

15th AC-119 Gunship Association Meeting Sept 20th, 2014

1. Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Secretary, Treasurer Reports
3. Association “Charter” & priorities
 - a. New Web, Database, MCL
 - b. Facebook, Outreach, & Video Sessions
 - c. National Museum Memorial Bench
 - d. Association’s War Chest (\$\$\$)
4. Legacy Squadrons
5. KIAs & Memorial Ales
6. 850 – the Last AC-119?
7. 2015 Albuquerque Reunion
8. 2016 Reunion proposals; D.C
10. 2015 Association Officer Nominations & Election

Adjourn

Secretary's Report Mike Drzyzga

Approve minutes

Membership make-up & numbers

<u>Members</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Life	192	215	248	275	284	293	306	319	325	364
Annual	131	164	153	124	108	97	81	79	73	76
<u>Honorary</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>
Total	335	397	419	420	413	412	412	423	453	468

- Since Sept 2013, we added 31 new members (20 Life & 11 Annual).
- Annual memberships continue to decrease as Life members increase
- Contacts & Newsletter **snail-mailing \$1,000** E-mailing = \$0
- Keep your e-mail up to date; we'll have more \$\$ to run the Association

Treasurer's Report Doug Wohlgamuth

- Expected Annual Costs:
 - Mailings, Newsletter, Reunion Advertising \$ 1,500
 - “In Memory of” donations & Association Awards \$ 600
 - Reunion Hootch, KIA Families, Fee Offsets,
T-Shirts, Merchandise, Videos \$11,500
 - Outreach, Legacy Squadrons \$ 500
 - Db Support & Web annual costs \$ 500
 - \$14,600 +

- Expected Annual Revenue
 - Dues \$ 1,500
 - Reunion Fees \$ 5,000
 - Merchandise / T-Shirts sales \$ 4,000
 - Raffles / Auctions \$ 3,000
 - Inventory: History Books, lithos ???
 - \$15,000 +

AC-119 Gunship Association Charter

Why do we exist

- Old friendships
- New Friendships
- Get AC-119 into rightful place in History

How do we do that

- Web, FB, Db (MCL), Outreach, Legacy Squadrons
- \$\$: Merchandise, Raffles/Auctions, Reunion Dues
- History Book & Videotaped sessions
- VOLUNTEERS (who can't continue to do it all)

What do we need to continue to do it well

- \$\$\$\$\$ for web & database designed to make it easy for YOU and reduce admin hours; ditto for potential National Museum Memorial

Communication & Outreach Efforts

1. FaceBook: open, real-time communication
 - a. 5 FB Admins & FB Guidelines
 - b. LOTs of new folks joining! Up to ____ Members!!
 - c. Challenges: only helps “IF” you use FB.
2. Outreach contacts: made additional progress this year with hundreds of contacts & we now have a few more emails vs just snail mails
 - a. **Still less than ½ of the AC-119ers who existed!**
3. Newsletter & POC Flash Messages will grow:
 - a. Bill Petrie as Editor
 - b. POCs are critical
 - c. **The only way several hundred of our guys get info!!**

IT Committee

1. For over a year, IT Committee worked on what we'll need for Web & Database Tools
2. The results: a new user-friendly & modernized Web with online ALPHA, MCL updates, Reunion Registration & payment, merchandise ordering & payment, photo gallery
 - a. Initial design costs high but huge ongoing benefits
 - b. Association's "War Chest" gets us through year-to-year, but not enough to fund large improvements.
 - c. We need "**mak-mak Baht, GI**" to make it happen!!

What Do We Need

1. A renewed Web with online ALPHA - what our IT Committee & Board worked on for over a year
 - a. Person-to-person contact
 - b. Online & automated MCL management
 - c. Online merchandise ordering & payment
 - d. Online Reunion Registration & payment
2. Volunteers who can spend HOURS looking for, finding, & TALKING to people to find the REST of our guys
3. National Museum Memorial Bench
4. **\$\$\$\$ to fund ALL of that;** we consistently “retain” enough to meet expenses year-to-year. Need another \$15,000 for Web/Db/Outreach, & another \$12,000 for National Museum

Active Duty Legacy Squadron Connections

18th FLTS Hurlburt - Gus Sininger

71st SOS Kirtland CV-22 Ospreys - Al Heuss

17th SOS Kadena MC-130 Combat Shadows - John
Morrow

73rd SOS Cannon AC-130 Stinger II - Mac MacIsaac
& Bob LaRosa

ALL are VERY interested in seeing, meeting, &
talking with Ron Terry!!

KIAs & Memorial Ales

John O'Neal" Rucker's
Mother Mae is here

Ken Brown's brother Mike,
sisters Anna & Pam, &
nephew Randy are here

Memorial Project: Fred
Rider & Steve Sirois



The Last AC-119 (Part of our History Charter?)

Tail # 850 (K model) is at Tan Son Nhut

- 2009: Do not spend Assoc \$\$; use Air Attaché to determine whether anything recoverable; airframe too corroded/expensive to restore; other AC-119s in Taiwan, China.....
- 2010-2011: No Assoc \$\$ spent, but no Air Attachés for Vietnam anymore, & confirmed no other AC-119s exist!
- 2011-2012: AC jacked & towed; did not fall apart, but risk of destruction or inclusion in “American War” Museum
- 2013 Decision: stay updated on 850’s status. Bruce Byrd authorized to extend business stays in Vietnam to initiate contacts & improve chances to get the aircraft

2015 Reunion XV

“????”

1. Coordinator: Ev Sprous
2. St Louis, MO
3. Crown Plaza Hotel – \$115 with breakfast buffet
 1. BIG Hootch, M&G, Banquet, & BBQ in the hotel
 2. Tours and Events
4. Sept 15th – 22nd 2015

2016 Reunion XVI Location Proposals

1. Coordinator Volunteer's Name _____
(If there isn't one, the buck stops on that location unless there's a contractor doing it for us)
2. Hotel agreement on Hootch where we serve our own beer, other beverages, etc (NOT hotel rates)
(If there isn't one, the buck stops again on that location)
3. Several with previously expressed interest:
 - a. Washington DC
 - b. Dallas
 - c. Others?
4. Is it time to go contractor support?

Nominations & Election of 2015 Board Members

1. President: Doc Larry Fletcher
2. Vice-President: Bob La Rosa
3. Secretary: Mike Drzyzga
4. Treasurer: Doug Wohlgamuth
5. Past Bd Member: Gus Sininger
6. Member-At-Large: Jim Dunn
7. Member-At-Large: Cash McCall
8. Member-At-Large: Phil Diehl

**NOTE to New Board: plan to meet 8AM Sunday
at Breakfast then separate room for an hour**