



The Freedom Committee of Orange County

“Passing the Torch of Liberty On to Future Generations”

(A California nonprofit 501(c) (3) Public Benefit Corporation)

Neighborhood Community Center

1845 Park Ave., Costa Mesa, CA. 92627

Minutes of the Meeting of September 10, 2014

Pledge of Allegiance: Captain Tom Gorla, USN (Ret.)

Invocation: David Lester, WWII, Battle of Bulge survivor

Following the Invocation Prayer, a Moment of Silence was observed for Patriots’ Day and the victims of the 911 tragedy. Frank Pangborn read a poem that he authored, “The Day the World Stood Still” from his book On Heroes Wings.

Binnacle List: William Holiday *and* Robert Sternfels

Guests Present: (12): Louis Sat, Bob Cunningham, Linda Fontinella, Daniel Jordon, Louis McClain, Mary O’Brien, Eileen Oldis, Nancy Montgomery, Sharlene Pedersen, Tonia Pham, Valerie Phillip *and* Pam Hanson Reich,

Members Present: (77): Kelly Alcala, John Baca, Jim Baker, Vic Bakkila, Howard Beach, Jesse Bequette, Alan Bernstein, Larry Bersch, Bob Bolin, David Brooks, Jesse Carranza, Pat Coburn, Jack Cole, Bus Cornelius, Roberta Cowley, Tom Crammer, Bob Davis, Bob Dugan, Tom Egan, George Emerson, David Fey, Tom Gorla, James Grimm, Ray Grissom, Sid Hallburn, Jack Hammett, Dale Hanson, Hal Hayes, Dave Hayward, George Hill, Vince Howley, Jack Hubbard, Peter Katz, Louis Kridelbaugh, Hans Lamme, Dag Larsen, Bob Leahy, David Lester, Jack Linscott, Edward Magee, Bill Mall, Frank Mannino, Ted Marinos, Vern Martin, George Mason, Bob McClain, Bob Meyer, Edison Miller, Charles Mitchell, Joseph Mueller, Dick O’Brien, Don Oldis, Don Pageler, Frank Pangborn, Pete Pedersen, Bob Perry, Jim Powers, Dale Quinlan, Joel Quisenberry, Sean Reardon, Timothy Richards, Peter Rivas, Ed Royce, Bob Ruiz, Larry Schnitzer, Bill Shultz, Harry Selling, Ted Tanner, Allan Thompson, Michael Trerotola, Dick Tyhurst, Buck Wall, Jack Walters, Chase Wickersham, Paul Wilder, Scott Williams *and* Sid Yahn

Associate Members Present (29): Jim Baker, Bette Bell, Shirley Bolin, Cindy Brennaman, Tom Brennaman, Gretchen Coburn, Arlene Cole, Robby Conn, Cherry Danks, Teresa Drain, Shirley Hanson, Ramona Hill, Marilyn Larsen, Wendy Lece, Lori Martin, Fred McDowell, Audrey Miller, Sarah Moss, Betty Mueller, Gary Oberts, Pat O’Brien, Sharlene Pedersen, Beth Refakes, Gladys Refakes, Astrid Rice, Marge Tyhurst, Denise Weiland, Linda Williams, *and* Rob Wood.

Special Presentation

“Experiences of a B-25 Pilot in the China-Burma-India Theater during WWII”

China Burma India





David Hayward was trained as pilot flying the B-25 “Mitchell” two-engine bomber.



After being awarded his wings, Dave received his overseas orders for the China-Burma-India Theater. Reporting for duty required flying from Florida south to Brazil, then East across the Atlantic Ocean to Morocco, and ending in India, approximately 12,000 miles. The last journey was a five-hour flight over the “hump” Himalaya Mountains to Yangtze, China. Dave joined the 22nd Bomb Squadron, 341st Bomb Group, 10th Army Air Force. The mission of the American Air Force was to supply the Chinese troops and tie-up Japanese forces in South East Asia.

B-25 in Action



Flying his first combat mission, which was a target in Mandalay, Burma, on April 8, 1943, a large Jap squadron was spotted flying in the same direction as his squadron but at a lower altitude. Pushing the throttle to maximum, his plane could not out fly the Japs. A lone “Oscar” fighter climbed to his altitude and closed. Looking out the side window, Dave could see the Jap pilot flying *parallel* to his plane. No one fired and soon the Jap dove away and rejoined his squadron. Don’t ask why, just say thanks.

The 22nd Bomb Squadron bombed bridges, locomotives, railroad yards, and other targets to delay movement of supplies to the Japanese troops fighting in northern Burma and French Indochina. Dave’s squadron bombed airfields in Hanoi and Da Nang, now Vietnam.

1LT Dave Hayward is credited with 53 combat bombing missions. He has also authored several books: “A Young Man in the Wild Blue Yonder”, and “Thoughts of a B-25 Pilot”. He has returned to visit in southern Main Land China six times to a warm welcome for WWII Vets.

Announcements

Betty Bell presented the August Financial Report. Copies were available. She announced that FCOC Patches, FCOC Hats, Small US Flags and Flag pins were available for sale.

Denise Weiland announced that Student interviews would be starting after the First of the Year.

Scott Williams acknowledge **Dick O’Brien** recent tour to France. The 35th Inf. Division fought through France to Holland and his tour received a nice welcoming.

Jack Hammett stated that the Nixon Library is interested in collaborating with FCOC. The Planes of Fame in Chino are also interested in working with the FCOC. This might assist in developing the North County for FCOC. The Lyon Air Museum has FCOC Members volunteering as docents for tours of students. The FCOC **website** is being updated (See www.fc-oc.org ..

Frank Orzio introduced **Susan Papiri** of the Senior Serv. is holding the 4th Annual Senior Care Hero Awards Program. The event will be Saturday, October 18, 2014 at the City National Grove of Anaheim at 6pm. Call Ms. Papiri: 714-229-5284 or email at spapiri@seniorserv.org.

In Closing the program, a “**God Bless America**” video was shown of the 6th Annual Freedom Committee of Orange County Memorial Day Service which was recorded on a Video prepared by **Jim Baker**. Copies of the Video were available.

Minutes prepared by *Timothy Richards*

Promulgated by *Jack Hammett*