

AAFM
Quarterly Board of Director Meeting Minutes
27 Jan
10:00 – 12:00 (MDT)

Board Membership:

Linda Aldrich
Don Alston
John Baker
Tony Bales
Tom Cullen
Shane Finders
Bob Kelchner

Michael Kenderes
Lance Lord (President)
Bob Parker
Mark Silliman
Jim Warner (Executive Director)
Monte Watts

Absent:

Shane Finders due to travel

Call in facilitated by Bob Kelchner:

- Zoom
 - Meeting ID: 858 3431 0317

President Gen Lord's opening remarks:

- Delayed to the meeting due to family event

Executive Director Remarks:

Agenda:

AGENDA

- President's Comments
- Directors Update
- Nominating Committee
- Scholarship Update
- Museum Update
- Hall of Fame update
- National meeting update
- Investing in our future discussion
- Closing Comments

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Action Item Review:

- No open items to review

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

- Membership holding steady near 1800 but we could do better!
- Donations this year:
 - One member has committed to a monthly donation of \$25
 - One member made an IRA Qualified Charitable deduction of \$2,000
 - Three members donated \$4,000 this year for the scholarship fund
- Sponsorships requests go out this month
- Hosted a regional meeting in ABQ on 5 Oct with Col Kristen Nemish as our guest speaker
- Receiving positive feedback on Dispatch and Newsletter —great work by Charlie Phillips and Mark Nemish

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Jim Warner:

- One of the goals in 2024 is how to increase membership
- Spoke to members donations outlined in slide
- Jim to send the sponsorship letter to Tom Cullen
- Regional meeting in Albuquerque
 - 15-16 people attended
 - Held at nuclear museum in Albuquerque
- Good feedback on monthly feedback by Charlie Phillips
- Newsletter by Mark Nemish receiving good feedback

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Four positions up
 - Lance Lord and Bob Kelchner are retiring from active Board
 - Shane Finders and John Baker volunteered to return if reelected
- Nominating Committee has identified six candidates for the four vacant positions
 - Shane Finders
 - John Baker
 - Fred Stoss
 - Dwayne Mayberry
 - Steve Darr
 - Richard (Hutch) Hutchens
- Info on the 6-person ballot process
 - Electronic ballot vote or mailed ballot to members who have no email on file
 - Ballot: Picture, background and why willing to continue to serve/serve on board
 - Vote for 4 people ... as soon as possible or by 29 Feb?
 - Candidates notified early March
 - Results will be released by Executive Director via Dispatch email
- Newly elected AAFM Board of Directors will vote on new officers - NLT 30 Apr 24
- Board members assume their new positions - 1 May 24

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Mark Silliman:

- Retired in Aug from Gov service
- 4 positions are vacant
- Shane and John to return to their positions if re-elected
- Electronic ballot to be sent in Feb
- May vote up to 4 people
- New Board will vote on new officers NLT 30 April
 - Expect electronic ballot soon
- Appreciate Gen Lord's leadership over the last several years

Jim Warner:

- There will be a place for a write in on the ballot
 - Dennis working on electronic version now
- Jim to send out notification by 1 Feb so voting may take place

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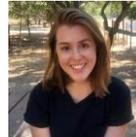
SCHOLARSHIPS

December 2023

- 10 applicants
- Awarded 10 total scholarships
- \$500 per award



SRA Champagne Polanco (341 FSS)



Capt Leah Throckmorton (12 MS)



Capt James Fair (341 OSS)



1Lt Justin Nebel (12 MS)



1Lt Cody Swift (320 MS)



2Lt Brendan Crossman (12 MS)



2Lt Kayla Jencks (321 MS)



2Lt Leanna Pollicar (12 MS)



Capt Joshua Baumer (12 MS)



1Lt Noah van Treeck (12 MS)

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Monte Watts:

- 10 applicants
- All 10 awarded
- Concerned overwhelming number of applicants from one squadron and not from others

SCHOLARSHIPS – DECEMBER 2023

- Discussed Minot's lack of representation with 91 MW/CC (Col. McGhee) on 15 Jan 24
 - Word is not getting out at Minot via Education Office
 - Need to ensure announcement gets to the senior leaders
- Only 1 enlisted applicant this session
 - Need help in getting messages to active-duty Chiefs
- One officer is 2-time recipient
 - Committee discussion on change to eligibility to restrict multiple awards
 - Recommendation to AAFM Board to modify Recognition Program OI to add to Eligibility section:
 - Applicants may submit an unlimited number of applications, but are limited to 2 scholarship awards per person over the lifetime of the AAFM scholarship program.*

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Monte Watts:

- Col McGhee said contact him directly

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- Recommendation to board for a limitation on the number of times you can receive a scholarship
- May apply multiple times but may only receive a scholarship twice
- **Recommendation Seconded and unanimously approved**

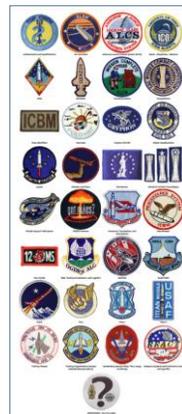
PATCH GALLERY UPDATES

- **Greg Ogletree submits monthly updates (images and text)**

- Monte completes the process to upload and edit
- Should we make some sort of post or announcement to draw attention to gallery updates?

