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General Assembly Agenda

- Morning session:
 - ✓ Opening remarks
 - ✓ SOA status and activity report
 - ✓ Award of the SOA Scholarship 2016
 - ✓ Planned/Envisaged activities for 2017
 - ✓ Financial report Year 2015
 - ✓ Amendments to the SOA Constitution
 - ✓ Discussion
- Afternoon session:
 - ✓ ACO Update Briefing
 - ✓ Informational session: Military Partnerships



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SOA Status and Activity Report



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2015 Membership Situation - *as of 1 October 2015*

470 members in total (342 life members)

- 250 USA
- 55 BEL
- 52 GBR
- 45 DEU
- 12 NLD
- 11 CAN
- 9 NOR
- 9 TUR
- 8 ITA
- 5 FRA
- 3 GRC
- 11 Others



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2016 Membership Situation - *as of 1 October 2016*

477 members in total (342 life members)

- 246 USA
- 60 BEL
- 52 GBR
- 43 DEU
- 13 NLD
- 10 ITA
- 9 CAN
- 9 NOR
- 9 TUR
- 5 FRA
- 4 DNK
- 3 GRC
- 3 ROU
- 11 Others



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SOA Executive Committee 2016 - 2017

MajGen Joseph T. Guastella Jr., USA F	Chairman
BrigGen Richard Laurent, BEL F (Ret.)	Co-Chairman
LtCol Claus Richter, DEU F	Secretary
Col John Haas, USA F (Ret.)	US Chapter Liaison
LtCol Krzysztof Plazuk, POL A	SHAPE PAO Liaison
Mrs. Véronique Leroy, NATO CIV (Ret.), BEL	Treasurer
Mr. Jean Vanderwal, NATO CIV (Ret.), BEL	Assistant Treasurer
Cdt Jean-Marie Boulet, BEL A (Ret.)	Data Base (DB) Manager
Mr. Jack Smits, NATO CIV (Ret.), NLD	Assistant DB Manager
Mr. Jürgen Walter, NATO CIV (Ret.), DEU	Communications Manager
Col Benoît Davin, BEL F (Ret.)	Scholarships coordinator



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SOA 2016 Activity Report

- Activities organized by the SOA ExCom:
 - ✓ 13 January: new Year Happy Hour
 - ✓ 02 February: celebration of Candlemas
 - ✓ 07 April: SHAPE 65th Anniversary event
 - ✓ 17 June: visit of Soignies Bluestone quarry and of a Casteau micro-brewery
 - ✓ 17 September: field trip to the Ardennes – “The Battle of the Bulge ”
 - ✓ 06-08 October: 56th SOA Symposium
 - ✓ November: *F35 Program presentation (TBC)*
 - ✓ December: *visit of the Erquelinnes micro-brewery (TBC)*
- Reports on SOA Facebook page/Website



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SHAOA 2016 Activity Report

- Initiatives/efforts:
 - ✓ Welcome letters to incoming Flag/General Officers
 - ✓ Continued engagement with like-minded associations (i.e. SCAOA, SMHS)
 - ✓ Reactivation of national SHAOA chapters (DEU as a test case)
 - ✓ Collecting SHAOA memories in support of SHAOA Historian (access via SHAOA Member Forum)
 - ✓ Development of a digital SHAOA repository
 - ✓ Update of the SHAOA flyer
 - ✓ Request for the SHAOA to be recognized as a SHAOA MWR Group 2 Activity



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SOA 2016 Activity Report

- Activities organized by the US Chapter:
 - ✓ 18-20 March: Florida Fun Weekend -
 - ✓ 25 May: Luncheon (Fort Myer)
 - ✓ 27 July: US Chapter visit to the General George Marshall Home
 - ✓ 21 September: Luncheon (Fort Myer)
 - ✓ 03 December: Annual Dinner (Fort Myer)
- Initiatives/efforts
 - ✓ “Memories of SHAPE” History Project
 - ✓ Continued co-sponsorship of social activities with NATO Defence College Anciens US Chapter



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Award of the SOA Scholarship 2016



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SOA SCHOLARSHIPS

REVIEW

- ✓ Provide a 1000 EUR scholarship to Secondary school (HS) graduates:
 - a. Descendants of SOA Members (children, grandchildren,)
 - b. Any graduate recommended by a SOA Member
- ✓ For post secondary study related to NATO/SHAPE goals/values in areas such as: Languages, History, Political Science, International Affairs, Engineering and Computer Technology, Economics, etc.
- ✓ Funding: complement of Voluntary Funds and SOA General Fund



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SOA SCHOLARSHIPS

2016 PROGRAM

- ✓ Funds carried from 2015: 1315 EUR
- ✓ Members Voluntary Contributions in 2016: 50 EUR + 362 USD
- ✓ Award one SOA Scholarship for 2016
- ✓ Carry the balance of 365 EUR + 362 USD to 2017
- ✓ Publish the winner of the 2016 Scholarship and disseminate to SOA membership
- ✓ Encourage more SOA membership participation in the Program: both financially and in providing applicants.



