Please, PRINT this whole document & keep it next to your computer for a while.

NOTE: Pages 1-4 are Reunion Registration Instructions. Pages 5-12 are Website Operating Instructions. Respectfully, your web development team.











2017 Dayton AC-119 Gunship Reunion XVIII

September 28 – October 1, 2017 in Fairborn Ohio

Telling Our AC-119 Gunship Story



Join us at the birthplace of aviation & the Air Force's gunship program. We'll have dinner "Under the Wings" at the National Museum of the United States Air Force. If you haven't been to the museum recently, you haven't seen the 4th hanger which opened in June 2016. Lots of new exhibits & themes under the main roof, including renovated Southeast Asia displays with expanded information on the gunships.

Hotel & Room Reservation - Holiday Inn Fairborn/Dayton

2800 Presidential Drive Fairborn OH 45324 1-937-426-7800

This full service hotel is a short drive from the NMUSAF with quick easy access to shopping (Fairfield Commons & the Greene), dining, & major travel routes (Exit 17 on I-675). They finished a major renovation in the summer of 2016. Hotel features include:

Free High-Speed Internet Smoke free facility Free, accessible self-parking Indoor pool & fitness facility Business Center Technology Help Desk Wireless Internet access in public areas Complimentary Breakfasts

Room Rates: \$107 plus tax ~12.75% per night. *Please remember Hotel Reservations are not part of the Reunion Registration. Hotel room reservations are your responsibility. You must contact the hotel separately.* To make your hotel reservation, call the Holiday Inn direct 1-937-426-7800 & be sure to tell them you are attending the AC-119 Gunship Association Reunion. You must make your room reservations by September 7, 2017 to guarantee the Reunion rate.

Room features include:

- Coffee/Tea makers (Keurig) Complimentary weekday newspapers LCD flat screen TVs
- Wired high speed Internet access internet access Microwave & fridge in every room Additionally, reduced shuttle rates from/to the Dayton Airport for reunion attendees (\$30) are available. These reduced rates must be coordinated with the hotel when you reserve your room.

RVs & Campers: For those bringing your "home" with you, some options include:

- The WPAFB Famcamp http://www.militarycampgrounds.us/ohio/wright-patterson-afb-bass-lake-famcamp is about 15 minutes from the hotel & the same time from the NMUSAF.
- Dayton KOA http://koa.com/campgrounds/dayton ~ 30 minutes
- Frontier Campground http://www.frontiercamping.com ~ 30 minutes
- Greene County Fairgrounds ~ 25 minutes. Contact: Esther Pierson estherpierson@gmail.com

Reunion Registration

After you make your *hotel* reservation, please complete your online <u>Reunion</u> reservation on our website's Upcoming Reunion page at https://www.ac119gunships.com/reunion/upcoming-reunion/ where you can pay with PayPal or Credit Card (hint: print your completed Registration). If you are unable to register or pay online, contact Doug Wohlgamuth by phone 813-781-5728 or email at busch791@tampabay.rr.com; 504 Shea Place, Sun City Center, FL 33573

Completing either of the above actions registers you for the Reunion.

Reunion Registration Cut off is 26 August 2017. Cancellations on or before 26 August 2017 can receive a refund or you can make a donation as requested; cancellations <u>after 26 August 2017</u> we have to pay hotel "guarantees", so no refunds (but talk to us if there are special circumstances like family emergencies or losses).

Tours: If you plan to participate in the Friday National Museum of the United States Air Force Tour or the Sunday Historical Tour, you must complete & mail a **separate** tour registration form with check payment for each tour as noted below.

Note on Shirts: We phased out Reunion "T-Shirts". We suggest Golf Style "Association" shirts with or without pocket. Order yours today on our Quartermaster web page or contact Gus Sininger by phone 850-863-9640 or email at stinger7172@live.com; 321 Woodrow St NE Apt #1, Fort Walton Beach, FL 32547

Reunion Agenda

Thursday, 28 September

0900 Reunion Registration opens

1200: Hootch Bar Holiday Inn - Challenger/Discovery Room

Sodas, beer, snacks FREE to reunion attendees (closed during Meet & Greet; Banquet; & BBQ)

1700: Holiday Inn Welcome Reception Hosted by Holiday Inn – Challenger/Discovery Room