- **Current effort underway to re-host Patch Gallery**

- 5,470 images + labels and text
- Working to reduce image size and storage needs
- New approach uses Post feature of WordPress and gets us away from the issues and maintainability challenges of the 10Web plugin
- Allows for internet searches to land viewers directly into the gallery
- Provides a cross-album keyword search function that is lacking today
- Better navigation controls and text presentation below patch images
- Updates will continue to require dedicated volunteer
- Completion date: 1 Mar 2024



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Monte Watts:

- Will place updates to gallery in the monthly dispatch
- Will provide input to Jim Warner
- Merriam Neal updating the site
- Looking to have it completed by 1 Mar
- Assessing possibility of making it a SharePoint

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MUSEUM GRANTS

- Three grant requests received—two approved:
 - Hill Aerospace Museum (\$1,500) to assist in developing graphics and interactive displays showing Utah and their ICBM history.
 - Museum of Aviation at Robins AFB, GA (\$3,000) to repair and repaint their historic Matador TM-61A missile
- Unfunded grant application did not meet criteria

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Mike Kenderes:

- Museum Grants had three requests
- Approved two
- One not approved was an Air-to-Air missile that did not fall under AAFM criteria
- Jim Warner indicated Robins reached out

HALL OF FAME UPDATE

- Notify Recipients in April by phone followed by formal letter
- Public release simultaneous with May Newsletter to membership
- Proposal to have interactive Museum presentation; ability to scroll through all and may individually select with alphabetical listing
 - Working with our webmaster on software (see example slide 9)
- Presentations to HOF Members or Family member
 - Coin and Certificate
- Confirm what we are willing to contribute for family member attending
 - Travel
 - Hotel, Meal
- Working Coin and Certificate design
 - One submission received for coin
 - Sample certificate slide 10
- Select guest speaker



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Linda Aldrich:

- Thanks to all who have assisted her in this effort
- HOF will have standardized presentation materials
- HOF will include Missile Pioneers from Building 1 as part of this presentation
 - Some of the inductees are not members of AAFM
 - Linda's suggestion to provide individuals with one year membership for free
 - **Suggestion seconded and approved** (later amended to life-time membership. Documented below)
- Concerns over funding to have inductees present...bill is problematic
 - Tom Cullen to engage Northrop Grumman for possible sponsorship to HOF ?
 - Linda and Jim to get info to Tom Cullen

John Baker:

- Should we have a liaison assigned to each HOF inductee to host/guide people

Linda Aldrich:

- Has that in work...list being sent out

Mike Kenderes:

- Asked for the total of people related to the HOF induction

Linda Aldrich:

- 9 officers
- 4 enlisted
- 4 Grubers

Mike Kenderes:

- Recommended inductees be awarded a lifetime membership
- **Motion seconded and unanimously approved**

Jim Warner:

- Recommended AAFM waive HOF inductee registration fee
- AAFM pay for two nights of hotel
- AAFM pay for HOF Banquet

Linda Aldrich:

- Recommended clarification for HOF inductee banquet payment be the nominee (or family member if nominee is deceased) and one additional person
- **Waiver of registration, 2 nights hotel payment, and HOF banquet recommendations seconded and unanimously approved**

Jim Warner:

- Makes sense to work the coin

Mark Silliman:

- Clarified the HOF is named "AF Missileer Hall of Fame" vs. "Association of Air Force Missileer"

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HALL OF FAME DISPLAY EXAMPLE



Outstanding Airmen of the Year Display at the Museum of the Air Force

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Linda Aldrich:

- Example of rolling display
- Will be able to find personnel alphabetically



Air Force Missileer Hall of Fame Class of 2024

Lieutenant General Harry E. Goldworthy

In 1960, then-Col. Harry Goldworthy and his team were given the near-impossible task of getting an intercontinental ballistic missile site up and running in roughly two years' time. The Air Force Ballistic Missile Committee, reporting to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, had just approved Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana, to host the first Minuteman I nuclear missile silo and launch site. Projects were six months behind schedule, even as the Soviet Union had already flown the world's first ICBM powerful enough to launch a nuclear warhead. Gen. Curtis LeMay, the Air Force Vice Chief of Staff, tasked Goldworthy and 17 other men to get the ICBM site project back on track. They formed what was known as a site activation task force, or SATAF, under the Ballistic Missiles Center of Air Materiel Command. On 27 October 1962, launch facility Alpha-06 along with three other sites went on "strategic alert" after it was discovered the Soviet Union had placed nuclear missiles in Cuba. Alpha-06 became known as the "Ace in The Hole," referencing President John F. Kennedy's comment regarding the role of America's enhanced strategic nuclear defenses in deterring Soviet aggression during the crisis.

