

Honeywell Retirees and Activities Club Minutes

Tuesday, February 4, 2025, 1:00 pm

Sherry (Maxson) Myers, Secretary

February 13, 2025

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In attendance: Kirk Anderson, Larry Bowe, Barbara Brockett, Joyce Colella, Kevin Harris, Keith Hughes, Christine Lindley, Doug Metzger, Sherry Myers, Don Nicholas, Kevin Vetter, Judy Wilger

1. Welcome – Keith

2. Review of minutes, key action overview – Keith

- Barbara did the write-up for the newsletter about obtaining more contact information about members' spouse/partner.
- Joyce contacted Honeywell groups to learn about their luncheon's attendance.
- PJ updated photos

In absence of both Sherry and Kevin V at the March meeting, Barbara B volunteered to take the minutes. (thank you Barbara!) Kirk will record the meeting.

3. Treasurer's Report – Doug

Doug reviewed the report he sent out:

Page 1: Membership dues \$6,166.25. Activity prepayments \$2,200. Total liabilities \$20,225.76.

Page 2: Income and expense details. Year to date net gain, less AAC transfers, is \$1,977.51.

Page 3: Income and expense details by Activity, singled out by month.

Page 4: Totals for the year and projections. The dues and interest money covers the Events and Other Projects expenses. We expect to take losses on the holiday lunch and the spring picnic.

Keith had sent an email out explaining the higher cost for the spring picnic this year; city of Peoria increased the ramada fees. He looked around for other venues but couldn't find anything desirable and the size we need.

Doug had asked folks who are depositing money to tell the CU teller what it's for. That is coming through and is very helpful for him.

Keith mentioned the issue of when someone organizes an event and people pay by PayPal, PJ can only create one email which has to go to PayPal so Doug has access to it. It generates one email that goes back to the organizer. PJ was going to add to the sign up to check if you're sending a check or using PayPal because that's what the organizer will see. Had hoped to get a response saying it went to PayPal and was paid but can't do that.

4. Membership headcount – Barbara B

There was a request to see what we paid last year so Barbara added it this month, she revised the year-end report. On the last page, you can see the different categories, where the members originate. Bottom of spreadsheet shows tally of all membership dues paid last year, part of it was before clubs merged.

Membership for January is 560 vs. 561 last month. Four Garrett members included, one not paid (not in membership count yet). There was \$75 in dues deposits made in January.

Ted Rees and Barbara have gone through all spouses, seven are in spreadsheet.

24 HRSC removed, 2 joined/ renewed.

There is a group of members who owe dues. Barbara has emailed them for payment, hasn't called them yet. Her proposal is to keep them on the roster through at least the picnic in case they attend and want to pay there, since we don't want to lose them. It's not costing us anything. Kevin suggested we encourage them to go to the picnic and pay there. We would

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need to ask attendees if they are a paid or non-paid member who is going to pay. Larry will collect names of attendees and can note if they are paid or non-paid.

After the picnic as of end of May (since they will have not paid for a whole year), make these people who have not paid “non-active” and they can re-join if they choose. Barbara has contacted these folks but will add email addresses and phone numbers to the list of members who owe dues and send out in case anyone wants to contact them further.

Back to the Treasurer’s report, looking at dues, a lot of people will drop off this year [FY2024 510 minus FY2025 377 = 133 (from Barbara’s report)]. How big a problem is this?

5. Past & future event updates

- a. ABT – Kevin V. Event is sold out; Doug will give Kevin a check for \$2,180 for this event (32 tickets sold).
- b. Flight Ops Tour – Barbara B. About 30 attendees. Tour was a bit delayed but attendees seemed patient, but some had to leave. Good tour, maybe do it again.
- c. MIM Tour – Barbara B will set this up for the fall.
- d. Wrigley Mansion – Larry. Both tours are sold out. Larry will send out an email this week with instructions and directions. One extra ticket is available.
- e. Recycling Tour – Kirk hosted this due to Keith’s unavailability. Great tour, several people said they would do it again. Kirk will set up another tour for early next year. (Our guide mentioned the Arizona Worm Farm, said it provides an interesting tour – need to look in to this for a future event.)
- f. Caribbean Cruise – Barbara R. Only Barbara and her friends have signed up, no other interest.
- g. Hall of Flame – Kirk. No one has signed up and since today is the cut-off, it’ll be removed from the newsletter and website. Kirk will let Hall of Flame and PJ know.
- h. Museum of Illusions – Kirk. No one has signed up but will leave it on the schedule for now.
- i. Spring Picnic – Larry.

Discussed the menu. Have only gotten a few requests for veggie burgers in the past so Larry will pick up a small package. All agreed on the menu that Larry proposed: hamburgers, brats, veggie burgers, buns, potato salad, baked beans, sauerkraut, sliced cheese, chips, assorted cookies, condiments, and bottled water.

Larry said divided plates work good so he’ll look for some.

Larry provided a spreadsheet of tasks and suggested helpers.

