

Langley Research Center Alumni Association Minutes of the General Membership Meeting Tuesday, November 9, 2021

Call to Order and Meeting Overview: President Damodar Ambur called the November 9, 2021, Zoom General Membership meeting of the Langley Research Center (LaRC) Alumni Association, Inc. (LAA) to order at 11:45 AM.

Attendance: At least 32 alumni attended some portion of the meeting.

President's Report: The President, Damodar Ambur, reported that this is the last meeting of the year. The Zoom virtual meetings were successful, plus we had an in-person tour at the Mariners' Museum. For December, LAA plans to hold the annual Holiday Luncheon; the final decision will be made in today's Board meeting. Dan Palumbo stated that an email will be sent soon to all members with information on how to register for the luncheon. Dan stated he has confirmed the details with the caterer, Donis Anders, and that the luncheon is a "go."

Damodar stated that the Hall of Honor (HoH) nomination process is proceeding well and Duncan McIver has been doing an outstanding job. Please consider nominating or suggesting worthy individuals for the Hall of Honor.

Damodar stated that 11 of the 113 inductees for the Virginia Aviation Hall of Fame worked (directly or indirectly) for Langley. In 2022, Leland Melvin was elected to the Hall of Fame. Leland worked in the Nondestructive Evaluation Sciences Branch (NESB) before becoming an astronaut. Leland flew aboard STS 122 and 129 as a Mission Specialist and was named Associate Administrator for Education in 2010. The induction ceremony will be in Fredericksburg, Virginia on November 14, 2021.

Damodar stated that Honorary Lifetime Memberships were established last year for those individuals with sustained and exceptional contributions to LAA. He reported that five people were selected for Honorary Lifetime Membership last year: Gary Price, Dick Davis, Christine Darden, Duncan McIver, and Fred Morrell. The Board will be discussing this subject at this afternoon's Board meeting and we will let you know if any candidates are selected.

The LAA Officers and the By-Laws Committee have been working on updates to the By-Laws. LAA has significantly evolved over the last two years and changes are needed to the By-Laws to reflect how LAA operates in a changing environment and to provide greater flexibility in the future. The By-Laws will be finalized in the Board meeting and will be discussed and voted on at the General Meeting in January. Everyone is encouraged to attend this meeting, which will also include nominations for Members-at-Large for the LAA Board.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary, Rick Ross, reported that website will be changed to reflect the 4000-character limit for the HoH nomination form and will remove references to word limits and font size. Minutes from the October meetings have been approved and posted to the LAA website. The next quarterly newsletter will be published in December; please submit articles to Rick within the next few days.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer, Geoff Tennille, reported that this was a slow month. LAA had two new members that joined in October, including one Lifetime Member. As of October 31, 2021, the LAA had the following balances in the Langley Federal Credit Union (LFCU) accounts:

Account	Beginning Balance	Ending Balance
LAA Organizational Shares	\$5.00	\$5.00
Money Market Savings	\$9,836.13	\$9,936.97
Smart Checking	\$3,643.95	\$3,643.95
TOTAL	\$13,485.08	\$13,595.92

Geoff reported that he received a response from the IRS regarding LAA's request for 501(c)3 status. The letter was dated July 31, but was not mailed until November 4. LAA's application was denied because the Employer Identification Number (EIN) was not valid. Geoff submitted a new application for an EIN. Geoff asked Melanie Robinson if he could get access to NASA to retrieve the LAA records to help understand why the EIN was invalid.

Geoff has tickets for sale to the Newport News Festival in Lights at Newport News Park. The tickets are \$12 per car and are available for selected dates: November 29, December 6, December 13, and December 27. If you are interested, please let Geoff know. Tickets can be picked up at Geoff's house, or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Geoff. Geoff will also send this information to Rick Ross to include in the newsletter and to Dick Hueschen to send an email to the membership.

Communications Officer's Report: The Communications Officer, Dick Hueschen, reported that LAA has a new life member, Dr. Jalaiah Unnam, who will be retiring next year after 46 years with AS&M. Dick reported the passing of six NASA Langley alumni: Leon Clancy, Joanne Walsh, Barton Bruce, Buena Crayton, Paul Culotta, and Louise Knemeyer. The names, with links to the full obituaries, will be posted on the website. Dick asked for a moment of silence to honor our alumni who have passed.

Vice President and Program Chair's Report: The Vice President and Program Chair, Dan Palumbo, introduced today's guest speaker, Alexandra Loubeau, the co-lead on X-59 sonic boom testing. Dan informed Vicki Crisp that Alexandra was scheduled to give this presentation in 2022; however, a speaker canceled this year and Alexandra agreed to move up her presentation to fill the vacancy. Alexandra presented a talk titled "Sonic Booms and Community Testing: NASA's role in enabling commercial supersonic overland flight."

Damodar Ambur presented the speaker's gift, which will be mailed to the speaker.

Adjournment of the General Meeting: Damodar Ambur adjourned the meeting at 1:04 PM.

Next General Meeting: The next LAA general membership meeting will be the Annual Meeting, which will be held via Zoom at 11:30 AM on January 11, 2022. Call-in information will be sent to members in advance of the meeting, and all members are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Ross, Secretary