The AFM HOF recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions towards the development, acquisition, operations, maintenance, security, and/or support of the nation's missile fleet.

Linda Aldrich:

- Slide above is an example of recommended certificate HOF inductee to receive
 - First rendition...working on refinement

Mark Silliman:

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- Recently visited National Museum of the AF and there is wall space to emplace the Missileer HOF

Jim Warner:

- Met with National Museum of the AF 3 years ago
 - Recommend they use the example above as the solution to be emplaced

Jim Warner:

- Reached out to Clayton Anderson at SAC Museum
- Ready to set up displays and kick it off following the induction in Oct

2024 NATIONAL MEETING

- Reservation site up
- Current registration as of 25 Jan
 - 31 (18 members and 13 guests)
- Guest speakers
 - Thursday dinner (CMSAF?)
 - Friday dinner (20 AF?)
 - Membership meeting (program related?)
 - HoF Dinner (4 star)

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Jim Warner:

- As of 27 Jan 2024 there are 32 confirmations
- Working with Mark Silliman to have CMSGT of AF as guest speaker
 - 2W2 from Malmstrom
 - Looking for speakers from cancer study and Sentinel
 - Gen Lord suggested Mo Khan from NG

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NATIONAL MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday arrival:

Registration and check in—hospitality room open
No host social
Dinner on your own

Thursday:

Continental Breakfast
Firestone Winery tour
Registration and check in-hospitality room open
Buffet dinner with Guest speaker

Friday:

Continental Breakfast
Vandenberg tours with Santa Maria BBQ lunch
Hospitality room open
Buffet dinner with guest speaker

Saturday:

Continental Breakfast
Board of Directors meeting
AAFM members meeting
Optional Lunch
Small group reunions
Hall of Fame banquet with keynote speaker

Sunday:

Continental Breakfast
Departure

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Jim Warner:

- Firestone limited to first 100
- Tom: Willing to work with NG to have tours of NG Test Facilities

NATIONAL MEETING 2026

- Seeking Board's Guidance on next location
- We can ask for presentations before the October meeting and then let the attendees vote
- Potential locations from last member survey:
 - Omaha – 38 %
 - Cheyenne – 35% (2018)
 - Albuquerque – 25%
- Other locations mentioned:
 - Dayton
 - Minot
 - Tucson

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Jim Warner:

- Asked for thought on potential sites for 2026 AAFM National Meeting

Mike Kenderes:

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- Suggested we consider Minot since we've been to the other two operational ICBM wings but we've never held an AAFM National Meeting at Minot

Tom Cullen:

- Suggested Tom Cullen and Don Alston interface with Minot Chamber (Mark Jantzer and Brekka Kramer) during upcoming Strategic Deterrent Coalition (SDC) Board of Regent/Board of Directors meeting on 30-31 Jan 2024

Don Alston:

- Agreed on considering Minot as the location for the 2026 AAFM National Meeting
- Location is challenging to get to and may impact attendance

Jim Warner:

- Willing to entertain a National Meeting in the August timeframe

John Baker:

- Recommended we assess leveraging the ICBM Maintenance reunion that will take place in Minot in 2024 as part of enticing personnel to the National Meeting

FUTURE PROJECTS

- Missile Art book
- Develop wing liaisons
- Growing our membership
- Commemorate Vandenberg LF 04 as early MM site
- ICBM Memorial Park
- Monitor Grand Forks Missile
- Ellsworth TLF as a national historic site
- Missile badge on VA headstones

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Jim Warner:

Missile Art Book

- In the process of finding a publisher
- Working with Sentinel office to capture information from 3 active bases
- Might have it draft in Oct
- If already published perhaps we can present to HOF inductees

Wing reps/Liaisons

- Monte Watts suggested idea discussed with Tom Cullen on possibility of “Chapters” similar to AFA
- Jim Warner suggested subject be discussed off-line and discuss more

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- Jim Warner requested Tom Cullen send thoughts to Jim Warner on potential of AAFM Chapters
- Growing Membership:
 - Tried at schoolhouse route
 - In 100 graduates we have received 3
 - Bob is retiring at the end of this session as leadership Chair
 - We'll need a new POC

Commemoration of VSFB LF 04:

- Would like to commemorate LF 04 at VSFB for its deep background

ICBM Memorial Park:

