

**SOA Executive Committee**  
Minutes of the Meeting  
**9 April 2014**

1. The SOA Executive Committee met on the 9 April 2014 in the PAO conference room (attendance apologies received from Scott Sunquist, Jean Boulet, Guenter Bretschneider, and Allan Jeavons).

The following agenda items were then discussed and the consequent actions noted below:

2. Approval of the previous minutes and approval of the Agenda: The Minutes and Agenda were approved and open items were addressed as indicated in this report.

3. Action Items from 15 Jan 2014 Meeting

a) Inventory of Stock: A physical inventory of the stock (ties, pens, and glasses etc) was made in March 2014 by the Assistant Treasurer. Missing items were noted, but it is assumed that they may be in the SOA safe that no one has been able to open in two years. There are a number of wine glasses from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion which because of the date imprinted in the glass make them worthless for sale. It was decided that these glasses be made available for distribution to the membership.

b) 53th Symposium Happy Hour Bill : The treasurer finally received the bill for the event and it was paid. Issue closed.

c) Membership Deletion: The membership secretary indicated that there were a number of members who had not responded to repeated messages indicating dues needed to be paid. He suggested that those members be dropped from the membership rolls and if at a later date the member wishes to rejoin, he or she needed to reapply. He requested committee decision on his proposal. The committee agreed that members not responding to SOA dues requests be dropped from the membership rolls after reasonable attempts at contact were made, but if a member later establishes contact, his or her membership be reactivated without having to reapply for membership.

d) SOA Brochure: The updated SOA brochure has been produced, picked up and ready for distribution. The brochures are with the PAO representative.

4. SOA 2014 Symposium Status

a) Hotel : Seven rooms at the Hotel Dream have been reserved from 8 to 12 October. Price of room is +/- 90€/night

b) Friday Dinner : To be at the Hotel Dream in Mons. Time –TBD so as not to conflict with potential SHAPE Concert. Menu offered at the Dream is at 41€ per person and include aperitif, wine, main course, dessert etc. The menu would be the menu of the month which is yet to be determined.

c) Happy Hour – Normally at the Dream, but it needs to be arranged and location could change. TBD

d) Saturday Trip to Tournai & Golf competition ; Work in progress

e) SACEUR Invitation: If the SACEUR's schedule permits, it was felt that he would attend parts of the symposium. However he needs to be invited and it was proposed that a letter from the President is needed with the letter sent sooner than

later. The US Chapter Chairman will be asked to have the President send a letter.

5) Activities for 2014:

a) Mons 2015 Briefing for SHAPE members: A member of the Mons 2015 Committee is scheduled to provide such a briefing on Mons 2015 during the General Assembly of the SOA 2014 Symposium. The brief is scheduled for Friday afternoon and is planned to be open to all SHAPIANS

b) Tops in Blue Concert for 2015. The 2015 Tops in Blue schedule is yet to be worked and no information will be forthcoming before Sept 2014.

c) Walking Tours in Mons Area: A tour to the Mons WWI sites or a tour of the Van Gogh Museum is proposed for this summer . Dates and type of tour TBD

d) Wine Tasting : A wine tasting event is planned for Friday, 1800L 23 May at the Maison des Fins Vins . Confirmation of availability is needed. RH

e) Next Newcomers Briefing is 17 July 2014

9.Next Meeting Wednesday June 18 2014 at 14.00 in the SHAPE PAO Conference Room. (Note – initial date of 25 June was rejected as 60% of members present would be absent that day!!)