

11 May, 2020

The Golden Eagles 2020 Board of Governors Virtual Meeting  
1300-1500, 2 May 2020

**Golden Eagles—Since the 2020 Reunion was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, there was no members meeting. As you see below, the Board of Governors did a virtual meeting on 2 May 2020 to cover necessary business. In normal circumstances, the BOG meeting provides the basis for the members meeting agenda, which occurs during the reunion two days after the BOG meeting. To address the special circumstances of 2020, the minutes below will also double as members meeting minutes. Per the Pilot's Special Notice (SN), please review these minutes. Specifically, for the slate of officers and the by-law recommended changes, which require a member vote, provide feedback per the SN if you do not agree with what you see below. No feedback will indicate concurrence. For record keeping purposes, this document will become the 2020 members meeting minutes.**

**Board Member attendees:**

- LtGen Harry Blot Harry Blot – Chief Pilot
- VADM John Mazach – Pilot
- RADM Jay Campbell – Co-Pilot
- LtGen Keith Stalder– Navigator
- Colonel Gary VanGysel – Radio Officer
- CAPT Roy Cash – Engineer Officer/Historian
- RADM Don Weiss – Membership Selection Committee Secretary
- Colonel Don Beaufait- Board Member
- VADM Marty Chanik - Board Member
- Colonel Bob Hickerson– Board Member
- ADM Timothy Keating– Board Member
- CAPT Lonny McClung - Board Member
- CAPT Butch Christie– Board Member
- CAPT Phil Gay - Board Member

**Invited attendees:**

- LtCol Mike Stortz – Southeast Flight Leader
- Colonel Gary Elsten – Central Flight Leader
- CAPT Curt Dose' – West Flight Leader
- RADM Don Boecker, Nominating Committee Chairman
- LtCol Howard DeCastro, Membership Selection Committee Chairman
- CAPT Bill McCamy, Engineer Officer/Historian, designate
- CAPT JR Davis, Webmaster

**Pilot's Report: VADM John Mazach**

Welcomed the BoG and invitees and thanked all for their great work and assistance.

### **Chief Pilot's Remarks: LtGen Harry Blot**

Thanked the Pilot for his stewardship and the exceptionally good work.

### **Co-Pilot's Report: RADM Jay Campbell**

Thanked the Pilot, Flight Deck, Board of Governors, and Mike Storz for their terrific work, in general, and on the cancelled Jacksonville reunion in particular. He also requested the leadership to closely watch the web site so that we can keep it up to date and make sure it remains relevant.

**"Tommy Tomlinson" Award announcement: RADM Don Boecker** Charlie Bolden presented the award this year on February 4, 2020, at NAS Patuxent River MD, the engraved wristwatch and autobiography of Tommy Tomlinson "The Sky is the Limit" in CD format, to LCDR Sean "Crush" Delaney, USN from VX-23. Crush is the Airborne Electronic Attack (AEA) lead test pilot flying the EA-18G Growler in all phases of electronic warfare.

### **Navigator's Report: LtGen Keith Stalder**

- Navigator Keith Stalder presented the Minutes of the Board of Governors Meeting held on 19 April 2019 in Ft Worth, TX via E-Mail last month. There were no changes.
- There was a motion to approve, and it was approved.
- **The Golden Eagle Membership now includes:**
  - 200 Regular members
  - 52 Emeritus members
  - 3 Honorary members
- **During the Year:**
  - Six members were accepted into the Golden Eagles
  - Eleven members (eight Emeritus, two Regular Members, and one Selectee) made their Last Take Off
  - Three members transferred to Emeritus
  - Eight Golden Eagle Ladies passed away
  - There were no resignations

The Co-Pilot confirmed the Member minutes from the 2019-2020 reunion in Ft Worth had been posted on the web site for reading, comments for the Navigator, and that comments had been incorporated, if required. The minutes were approved.

