St. Louis-Gateway Chapter Minutes of the Quarterly Board Meeting –May 18, 2020

The St Louis Chapter, USAFA AOG, quarterly board meeting was held on Zoom, May 18, 2020 at 1130am

**Members Present:** Kirk McDonald, Elizabeth Granier, Mike Ziemann, Todd Fletcher, Pat Ellis, Mike Brecht, Brian Lindsey, and Reed Shafer and Bob Baker **Members Absent:** Keith Heien and Matt Heien

Members at large present: Tim Souhradad

**Financial Report:**  Brian reported a balance of $1,520.31.

**Unfinished Business:**

**Tax Exempt Status (Articles of Incorporation):** Kirk and Brian will look into doing articles of Incorporation in MO as the IL ones did not get renewed. Kirk and Brian will look to get some movement on this paperwork by Sept 1, 2020.

**Founder’s Day:** The 2020 event that was planned for April 24th at Forest Park was canceled due to the shelter at home orders of St. Louis City and County. Col Caswell, Permanent Professor, Department Head of Computer and Cyber Sciences was slated to be guest speaker. Right now no make-up date has been set and it was discussed at this May 2020 Meeting that we do a better job to reach out to members in the Fall to advertise our Watch Parties and other social events to make up for Founder’s day. Mike Ziemann will be updating Facebook page and other social medial blasts for future events.

**Memorial Day Service:** email traffic forwarded from Bob Baker shows that this year there will not be a Memorial Day service in May, the Saturday prior to Memorial Day, at Jefferson Barracks due to restrictions on DOD facilities. Issues related to new Jefferson Barracks Leadership and set-up, clean-up of chairs, tents and audio equipment will be for now another issue to address if the ceremony is allowed to take place next year. USMA and USNA groups have per email from Keith (May 19th, 2020) would like to plan another event on POW/MIA day which is around Sept 18th if restrictions due to COVID Pandemic are lifted. Bob Baker will continue to serve as our primary contact for this event. Reed will continue to assist. No flowers will be ordered at this time and Kirk’s printing services will not be tasked for programs until more is decided on if/when a ceremony will take place in Sept 2020 near the POW/MIA date of Sept 18th.

**All Service Academy Golf:** No report on the potential golf. Reed and Todd will reach out to their USNA and USMA contacts for interest and Todd will look into cost of holding the vent at Forest Park vs Scott AFB’s Cardinal Creek. Brian was able to dig up that previously the golf was $65/person, with $50-55 dollars of that covering green fees/carts and the extra was for purchase incidentals. The previous golf tourney that we hosted earned ~$2400, with expenses of $2300. That net a profit of ~$100 to the club. If there is interest, potentially a fall date could be found. Elizabeth also suggested a more informal fun family night putt-putt event could be planned if a golf tourney was not getting much interest. Reed did confirm that he does have the Trophy from the last tourney at his home.

**Parent’s Club Doolie Brunch:**  New Parent’s Club Presidents have been elected. Alli and Brett Kleitz. Typically a send-off event is held at Scott AFB on/around Father’s day. That date this year is Jun 21, 2020. Keith will continue to check-in with Parents Club on if this event will take place, the time, location, and if Graduates are welcome to attend.

**Current Board and Officer Roster:**

**Board of Directors:**

Bob Baker, Mike Ziemann 2018-2020

Mike Brecht, Todd Fletcher, 2019-2021

Reed Shafer, Pat Ellis 2020-2022

**Officers: Elected for the 2018-2019 year are the following:**

President: Keith Heien

Vice President: Kirk McDonald

Secretary: Elizabeth Granier

Treasurer: Brian Lindsey

**New Business:**

**Zoom Social Hour:**  Mike Brecht, Todd Fletcher and Pat Ellis were assigned to put together with their upgraded Zoom accounts a virtual social hour/First Friday type event for St Louis Area Members. The goal will be to have something set-up before June 22 so it can count for points this year. Parents, potential Cadet Candidates, Current Cadets, ALOs, USNA, and USMA contacts would be included to also join/attend. Each officer and board member would also attempt to reach out to 2-3 graduate contacts in local area to help bring in some additional membership to attend event. During the event, breakout groups could be set-up so that smaller groupings of individuals could have smaller conversations and interactions.

