

Historian. However, his vacated seat was filled by Bill Jackson. Bill is a Past President and the last surviving member of the original Board of Directors. It is very appropriate that he joins us as a member at the end. Bill, who lives in Poplar Bluff, hired Jan Thies as our Secretary when his increasing workload with HPA was interfering with his growing dental practice. Jay Vinyard reported that our financial structure was in good condition. What Jay did not say was that we have monies now that we never expected to have five or six years ago. Partially this is due to your generous response to the Survivor Donation effort. However, it is equally due to Sally and Jay Vinyard working daily during the past two years at our new Amarillo office. They have produced first class newsletters, answered calls and mail, and kept our books balanced, all without compensation. We Hump Pilots owe them a great deal.

Wally Simpson was confirmed as our new Chaplain in addition to being a member of the board. We are still investigating various organizations that, with incentive, will be responsible for refurbishing our monument at Wright-Patterson Museum whenever required in the future.

The board authorized the compilation of a final roster. The long, tedious procedure of authenticating member's names, addresses, telephone numbers, and email is not scheduled to be complete for a year.

At our new board meeting following the membership meeting, we voted to site our 2005 reunion in San Antonio, Texas during the first week of September. It was so announced that night at our dinner dance. Since then, we have found that there were conflicting dates between our planned reunion and a celebration of VJ day in China to which a number of our members have been invited. We could not delay our reunion date in San Antonio without incurring substantially increased costs. So, we cancelled San Antonio and polled the board the board by telephone to obtain a different site. A majority of the board voted for Nashville, Tennessee. The timing will be the last of September. However, the exact date and hotel location are being negotiated by Nick Hudson and will be reported to you as soon as they are contracted.

Denver Reunion Report

Our Denver Reunion is now history and it was a great one. The hotel was great with fine service, great meals and a great downtown location. All attendees appeared to be in good humor and seemed to enjoy all the activities. And of course all the usual stories, tall and taller, were told and retold.

Certainly the highlight of the Reunion was our trip to Colorado Spring on Thursday to dedicate the C-46 sculpture at the Air Force Academy (see separate article and pictures on this.)

The trip to A Dinner Theater that night, after a really hard day, was highly praised by all.

As with all Reunions a great deal of appreciation goes to those who really make it work. **Nick Hudson**, of course, did his usual fine job in getting all the parts together. And then there were the people on site at the time grinding it out that really made things tick.

Special kudos go to our Reunion Chairman **Roy Ladd and Pat** for their efforts in helping plan the Reunion and for being good hosts. Also, many thanks and much appreciation goes to **Sally Vinyard** for her many hours of planning ahead of time and for her many hours spent at the Registration desk during the reunion. And, to **Mrs. Helen Casey**, our regular lady at the Registration Desk. Helen, from Albuquerque, NM, has now worked the desk at our last three reunions. There are none more efficient and dependable than she is.

Helen was ably assisted by **Ms. Carol Consalus**, a local temporary we hired in Denver, to support her. Ms. Consalus expressed her appreciation at being able to be with us and meet so many of our people. She said she considered it a great honor. When it appeared some members may not be able to get back to Florida after the reunion due to the approaching hurricane Carol offered two beds for people who might be stranded.

And our sincere appreciation also goes to our members' wives who also worked long hours in the registration room as needed. So we recognize **Mary Jane Millan** for her many hours working the PX and doing the great job she always does, **Lois Goodrich**, wife of our Chairman, **Trudy Simpson**, wife of Past President and Board member Wally Simpson, **Patti Saylor**, wife of Board member Jake Saylor, and again to **Pat Ladd** for her always good job in putting on the