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2016 SOA SCHOLAR

Alexia Medina (USA)



Attended SHAPE International School from 2002-2006

- Honor Roll all four years at St. John Paul HS, VA
- National, French and Math Honor Societies
- Field Hockey Captain, Spanish Club and Math Tutor
- Received Gregory Holley Academic Scholarship
- Attending William and Mary College, VA
- Computer Science Major with cyber security emphasis
- Goal to work with US government or NATO



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**Planned/Envisaged
activities for 2017**



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- Planned/envisaged activities for 2017
 - ✓ 11 January: new Year Happy Hour (SHAPE Club)
 - ✓ 02 February: *Candlemas celebration at "Le Chalet" (SHAPE)*
 - ✓ 10-12 March: US Chapter Florida Fun Weekend
 - ✓ *Quarterly US Chapter luncheons with guest speakers*
 - ✓ *Throughout the year: US Chapter visits to local military historical locations*
 - ✓ *End of March: Co-sponsoring of a "50 years of SHAPE at Casteau" event*
 - ✓ *May: visit of the Louvignies Castle*
 - ✓ 05-07 October: 57th SOA Symposium (SHAPE ?)



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Financial Report Year 2015



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Amendements to the SOA Constitution



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- Background
 - ✓ Revised Constitution approved 14 October 2011
 - ✓ Amendment “Associate membership” on 9 October 2015
- Amendments for approval by General Assembly on 07 October 2016
 - ✓ Majority of changes related to the requirement for the SOA Constitution to be approved by SHAPE to be recognized as a SHAPE MWR Group 2 Activity
 - ✓ Two specific changes intended to redress oversights when the “Associate membership” was added
 - ✓ SOA ExCom recommends approval of these amendments
- Discussion



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- Voting
 - ✓ Votes via email:
 - Approve: 29
 - Disapprove: 0
 - ✓ General Assembly votes:
 - Approve: 24
 - Disapprove: 5
 - ✓ Proxy votes:
 - Approve: 1
 - Disapprove: 0
 - ✓ Outcome: APPROVED



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Discussion



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Record of Decisions (1/2)

- Encouraged the SOA membership to contribute to the „SHAPE Memories“ initiative
- Agreed, subject to an annual assessment, to use the SOA General Fund:
 - ✓ to supplement the SOA Scholarship Fund in order to allow the awarding of two SOA Scholarships per year
 - ✓ to cover (parts of) the costs of SOA activities (e.g. transportation)
- Endorsed the awarding of the SOA Scholarship 2016 to Ms Alexia Medina
- Encouraged more SOA membership participation in the SOA Scholarship Program, both financially and in providing applicants
- Approved the recommended amendments to the SOA Constitution
- Agreed to hold the 57th SOA Symposium on 05-07 Oct 17 at SHAPE
- Expressed its appreciation to the ExCom for the practical organization of the 56th SOA Symposium



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Record of Decisions(2/2)

- Noted the suggestions made during the General Assembly, to be further considered by the ExCom:
 - ✓ Expand the SOA Scholarship Program to increase the number of applications out of which the most deserving High School students will be selected
 - ✓ Partner with the NATO Defence College (NDC) Anciens to possibly co-host a Symposium /Reunion at the NDC
 - ✓ 2017 activities: visit of the new NATO HQ, possibly in conjunction with the SOA Symposium
 - ✓ Establish a working group to identify ways to enhance the membership drive
 - ✓ Seek the support of CHODs (through NMRs) for the establishment of national SOA Chapters and invite them to send a representative to the SOA Symposium
 - ✓ Expand the use of the SOA General Fund to cover expenses such as: key note speaker during the SOA Symposium; establishment of a national SOA Chapter in new member countries; participation in the SHAPE 50th Anniversary in Mons events
 - ✓ Open the SOA Scholarship to graduate students



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