

From 2004 Newsletter Volume III, Issue 3

A message from our President

Fellow Gunshippers,

We are now within 60 days of the BEST EVER AC-119 Gunship Association Reunion V in Dayton, Ohio. This will be the last newsletter before Reunion V. I hope you have made your Hotel Room Reservations and sent in your Reunion Registration Form.

Reunion V T-shirts are being made at this time and the Order Form is posted on the Web Page and in this newsletter. There will be some unsold T-shirts at the reunion, but it will help if we can pre-sell them in advance and then deliver them at the reunion. You will be able to pick up your T-shirt order with your Registration Package when you check in for the reunion.

The Awards and Decorations Recovery Board has been formed, and I appreciate those Association Members who volunteered to assist in this program. If you believe you should have received an award, and for some reason the paperwork did not go through; this Board of Review will assist you in the preparation and filing of the required forms. Steve Mac Isaac will make a presentation about this program during the Annual Association Business Meeting. Then, for those Association members who wish to participate in the program, the Awards and Decorations Recovery Board will hold an informal workshop in the afternoon to guide you through the process you will need to do to receive consideration for the award. The Awards and Decorations Recovery Board will REVIEW your paperwork prior to filing the request with the Air Force; suggest any changes, if needed; and thereby try to improve your chance of receiving the Award you seek.

The History Project "Stories" are due!! Please have your story ready for the Reunion. Bob LaRosa and Wayne Laessig have organized the program to videotape as many of us as possible telling "our story" of the most rewarding, scary, exciting, etc. mission or event that occurred to us while we were assigned to the AC-119. This included EVERYONE, pilots, navigators, FE's, Gunners, IO's, and maintainers. We ALL have a remembrance; and at our age, we need to get them on videotape and in writing before they are "lost" forever. ASSOCIATION NOMINATIONS – We must begin to prepare the nominations for the 2004-2005 Association Officers. If you have any aspirations about filling any of the slots in the Association Leadership, please make it known to one of the existing Association Officers.

It will help if you have on-line capability to receive the e-mail messages concerning Association business. The net result of participation at this level is a continuing relationship with the fellow gunship members you were involved with 30 or more years ago.

I want to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your participation in the Association. Your direct efforts have made my job easier; but without your guidance, suggestions, and critiques of what was going on, I would have been bouncing around in the dark. As we all know from our experience in SEA, it took ALL of us to make the AC-119 Gunship work. The Association is the same way, it takes all of us working together to make the Association improve and to grow.

Again THANK YOU for your efforts, and I will see you in DAYTON!!

Rogers Stevens

President

AC-119 Gunship Association