### **Radio Officer's Report: Colonel Gary Vangysel**

- THE GE FISCAL YEAR RUNS FROM THE END OF MAR TO THE FIRST OF APRIL EACH YEAR. FY-20 STARTED 1 APR 2020

- ON 1 APRIL I WILL PUBLISH THE FINANCIAL REPORT TO THE FLIGHT DECK AND SUBMIT TAXES FOR FY-19. **ALL NUMBERS DISCUSSED FOR THE FY 19 FINANCIAL REPORT ARE ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST WHOLE THOUSAND:**
- **WE STARTED THE FY** WITH APPROX **78K** IN LIQUID ASSETS; WE ENDED FY 19 WITH APPROX **82K** IN LIQUID ASSETS. THOSE ASSETS ARE **39K** IN CHECKING; **21K** IN SAVINGS AND **22 K** IN A CD.
- ADD TO THAT NUMBER THE WORTH **OF 150 SETS OF** MINIATURE WINGS VALUED AT **\$7500.00**, WE HAVE A **NET WORTH OF 90K**
- IN FY-19 OUR GROSS RECEIPTS WERE **46K**; OUR GROSS DISBURSEMENTS WERE **42K**. OUR NET CHANGE IN OPERATING FUNDS WAS A POSITIVE **4K**.
- AS I CONTINUE, YOU WILL HEAR ME TALK ABOUT FLIGHT ESCROW ACCOUNTS. REMEMBER, WHEN WE INCREASED THE DUES TO **100.00**, THE BOG DECIDED THAT **10K** OF OUR **20K** ANNUAL DUES WOULD BE HELD IN ESCROW FOR USE BY THE FLIGHTS TO COVER REUNION EXPENSES; ESSENTIALLY PASSING THAT MONEY IN SAVINGS BACK TO OUR MEMBERS.
- **SOME HIGHLIGHTS NUMBERS FOR FY 19 WERE:**

**RECEIPTS:**

SOUTHEAST FLIGHT (GEORGE TRAUTMAN) COLLECTED **22K** IN THEIR CHARITABLE CAMPAIGN TO HELP OFFSET SOME OF THE COSTS OF THE JACKSONVILLE REUNION. WHAT IS INTERESTING IS THAT ONLY **7K** WAS COLLECTED FROM INDUSTRY; **15K** WAS CONTRIBUTED BY MEMBERS. **10K** OF THAT MONEY CAME FROM ONE MEMBER, WHO REQUESTS TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

MEMBERSHIP DUES AND FEES COLLECTED WAS **22K**

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

**2500** WAS GIVEN TO THE NATIONAL NAVAL AVIATION MUSEUM IN PENSACOLA

**2500** WAS GIVEN TO THE NAVY/MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY.

WE PURCHASED THE WATCH FOR THE ANNUAL TOMLINSON AWARD (TEST PILOT OF THE YEAR) (**\$320.00**)

I DISBURSED **22K** BACK TO SOUTHEAST FLIGHT, WHICH IS WHAT THEY COLLECTED IN THEIR CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

I DISBURSED **10K** TO CENTRAL FLIGHT TO HELP BALANCE THE BOOKS FOR THE FT WORTH REUNION. I HAD PREVIOUSLY ADVANCED **2K** TO CENTRAL FLIGHT, SO IN THE END, THEY USED **2K** MORE THAN WHAT WAS IN THEIR **10K** ESCROW ACCOUNT FROM ANNUAL DUES.

- **FY-20 WHAT'S AHEAD**

WEST FLIGHT HAS BEEN ADVANCED **2K** FROM THEIR ESCROW ACCOUNT FOR THEIR REUNION IN IDAHO. THEY HAVE **8K** REMAINING FROM OUR 2020 DUES COLLECTION.

WE WILL PLAN AGAIN TO GIVE **2500** EACH TO THE MUSEUM AND NMCRS AND SUPPORT THE TOMLINSON AWARD BY PAYING FOR THE WATCH.

CURT DOSE' WILL COORDINATE THE WEST FLIGHT IDAHO REUNION AND HAS CHOSEN ROGER BOX TO BE HIS TREASURER. TWO VERY CAPABLE MEMBERS.

- **DUES: I COLLECTED DUES AGAIN THIS YEAR USING ONLY**

**EMAIL.** I WANT TO **THANK THE FLIGHT LEADERS** WHO WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN GETTING THE WORD OUT AND THEN CHASING DOWN THOSE THAT WERE DELINQUENT. ALL DUES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF **4** MEMBERS, WERE IN THE TREASURY BY THE END OF JANUARY. THAT IS EXCEPTIONAL! THANK YOU!

**Engineer Officer/Historian: CAPT Roy Cash**

- This was to be our 60<sup>th</sup> Regular Reunion.
- There were 123 members signed up to attend the 2020 Reunion.
- There are six Golden Eagles who will be in violation of the requirement to attend at least one of every four annual reunions if they do not attend the 2021 Reunion. CAPT McClung asked if those who would have been in violation had they missed this year will have a year of grace because of the reunion cancellation. The Pilot responded affirmatively.
- Working nine member bios to bring those up to date. Each have received at least three requests/reminders. Flight leaders have been advised.