Friday, 29 September

0900 - 1000 Restoration Tour #1 at NMUSAF – Bus departs at 0830 from Holiday Inn

1015 - 1115 Restoration Tour #2 at NMUSAF - Bus departs at 0945 from Holiday Inn

NOTE: registration for the Friday Restoration Tours is separate from Reunion registration. To attend one of these tours, you must fill-in, print, & mail a separate completed form with payment check (payable to AC-119 Gunship Association) to Ron Julian (NMUSAF Tour), 4919 Appaloosa Trail, Fairborn, OH 45324. You can access the Friday Restoration Tour form by visiting the website's Upcoming Reunion page at https://www.ac119gunships.com/reunion/upcoming-reunion/ or contact Ron Julian by phone 937-546-3219 or email at AC.119.2017@gmail.com The National Museum of the Air Force arranged special tours for 100 of us. We have two identical tours of 50 folks each to get a "behind the scenes" look at the aircraft refurbishment process. When you sign up for the NMUSAF tours, you will receive a confirmation letter from Ron Julian. While the tour is free, there is a \$7.50 per person charge for the bus transportation from the hotel to the Restoration Hangar & return. Folks who register early for the tour have first shot at the restoration tour slots (you will be assigned to a tour based on the order of your sign ups). You will visit an on-base hanger where the museum refurbishes & restores airplanes, missiles, & other items.

You must have a Driver's license to go on this tour (secure access to the base); Military ID is not accepted.

1330 – Memorial Service at the NMUSAF for the new AC-119 Gunship Association Memorial Bench. We have arranged for a 56-passenger bus from the Holiday Inn to the Memorial site for those who may need a little extra assistance. Bus loads at 1245 at the Holiday Inn and departs promptly at 1300

1730 - Meet & Greet - Holiday Inn (Wright/Patterson Room) - Dinner begins at 1800

- Slow roasted Prime Rib, garlic roasted red skin potatoes, & Garden Salad w/ assorted dressings
- > Seared Salmon fillet w/ lemon dill sauce, Wild rice pilaf, & Mixed green salad
- Roasted Chicken Breast, garlic roasted red skin potatoes, & Garden Salad w/ assorted dressings
- All entrees include Fresh vegetable medley, Rolls or bread w/ butter, Dessert, & Coffee, Decaf, or Tea
- Kids option: Chicken Tenders, French Fries, Applesauce, & Milk NOTE: age 5 or under, same but Free

Saturday, 30 September

0900 - 1100- Business Meeting - (Amphitheatre)

0900 - 1100 - Ladies Business Meeting (Kittyhawk Room)

1730 - Museum opens for the banquet

1830 - Banquet Dinner - Under the Wings at the NMUSAF

- Center-Cut Ribeye or Slash & Burn Grouper, or Chicken Saltimbocca Roulade
- ➤ Kid's (under 12) Chicken Saltimbocca Roulade

Sunday, 1 October

1000 - Golf Outing at Twin Base Golf Course

0830 – Tour of Wright Memorial Hill & Carillon Historical Park.

NOTE: registration for the Sunday Historical Tour is **separate** from Reunion registration. To attend this tour, you must fill-in, print, & **mail** a separate completed form with payment check (payable to AC-119 Gunship Association) to Ron Julian (Sunday Tour), 4919 Appaloosa Trail, Fairborn, OH 45324.

There is a \$20 per person charge. Folks who register early for the tour have first shot at tour slots. You can access the Sunday Historical Tour form by visiting the website's Upcoming Reunion page at https://www.ac119gunships.com/reunion/upcoming-reunion/ or contact Ron Julian by phone 937-546-3219 or email at AC.119.2017@gmail.com

On this tour, you will travel to The Wright Hill Memorial site south of Wright Patt AFB. From the overlook vista, you see Huffman Prairie where Orville & Wilbur developed the first practical airplane. You meet with a Park Ranger, tour the visitor's center, then travel to Carillon Historical Park for an afternoon's exposure to the innovative contributions to our country's industrialization might from 1796 to present. You see the world's most complete collection of cash registers; learn about the "Barn Gang" & their impact on the fledgling auto industry in the early 1900s & to our budding military aviation. When you sign up for this tour, you will receive a confirmation letter from Ron Julian.