- Received a \$10K donation from a former member that passed away to commemorate ICBMs
- Looking at possibility of that effort
- New person will be in charge in April
- Gen Lord:
 - A noble thing to accomplish
 - Lot of swirl of cost regarding Sentinel
 - Our chance to help invent the future rather than react to it
 - Time to figure out how to recognize the people and how they contributed to the nation's safety
 - An ICBM memorial park would be a good place for that
- Don Alston:
 - Have a Security Forces, Maintainer and an Operator in the bronze similar to Vietnam
- Jim Warner:
 - Could also “buy a brick” and make it personal Grand Forks Missile:
 - Will probably not put a missile up due to expense

Gen Lord:

- A lot of swirls on AF Reorg
- There is a counter argument to not mess with strategic systems
 - Wants AAFM to be part of the argument
 - Large AF has again taken their eye off the important issue of strategic deterrence
 - Now is the time to engage and go after the issues
 - Don't need to be zealots...but we need to be staunch advocates
 - Will engage CMSgt of the AF and the CSAF at AFA Air Warfare Symposium
 - Need to talk to Gen Cotton, and the SecAF

Jim Warner:

- Asked for an avenue by which to take a position

Gen Lord:

- Plans to address it at the fall meeting...planning to take it on personally
- It is time to take people on regarding how ICBMs and the people are being taken care of
 - Need to look out for the future people
 - Wants to start the “ICBM Dialogue”

Don Alston:

- Has strong views on this issue

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- Changing from one CSAF erodes and resets the focus on strategic deterrent capabilities
- We know how neglected ICBMs can be

Ellsworth Training Launch Facility:

- Should look at this last MM II site as a National historic site

Missile Badge on VA headstone:

- Other badges approved for display on VA headstone...but not Missile Badge
- Bob Parker to provide some additional insight to Jim Warner



CLOSING COMMENTS

- Closing Comments from the President
- Around the room
- Next Board meeting
- Meeting adjourned

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Gen Lord:

- Looking forward to this upcoming year
- Know what NG is going to do to recertify the Sentinel
- We need to be engaged all the time as the team and as individuals supporting Sentinel
- Jim Warner has done a great job at keeping AAFM energized

Linda Aldrich:

- Thanks for the help on the bios
- Will be a great event for the HOF

Gen Lord:

- If we do a statue we need a female crew/maintenance/ etc./...must be all inclusive

Linda Aldrich:

- Two women maintainers will be in the HOF

Bob Kenderes:

- Old soldiers never die...they just fade away

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- Cudos to Linda Aldrich and Mark Silliman on the HOF
- Training LF (TLF) at Ellsworth:
 - Was stationed at Ellsworth
 - Unique location
 - Ellsworth never was upgraded
 - In configuration of MM II
 - Rapid City has large contingent of ICBM personnel
 - Has an alumni reunion every two to three years
 - TLF is in a good spot in view of the big hanger
 - Worth restoring...still in good shape if we want to retain our history

Jim Warner:

- South Dakota Air Museum went through some issues
- Working with Black Hills Bandits reunion group
- Looking for any/all help

Mike Kenderes:

- Nothing to add

John Baker:

- Thanks to Linda Aldrich
- Will work with Paddy
- Black Hills Bandit reunion in Sep

Monte Watts:

- Nothing to add

Tom Cullen:

- Will continue to engage with Northrop on sponsorship opportunities
- Confirmed with Board all recommendations within the context of this AAFM Board of Directors meeting were unanimously approved

Don Alston:

- Nothing to add

Bob Parker:

- Thanks to Linda Aldrich
- Will look into VA tombstone

Tony Bales:

- Thanks to all

Mark Silliman:

- Thanks to all for their inputs
- Thanks to Bob and Gen Lord as they enter their emeritus status
- Vote in a timely manner when ballot comes out
- Marks focus is membership “Up the score in 24”

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Jim Warner:

- Will schedule next meeting in April

Action Items:

- Monte Watts to provide Jim Warner inputs on changes to the “Patch Gallery” for inclusion in the AAFA Monthly Blast
- Tom Cullen to engage Northrop Grumman for possible sponsorship to HOF ?
 - Linda Aldrich and Jim to provide projected HOF costs to Tom Cullen
- Tom Cullen to engage NG for possibility of Friday tours of NG Test Facilities at National Meeting in Oct 2024
- Tom Cullen and Don Alston interface with Minot Chamber (Mark Jantzer and Brekka Kramer) during upcoming Strategic Deterrent Coalition (SDC) Board of Regent/Board of Directors meeting on 30-31 Jan 2024
- Tom Cullen to send thoughts to Jim Warner on potential of AAFM Chapters
- Bob Parker to provide Jim Warner some additional insight into VA headstone opportunities
- Jim Warner to schedule next AAFM BOD quarterly meeting in April 2024