**Nominating Committee Report: RADM Don Boecker**

Chief Pilot: Bill Gureck

Pilot: RADM Jay Campbell

Co-Pilot: LtGen Keith Stalder

Navigator: VADM Marty Chanik

Member Selection Committee Secretary: RADM Donald A. Weiss

Engineer Officer/Historian: CAPT William C. McCamy

South East Flight Leader: RADM Ernie Christensen

**These four new members replace the following Board Members who have served two-year terms:**

Northeast Flight: Col Larry Adkinson replaces VADM Marty Chanik

Southeast Flight: Gen James F Amos replaces ADM Tim Keating

Central Flight: CAPT Daniel C. Brandenstein replaces Col Bob Hickerson

West Flight: VADM William C. Bowes replaces CAPT Lonny McClung

**These four Board Members have one more year of service on the Board:**

CAPT Warren B. Christie, SE Flight

CAPT John P. Gay, NE Flight

Col Donald A. Beaufait, Central Flight

CAPT Thomas A. Morgenfeld, West Flight

**Flight Leaders:**

CDR Curt Dose' remains as West Flight Leader

Colonel Gary Elsten remains as Central Flight Leader

RADM Ernest E. Christensen replaces LtCol Mike Stortz as the Southeast Flight Leader

RADM Matt Moffit remains as Northeast Flight Leader

The Pilot thanked those who have served on the Board of Governors for their service.

**Membership Selection Committee report: LtCol Howard DeCastro**

LtCol DeCastro thanked Don Weiss for taking over in mid-year and thanked the selection committee for a disciplined and thoughtful review.

The names of nine new Navy and three new Marine selectees were provided and approved unanimously by the Board.

**Membership Secretary Remarks: RADM Don Weiss**

Don viewed the just completed Selection Committee effort as a model process. Better write ups that help the MSC understand the “stick and throttle” qualities of the nominees are needed. This year there was one Navy “last look” and two Marine “last looks”, none of which were selected by the MSC. The GE who nominated them will to be notified by the Pilot and a record retained. There are 27 Navy and 8 Marine nominees in the candidate pool for next year, at this point. Two will be Navy “last looks”.

**Site Selection Committee Report:** Mike Storz reported Flight Leader Site Selection Committee results on where we are headed in next 3 or 4 years.

- West – 2021, Coeur d'Alene ID, 28 April to 2 May/contract signed
- Northeast- 2022, Lansdowne, VA 6 April to 10 April/contract signed
- Central – 2023, TBD, vetting San Antonio and New Orleans
- Southeast – 2024, 28 April to 28 April, Jacksonville, FL AFRI has waived the \$15 registration fee and the contract is signed

#### **Old Business:**

None

#### **New Business:**

**Golden Eagle Web Master assistance/transition:** J.R. Davis discussed and the Co-Pilot confirmed the need for a back-up who could fleet up. JR will vet candidates, identify a possible volunteer, associated costs, and provide an update to the Flight Deck. The Flight Deck will make the final decisions.

#### **2021 Memorial Service:**

The Flight Deck plans to include the 2020 LTO Eulogies with the 2021 LTO Eulogies at the 2021 Reunion Memorial Services. There are two options for Memorial Ceremony LTO Eulogy delivery under consideration at this time.

#### **Trademark:**

Unless we decide **not to**, GE will be required renew our Trademark between May 3, 2020 and May 3, 2021.

This must be done every ten years and the cost is about \$800. If the person filing makes a mistake and has to refile, it costs an additional \$800. We have not had a Mark infringement in almost 20 years. If it is decided to not renew, there is still **some protection under first use**. The Mark was adopted in 1966 when the Golden Eagles changed their name from The Bald Eagles to The Golden Eagles. A party that is infringing can be directed to cease and desist with support of the USPTO, but it is not legally enforceable.

If we renew the Mark, there is a *REQUIREMENT* to use the mark in commerce. We comply with this by selling the Chronolog at reunions. If we drop the Mark we do not have the sales requirement and can provide the Chronolog free of charge. If we renew, we are required to continue selling the Chronolog.

Flight Deck recommendation: Surrender US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) protection of our Mark.

After discussion, a motion was made and passed to not renew the trademark. The Navigator will follow up on how to accomplish this.

**Photographer** for 2021 reunion: The nominating committee will look for a volunteer.

**ByLaws changes:** Below are by-law change recommendations, annotated in yellow.

## Article II-Membership

### Section 1. a. Regular Member

**Sub-paragraph (2) Current Qualifications:** (a) Those who were superior pilots as demonstrated by their cockpit performance: (b) Those who were pioneers in or made significant contributions to some new or developing aspect of Naval Aviation: (c) Those who have earned peer respect for superior flying skills, dedication to flying, wide Naval Aviation experience, leadership, personal character and professional judgement: and (d) Such other criteria as from time to time may be established by the Board of Governors. All within this category must be of 60 years of age or older and no longer be serving on active duty.

## ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

### Section 10. Engineer/Historian

b. Maintain a “Continuing History” record of Association activities. Prepare a summary report thereof to be included in both the annual Board of Governors and Members Meeting Minutes, and present that summary at the annual membership meeting. Submit the detailed “Continuing History” report to the Web Master after the conclusion of the annual Reunion, for posting in the History link on the EPNAA website.

Add: e. Provide a written brief, summary of career achievements of each newly selected member to the Pilot, for his use when introducing new members at the annual Reunion.

f. Perform such other duties as the Pilot or Chairman of the Membership Selection Committee may direct.

### Section 11. Membership Selection Committee Secretary.

a. “Maintain on a continuing basis a register of individuals nominated for membership. The register will be kept in three categories: (1) Those nominees who are 60 years of age and older and are no longer on active duty; (2) Those nominees under 60 years of age and/or still on active duty; (3) Those nominated for Honorary Membership. Selection of nominees for Regular Membership shall be made from category (1) and (3). Those nominees in category (2) will be moved to category (1) when they meet the age and active duty requirement. Nominations for category (1) and (3) will be kept in the register for five

consecutive years. A nominee not selected after five selections committee meetings is no longer eligible for selection. Additional nominations for an individual who has failed selection during the first five selection committee meetings *or a member that has been previously dropped from the rolls (IAW ARTICLE IX), will not be accepted.*

**Section 14. Web Master.** The Pilot shall appoint a Web Master to maintain a modern, attractive, constantly updated, on-line *website, that includes administrative, historical, membership and other such information as appropriate to* supplement the Chronolog.

- a. The History link shall include the annual "Continuing History" report provided by the Engineer Officer, and appropriate photographs taken during the year and at the annual Reunion.*
- b. Members Meeting minutes shall be included, as a matter of record, in each of the annual "Continuing History" reports.*

### **Article IX-Termination of Membership**

**Section 1.** Any member who fails to pay annual dues within 90 days of receipt of the second notice of payment due, or who, without reason acceptable to the Pilot, fails to attend at least one out of four successive annual membership meetings, may be dropped from the rolls by vote of the Board of Governors. *Once a member has been dropped from the rolls, that member shall no longer be eligible for nomination/selection in the future.* The Pilot shall notify a member who is in jeopardy of membership termination, in writing, of the reason therefore.

After discussion, all changes were approved by the Board of Governors for presentation and voting by the members.

### **Honorary GE memberships**

The Chief Pilot asked for confirmation that a decision had been made to never have another Honorary GE. After a discussion of the history and challenges of Honorary Memberships, it was decided to review the issue for final determination next year. The Navigator will add it to Old Business for the 2021 BoG meeting.

### **Coast Guard Mutual Assistance**

The USCG Golden Eagles requested that we consider supporting the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance organization. CGMA <https://cgmahq.org/> This is an independent non-profit charitable organization that serves the entire Coast Guard family. It receives no government funding and has provided more than \$200 million in financial assistance since 1924. Most CGMA assistance is provided through interest-free loans and personal grants.

Recent reports indicate that the COVID-19 situation is placing financial stress on the resources of many junior military members of all services, due primarily to their spouse's loss of income caused by workplace shutdowns and costs resulting from PCS delays. This stress is exacerbated among USCG families because they do not have access to DoD services at most duty locations. CGMA is presently offering interest-free loans of up \$6,000 per family to those in need due to COVID-19 impacts. It is also



worth noting that during the Federal Government shutdown early last year, for the first time in our nation's history, USCG service members were not paid for more than a month because the Department of Homeland Security was not funded by Congress. Sixty-seven percent of all CGMA assistance during that period went to individuals E-6/GS-7 and below to help them through that loss of pay.

**Approved in the amount of \$1500 annually**

**Industry fund raising:**

A discussion of the advantages, disadvantages, and need, or not, to raise industry funds for the annual reunion was held. The Pilot re-affirmed that it's a Flight Leader prerogative for their reunion.

**Final Issue:** Election slate of Principal Officers and Board of Governors

The Board of Governors approved the election slate of Principal Officers and Board of Governors. The election slate presented in these minutes is provided to the membership for approval. A Special Notice will alert the membership to access these minutes on the Golden Eagles website for their review, and if desired, comment to the Navigator.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 1500.