

# **Cascade Warbirds, Minutes of the Meeting      11 Mar 2017, Museum of Flight, Seattle**

The CO called the meeting to order at 10:20 AM. There were 82 members and guests in attendance.

New members and guests were welcomed. Veterans were recognized.

Fred asked folks to pay their 2017 dues, mentioned Reno Race tickets were still available, and pitched the 2017 Warbird calendars produced by PhotosHappen.com.

The squadron presented a \$1,000 check to the Museum of Flight for their Education Program. COO Laurie Haag accepted on behalf of the museum and thanked the squadron for its partnership over the years.

Pete introduced 2015 scholar Alex Jonson who gave a brief report of his aviation training and future plans. The squadron then presented him with a \$1,000 check to continue his training.

Pete then introduced five of our 2017 scholars: Ryan Check, Pavel Hoffelner, Antonio Martorano, Austin Mix, and Blake Nelson; they were presented Award Certificates. Scholar Jake Peterson was unable to attend.

New newsletter John Haug III was introduced. He spent a few minutes detailing some plans he had to spiff up the newsletter and called on all members to be contributors.

Dan Shoemaker reported that the B-17 visit this year will be in Olympia and we are expecting some personnel support from the Chehalis EAA chapter.

John Johnson reported on NWOC and Ron and Dave ran through the schedule of events the squadron would be participating in this season and where volunteers were needed.

Brandon Edwards introduced our featured speaker, SSgt Art Unruh, B-17 tail gunner in the 15<sup>th</sup> AAF. Art spent some time talking about his 50 missions, some of the losses in his squadron, and some of the humorous happenings he was a part of. Art stayed after and autographed copies of his book *The Shadow Casters*.

We had as special guests these B-17 crewmembers: Fred Parker, Elden Larson, Emery Blanchette, and Dick Nelms. They and Art had their photos taken with our five 2017 scholars.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:40.

For the Squadron

Fred C Smyth

Adjutant