**Distinguished Chapter:**  Elizabeth will be submitting our packet for Distinguished Graduate Chapter to Karina Ross at USAFA AOG by Jun 22, 2020.

**Updates:** Jan 17th turned into a nice social gathering despite USAFA Supt Jay Silveria not making it to St Louis due to inclement weather. Keith and Val Heien were wonderful hosts and guest speaker Mr. Lacy, WWII veteran who fought at Battle of the Bulge did a wonderful job sharing his stories and memories. Between ALOs, Graduates, Potential USAFA Cadets, and Significant Others, there was a really nice turnout.

**President’s Conference:**  Brian expressed he would be willing to represent our chapter and Mike Ziemann also expressed that he could attend again if necessary with lodging from family in the area making this trip affordable. Elizabeth and/or Keith would be last minute backups if no one is able to attend.

**Reunions:** Elizabeth’s 20Year reunion has rumors on facebook of being moved from Fall (Oct 14-18) during Football to Spring (late basketball/hockey or baseball game weekend). At this time reunions are still listed on the USAFA AOG website as occurring during the Fall 2020 time-frame.

**Tentative Schedule of Events 2019-2020**

1. Parents Club Doolie Brunch June 2020—typically around Father’s Day and at Scott AFB (Keith POC with Parent’s Club on if/when event will happen)
2. Golf Tourney, TBD for Fall 2020. POC Reed Shafer and Todd Fletcher, back-up of potential family friendly miniature golf/Putt-putt could also be planned as social event
3. Chapter President’s Conference, Colorado Springs CO August/September 2020 Brian or Mike Z will potentially attend (or both) with Elizabeth and Keith for backup.
4. Quarterly Meeting July-August, TBD
5. Navy/AF Football Game and Watch Party Oct 3 2020, Elizabeth will contact Josh from USNA Brew Hub Taproom, 5656 Oakland Ave, St. Louis, MO 63110, POC Elizabeth Granier, Josh Rich(joshua\_a\_rich@yahoo.com USN)
6. Quarterly Meeting Oct-Dec, TBD
7. Army/AF Football Game and Watch Party Nov TBD, POC Mike Brecht
8. All Academies Ball, Dec 2020 TBD
9. Annual Meeting/Quarterly Meeting, election of new officers and/or board members Jan 2021, TBD
10. Quarterly Meeting March/April 2021 Finalizing Founder Day Event and Memorial Day events
11. Founder’s Day: TBD
12. Parent’s Club State Dinner April 2021
13. Memorial Day Service, TBD
14. Social Event May, TBD
15. Quarterly Meeting Jun/July 2021 TBD
16. Association of Graduates Distinguished Chapter Award Deadline July 2021
17. Service related event or project, Kirk is POC, TBD

**Next Meeting: By Zoom and/or In-Person Jun/July**

**Adjournment:** With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

Elizabeth Fontenot Granier ‘00

Secretary

Post Meeting Announcement: [Alex Thomson](https://zoomielink.usafa.org/hub/aog/profile-v2/alexanderthomson5), a 2014 graduate will be deploying this month. Since his family is unable to send him off with a friends and family gathering, his wife is **organizing a surprise farewell video**. She has reached out to USAFA to play a part in creating a special message from fellow grads.

If you would like to be included in the video send-off, please record and send a short and sweet message to us before **May 19th, 2020**. We ask your video be no longer than 30 seconds.

Submit your video here: <https://zfrmz.com/lnh3lKQBTQMH89CdcFZV>

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Here is more information about Alex Thomson ‘14

* Flight Commander, IT Plans & Programs at United States Air Force
* Scott Air Force Base, IL