

NAFTS 2008 General Meeting Minutes

Minutes for the 2008 NAFTS
General Meeting in Providence, R.I.

NAFTS President, Rodger Dana, called the meeting to order at 8:10 Am, October 5, 2008. Rodger lead the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Chaplain, Bob Campbell, gave the invocation.

In Rodger's welcoming statement, he made reference to the fact that the 2009 Reunion would be the 20th anniversary of NAFTS.

Rodger introduced the NAFTS Board members present.

Chairman of the Board Jack Sweet

President	Rodger Dana
Vice President	Jim Wassmuth
Treasurer	Nick Radke
Towline Editor	Rich Tetrault
Chaplain	Bob Campbell
Board members	Ted Hillman
	Hal Tenney
	Eddie Ford
	Chuck Della Lucia
	Ray Evans
	Allen MacPherson
	Joe Giangrosso
	Pat Winston (Board member designate)

The Minutes from the 2007 Reunion in St. Louis, MO were approved as read.

The Chaplain read the names of members who had passed over the bar since the meeting in St. Louis.

Treasurer Nick Radke reported that NAFTS had a balance of \$10,749 in the bank with an additional \$22,000 in reserves. Nick informed the membership that the reserves represented monies for annual dues paid in advance by members enrolled in the 544 plan and other advance pays.

Rodger in a further clarification explained that the structure of NAFTS was dedicated to the principle that reunions should pay for themselves. He reiterated Nick's statement that NAFTS is required to maintain monies collected in advance for dues be held in reserve.

NAFTS Board Chairman Jack Sweet gave a brief report on the actions of the board at the Thursday, October 2, meeting. Jack stressed the urgent need for candidates for the positions of Board Chairman and Secretary. He, Sweet, indicated that he did not wish to complete another term as Chairman and reminded the membership that Secretary

NAFTS 2008 General Meeting Minutes

Tom Thomas has asked to be relieved of the responsibilities of Secretary at the earliest possible date.

Jack also reminded the membership that there was an on going need to update the NAFTS By-Laws. Any and all help in this task will be greatly appreciated.

No Officers of the Board were up for election. Sweet presented member Pat Winston as a nominee for the board. After a second from the floor Winston's election to the board was approved without dissent on a voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Rodger reviewed the plans for the 2009 reunion in Las Vegas, NV. We will be meeting at the Golden Nugget Hotel in downtown Las Vegas. The reunion will be held the 16th through the 20th of November (Monday thru Thursday). Members are advised to watch the *TOWLINE* and the website for information and updates.

Rodger Dana discussed the options the board is looking over for the 2010 reunion. Discussion is centered on a west coast venue, which is next in line with NAFTS schedule moving the reunions around the country. Choices currently under consideration are a cruise from the west coast, possibly the Mexican Rivera, or a reunion in Hawaii and a west coast land venue such as Portland. Dana asked for a non-binding straw poll of members present. 34 members indicated Hawaii as their preference and 33 members preferred Portland or land based venue and 20 members indicated a cruise as their preference. A member from the floor suggested that a Hawaiian cruise also be considered.

Rodger reminded the body that making reunions affordable to the broadest possible number of members would be a significant factor in the final choice of sites or activities. He reminded the membership again to watch the website and the *TOWLINE* for updates. He said, "We'll provide more information as it becomes available."

Rodger, speaking for the board and the entire membership, complimented and thanked *TOWLINE* editor Rich Tetrault for his outstanding work. The membership body concurred with a rousing ovation.

Rodger then recognized the first time reunion attendees present who were welcomed with applause from the body. He made a special point of welcoming our old friend Don Graham from England. Don comes to us not only as a friend and member of NAFTS but also as a representative of our sister organization from the U.K., *DSERTA*.

Harry Jaeger gave us an update on the *Zuni/Tamaroa* restoration. He outlined a number of specific costs and emphasized the continuing need for money. NAFTS has long been a supporter of this project and continues to encourage members to support it financially. Harry also stressed the need for hands-on volunteers. Please visit the Tamaroa Foundation website for opportunities to become involved with this very worthwhile project.

NEW BUSINESS

NAFTS 2008 General Meeting Minutes

There being no NEW BUSINESS not already addressed in the general meeting reports, the floor was opened for questions.

The timetable for the 2009 reunion, specifically the days chosen, was questioned.

Rodger explained that a number of things came into play in choosing the dates, and days. First and foremost was the cost consideration for the rooms. In keeping with the intention mentioned earlier to keep the reunions as affordable as possible to the largest group of our members, the weekday scheduled has been chosen. Hotel/motel rates almost double for the weekends. Consideration was also given to the fact that temperatures in the dessert can be very high even in October, so while not perfect November offered the best choices on both costs and comfort.

There were several questions asked concerning the costs and room availabilities for a cruise reunion.

Rodger indicated that the board also had many questions and concerns in a variety of areas about cruise costs and accommodations. While many of our members, both on the board and among the general body, have had experiences, mostly positive, with cruises there are many "i"s to dot and "t"s to cross before we make a presentation to the board and body.

A suggestion was made from the floor that a Hawaiian cruise be considered.

Rodger said that the idea was not out of the question but that cost considerations would be a major factor in any choice made by the board.

There being no further business to come before the body the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 AM'

Respectfully submitted,

R.R. "Bob" Campbell
Acting Secretary

Attendance: 89 members and spouses, 13 Cadre and Board members.