

AC-119 Gunship Association NEWS FLASH, September 2016

There are no attachments – all the “guns-hot” news is easily seen below.

1. President's Flash Message:

Welcome Home to Fort Walton Beach, Florida. I hope you have already registered for AC-119 Gunship Association Reunion XVII, but if not, you still have time to do so. All reunion information can be found on our website: <http://ac-119gunships.com/association/reunion/reunion2016/reunioninfo2016.htm>

After three consecutive years as President of the Association, I will assume the position of Past President on the 2017 Board of Directors. A new President will be elected at this reunion.

Our Board needs some “fresh blood.” The Board needs computer-savvy volunteers to help our Association. Secretary Mike Drzyzga is doing the work of four men; association secretary, association membership accountant, association newsletter editor, & website/media member. The Board is actively recruiting members who could fill (hopefully accept) at least one of the four jobs. If you are not actively recruited; then step-forward, raise your right hand & volunteer. Contact me or any Board member. New recruits will have to go through basic training!

We now know our 2017 reunion will be held in Dayton. What about 2018? Potential coordinators for the 2018 reunion need to have proposals ready for presentation at our FWB reunion business meeting on Saturday morning, 29 Oct 2016.

Time is priceless. As we grow older, it is heart-warming & refreshing to see & visit with precious brothers who have shared our younger years & war experiences. Let us not forget our families, for they love us.

Uncle Shadow, Uncle Stinger, & Uncle Sam want you. Volunteer!

Best Wishes, Larry Fletcher

2. **Reunion Highlights:** The July & August *Firing Circle* Newsletters, available to you on the Association web site, highlight some agenda items: for example,
 - a. At the Saturday evening banquet, we have some very special items on the raffle table,
 - b. Gus Sininger, reunion coordinator, has an exciting trip arranged to Hulburt on Sat. Oct. 28 to visit with the 18th FTS & newly revitalized Memorial Air Park.
 - c. **Pensacola Tour** – Friday, Oct. 28! Carol Hinton & Andrea Drzyzga enabled a low-cost, eventful day-trip via bus to Pensacola. Included are: Old Pensacola Museums, lunch at an Irish Pub, & visiting the Veteran's Memorial Park. Here's a direct link to the flyer: <http://ac-119gunships.com/association/reunion/reunion2016/FlyerPensacolaTourB.pdf>
 - d. Who's Coming to the FWB Reunion (we have 8 “first timers”, please check the list): <http://ac-119gunships.com/association/reunion/reunion2016/whoscoming2016.htm>
3. The Associations New Web Site: The new web site is almost complete. It is a very well organized site, & very functional. It is linked to a new database that makes updating Association information much easier. Wayne Laessig, Ron Julian & the other Information Technology (IT) committee members worked their butts off over the past two years. We all should have access to it by Reunion time.
4. **AC-119 History Book Addendum** To all members of the AC-119 Gunship Association: IF your biography & “war stories” were NOT included in the last History Book that was published, for whatever reason, this is your chance to be included on the next book or addendum. Publishing of Vol.2 History Book or an addendum to Vol. 1 will depend on the response we get & the number of forms returned. It is an expensive endeavor & requires time & effort. No one yet knows if we can proceed....but we are giving it a push now.
 - a. Obtain a blank bio form from Mike Drzyzga or Terry Sarul, filled out in its entirety, & sent to Terry Sarul (see below).
 - b. The portion of your bio that describes your bio information &/or war stories should be limited to 1500 words or less.
 - c. As pointed out on the form....if more space is needed to describe your story, feel free to attach a separate sheet of paper.
 - d. If you choose to do so, & are going to attend the next reunion in Ft. Walton Beach, FL...you can bring the form with you & someone will also assist you in filling it out if needed. We will have a table set up in the hootch area at the reunion, so that you can sit down with someone who can assist you in filling it out.
 - e. A picture of yourself....then or now....or both will not only be accepted....but encouraged.
 - f. If you are unable to download or use the blank form, email Terry Sarul (see below), & he will send one out to you. Terry Sarul, 17841 Tollview Dr., South Bend, IN 46635 Email: bluemax1965@comcast.net
Secretary's Note: PLEASE contact Terry if you want to help out with this effort!