We agreed to have the book exchange at the picnic; Judy will be in charge of and will need a helper.

Barbara B will man the sign-in table and Joyce will help. Barbara will print the badges for attendees.

We must buy food and supplies based on the number of sign-ups. Last year 148 signed up but 134 showed up.

Should the board members have a different badge in order to be identified?

Cathy Nicholson will get the two lines set up as she did last year.

Who will take on this event for next year?
- j. Ping, Fed Ex, Amazon Tours – Don.

Amazon will no longer do private tours for groups but individuals can sign up for pre-set tours at a fulfillment center in SW Phoenix or do a virtual tour.

No Fed Ex locations in the valley offer tours.

No answer from Ping yet, Don will follow up.

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- k. Southwest Airlines – Keith. 9 people have signed up so far. Last time, had to limit numbers.
- l. Arizona Commemorative Air Force Museum – Tom Leard. At the holiday lunch, Tom offered to set this up in the fall. Keith has not talked with him since then about this.
- m. Need Next Year Winter / Spring events – All. We have a few:
Air Force museum, MIM, Phoenix Worm Farm. Don will try the Lake Pleasant music cruise again, maybe try for earlier like in October. Kirk will try the Hall of Flame tour again. Don will investigate the Martin Auto Museum, maybe for late June. Keith will look into the Sanderson museum again. Will try Verde Canyon RR again; Larry will look into this. This would be good for October.

Keith mentioned Barbara Rippstein being somewhat a dormant elected board member. Should we keep her on the board or replace her. She told Keith she can't contribute much to the board and is mainly interested in doing cruises. It was suggested we try to replace her since she rarely attends and doesn't use Zoom.

Board member Melanie Merrill is unable to do anything this calendar year so she resigned and Keith accepted her resignation. Delete her name on the website and in Navigator from list of board members.

6. January Navigator Review – Joyce

Page 1 – remove Hall of Flame event.

Page 2 – delete Melanie Merrill as board member.

Page 3 – typo, make it your grandchildren instead of you grandchildren.

Page 4 – at bottom, last four lines will be removed.

Page 5 – Aero: Engines/APU's means Garrett. Change the color of the font for non-hyperlinked words to distinguish them from hyperlinks which should all be a uniform color. Leave red font as is.

Page 8 – remove Hall of Flame event.

Page 14 – number of last year's picnic attendees – the number should match the number in President's report – make them both 135. Barbara B will send the link of current membership list to Larry.

Page 14 – remove the last sentence, "Come and take a look at past & present events"

Page 15 – would be nice to get a work story from other than avionics. Barbara B will send a note to Garrett club members suggesting a story/stories from them.

Pages 17-21 - the email list is not a complete list of all members; it's only those who agreed to have their information published.

Page 24 – IAC lunches were removed since they're no longer held.

Page 25 – list of past events, correct spelling of coca (not coco) cola. Update the list. Keith will look into offering a Tovrea Castle tour since they'll be opening in May.

7. New business

- a. Invitations to Ex-Garrett club members. Have received a handful of responses from the 300+ membership. Will wait a month or two and re-send and invite their board members to join us since our membership is declining. Maybe their board members can encourage their members to join. They may be located in the East valley so we should push Zoom meeting attendance.
- b. Collection of dues – already discussed this.

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- c. How to attract more diverse attendees – Barbara B will publish a list of zip codes where members reside. A suggestion was made to do a survey at the picnic to get ideas from members for events the club would organize; list possible categories of activities, rather than specific activities, and include “other.” Don and Kirk will make this list. It was also mentioned that many folks are not interested in doing surveys. A survey was done several years ago, Keith will send those results to the board.
- d. Design of business cards. All agreed we should keep this very simple and maybe put a QR code on the back so folks can get to the website that way. Also, add the Honeywell logos and that pre-retirees are welcome. Maybe use ChatGPT, Gemini or CoPilot for help with design. Kevin V will look at doing a new card.
- e. (added during meeting) Election of officers. Should we add this to the newsletter? Need to decide Barbara R’s future on board. Keith will work on Garrett folks for a director. Barbara B will do a write-up about officers. Need to vote at April meeting.

8. Round Table discussion

Kevin H suggested putting the cursor at the spot on the projected document where our attention should be.

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm. Next meeting: Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 1:00 pm.

Action Items:

- Prior to every meeting, everyone should review the minutes and the reports sent out by Board members.
- Barbara B will send the list of members who have not paid dues this year to the board for them to contact about paying.
- For the spring picnic, Judy will be in charge of the book exchange and needs a helper.
- Who will take on the responsibility of the spring picnic after this year.
- Decide Barbara Rippstein’s future on the board.
- Remove Melanie Merrill as a board member on the website and in the Navigator. She submitted her resignation.
- Keith will look into arranging a tour of Tovrea Castle.
- Keith will send the results of a survey that was taken several years ago, regarding interest in activities.
- Kevin V will look at doing a new business card for the club.
- Barbara B will do a write-up about club officers.