

RPA DIRECTOR TELECONFERENCE
6/24/09
4:00 PM PDT
AGENDA

Attendees:

Ron Morrell, NW Director – Not on call	Gordon Witter, SW Director-X
Darrell Gary, President-X	Ron Lee, Treasurer-X
David McGirt – Not on call	Scott McMillan, SC Director-X
David Mills, NC Director-Not on call	Shane Golden, SE Director-X
Steve Dalton, NE Director-X	Byron Fox, Director-X
Jim Goolsby,-Not on call	

1. The by-laws require that an election be held for the three National Directors. There are only two currently serving: Byron Fox and Jim Goolsby. Their terms will expire but they can certainly be placed into nomination by anyone. Please nominate any member that you feel has the time, expertise and commitment to the mission. We will conduct the election online later this month. Our Directors will elect the next slate of officers, they will establish policy and the direction for the RPA.
 - We are due to select 3 national at large Directors this summer. We are currently accepting nominees and will proceed to post names and resumes on the website. Then we will call for an election and vote. Current nominees are: Hal Morley, Byron Fox, Jim Goolsby, Patr Giery and Jeff Linebaugh. Steve Dalton and Scott McMillan reserved the right to submit additional names within the next few days. If anyone else has any further nominees please send to Darrell right away.
2. The by-laws state that members must own Eastern Bloc Aircraft. We currently have members that own other aircraft types or who own no aircraft at all. Our mission statement says that we emphasize Eastern Bloc aircraft. I would like to consider aligning the by-laws with our mission statement.
 - After extensive discussion, a motion was made to vote to amend the by-laws. The vote of the Directors present was unanimous in favor of amending the by-laws to state that our emphasis is upon eastern bloc aircraft but that it is not necessary to own one to become a member of the RPA.

3. It is further stated that we train pilots to be proficient in the operation of their aircraft. We do not as an organization, provide basic training. It is generally assumed that pilots who attend our clinics are proficient in the operation of their aircraft in both normal and emergency environments. We do provide formation training in accordance with FAST guidelines. We also provide access to information and techniques to more proficiently operate and maintain member aircraft.
- Due to a variety of issues including increased liability it is generally agreed that we should not represent that the RPA organization provides transition training for its members. However, it is recognized that many members individually are interested in providing this type of training. We will make our best efforts to provide a list of those individuals which may be posted on the website. As an organization we focus on formation flying techniques, proficiency and safety. We will seek legal advice and provide a disclaimer for those participating members interested in transition training. We will continue to assemble and disseminate information from credible sources regarding the operation and maintenance of our fleet of aircraft. This will be posted on the website.
4. Instructor pilots (IP). Do we have a program in place? Do we need to formalize the program or abandon it? A formal program is another layer that requires administration and oversight. Most event organizers utilize regional Check Pilots and experienced Lead pilots to act as IPs.

After extensive discussion it was generally expressed that the Instructor Pilot designation was not necessary and may be counterproductive. This designation is not required by the FAA or FAST. The RPA has Check Pilots and experienced Lead pilots that function well in this role. It has been a non issue for the most part. It was determined that the BOD would delay making a decision until after the RPA Check Pilot teleconference to be held in July. It was agreed that we should engage the RPA Check Pilots in this process. They have the responsibility to establish and enforce performance standards

5. How can the RPA help support regional events?
 - The RPA has the ability to help all event organizers with regional events to assist in making it easier on you. John Graham can prepare press releases, Ron Lee handles the money through the store and can earmark it separately for an event, and event organizers can tell vendors to submit their invoices to Ron directly. We are here to help you. Event fees are tax deductible. We are also looking at continued and added sponsorship support by continuing to provide a credible presence on our site and with our quarterly Red Alert Magazine.
 - RPA can account for event fees, tent rental and food but gas is taken care of by the pilots. The summer issue for Red Alert is coming out and the quality is improved with

our new editor, Mike Love. We also have Kurt Howerton as our new web manager and he is helping the site to become more user friendly and interactive. We will have the new address for our editor in the Red Alert and instructions on how you can submit your own stuff with pictures in one location to assist Mike with magazine.

6. Our new Editor of Red Alert (Mike Love) is almost ready to go to press with the next issue. He needs continued support for articles and photos (300 dpi or better). Do any of you have any suggestions with regard to format or content?

- We will inform you on how to submit photos and articles in one location for Mike.

7. OPEN

- We get a tent for Oshkosh this year. Thursday morning the FAST BOD meeting and the Check Pilot meeting will be conducted. We hope to get 25-30 RPA aircrafts at event. Will be less expensive, more fun and low key.
- Scott McMillan suggests that based upon our experience following Forest Johnson's accident, we should establish an emergency contact list which would be available in the password protected portion of the website or may be disseminated to Officers and Directors.
- Zoe Albrecht was awarded the first place prize for best air-to-air photograph. Look for it in Warbirds magazine.

Thank you everyone,

Darrell Gary