of our historical assets including photos, written, and hard artifacts. Work more closely with UM archives. Every board member would serve on a committee. The executive committee will consider this action further and reach a recommendation prior to the next BOD meeting.

#### BOD Name Tags:

Ron Stoleson suggested that name tags be worn at NSA meetings and functions. Chuck Sheley moved Ron proceed with obtaining name tags for BOD. Larry Lufkin seconded, motion carried.

#### Plaque for Deceased Jumpers:

Carl Gidlund suggested that a plaque be provided by the NSA at The Museum of Mountain Flying and the Evergreen Museum listing deceased jumpers and the base where they trained. This will be a discussion item for next BOD meeting.

#### Meeting Location Strategy:

Chuck Sheley proposed regional EC and BOD meetings located near significant populations of jumpers. The meetings would include a social in the evening. This would be somewhat of a divergence from our present plan to meet at the jump bases on a rotation basis. Mailings or emails would be made to notify members of socials. They would also be advertised on the web site. The EC agrees in concept. This concept will be addressed at the next BOD meeting.

#### 2003 Meeting Schedule:

The NSA will maintain the three meeting per year schedule. The April BOD will be in Redding, the June EC will be in McCall, coincident with the McCall reunion, and the October BOD in Tri Cities WA. The April of 2004 BOD location is not yet determined. The June 2004 EC meeting will be in Missoula coincident with the NSA Reunion.

#### Folk Life Festival 2005 on the Washington Mall:

Fred Cooper reports that the festival coordinator wants to put the NSA on the program. Fred will prepare a letter for Ron's signature. First priority for participants will be FS retirees.

#### Smokejumper History Book:

There have been 211 books ordered. Design on book is scheduled to be completed August 2002. The book will be completed in December 2002.

#### Next Meeting:

The Boise BOD Meeting is October 12, 2002. Tom Uphill and Leo Cromwell will make arrangements for a meeting facility.