1730 – Farewell Gathering – Holiday Inn Ballroom – Buffet Menu includes:

- BBQ ribs & Grilled Chicken w/ mushroom sauce
- Red skin potatoes, Garlic mashed potatoes, & Rice pilaf
- Fresh Vegetable medley
- Rolls & butter
- Assorted Cake & Pies
- Coffee, decaf, & tea

NOTE: For special dietary needs, contact Ron Julian ASAP 937-546-3219 or email ac.119.2017@gmail.com

The important thing right now is to get the following done:

- 1. Hotel Reservations
- 2. Reunion Registration
- 3. Friday NMUSAF Restoration Tour Registration
- 4. Sunday Wright Memorial/Carillon Tour Registration

Things to see & Do in Dayton& Fairborn!

- National Museum of the United States Air Force 1100 Spaatz St, Dayton, OH 45431
- Map from Hotel to NMUSAF
- ➤ Map from Hotel to Fairfield Commons (shopping)
- Map from Hotel to The Greene (shopping)
- Greene County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Dayton Convention & Visitors Bureau

NOTE: You'll receive a local Restaurants map when you check in at the Reunion Tables.

Reunion Planning Team Ron Julian 937-546-3219 or email at <u>AC.119.2017@gmail.com</u> Jim Alvis Vern Hansen Al Heuss Rogers Stevens

Since many of asked how to get Reunion Info & do everything needed to 1) reserve a Hotel Room, 2) complete the Reunion Registration, & 3) sign up for either (or both) of the Reunion Tours, we created a separate **Dayton Reunion Registration for Dummies** that will walk you through the steps for online registration.

Yep, you read the above correctly; there ARE three things you'll need to d:

- 1. Call the hotel & reserve a room
- 2. Use the Tour Forms to register for either or both of those.
- 3. Follow the directions in the Dayton Reunion Registration for Dummies

The Association's New Web Site!!

The new web site is ready for you! Thanks go to everyone involved.

We welcome Cindy Etherton (daughter of our own Bruce Muller, Life Member & AC-119 Crew Chief) as our new Webmaster. Wayne Laessig will assist her, with Ron Julian handling our Master Contact List (MCL), and with Gus Sininger as our Quartermaster, assisted by Lee Wolf. Quite a Team!

We cannot thank Bill Petrie enough for ALL the dedicated years he gave us as our original Web developer & Webmaster; but here's a huge – THANK YOU, CHIEF!!!!!

There are lots to see & use on the web. To start, it's linked to a database that makes updating Association information much easier, and less prone to input errors. It has



online access to Board & Committee members, online Reunion Registration, online Merchandise, & TONs of historical info, personal stories, & Association history (yep, you can see info from EVERY Reunion we've held). Wayne Laessig will happily (now that the web is up) show anyone at the Dayton Reunion how to best use everything in our new web's site functions and content, and answer question.

So....., how do you use the dang thing?!?

Well, to start with, go to https://www.ac119gunships.com & start clicking away!

To help you, the next pages provide a summary of each of the website's main topic areas with brief explanations of what's in each.

(and...., if you haven't printed this document yet, please do so :>)

THIS is the Home Page you'll see first.

Home of the 71st, 17th, and 18th AC-119 Special Operations Squadrons











Home President's Page

Membership & Contact Info

Reunion

Quartermaster's Corner

Mail Call/FaceBook

History/References

Welcome to the AC-119 Gunship Association's Website!

Dedicated to all who maintained, flew, & supported AC-119G "Shadow" & AC-119K "Stinger" gunships during the Vietnam War.

Home of the 71st, 17th, & 18th Special Operations Squadrons & personnel who served in AC-119s.

Why We Exist:

- · To preserve our fixed-wing gunship heritage & history;
- To remember our fallen & to keep lit the flames of our camaraderie;
- To educate historians & the public about the mission, aircrew, groundcrew, & others associated with the AC-119 gunships.



Quick Links

- What's New
- · Mail Call/FaceBook
- Membership Criteria & Application
- Store

Reunion Registration

Sep 28

2017 Dayton AC-119 Gunship Reunion XVIII ...

If you were assigned to, attached to, or supported the 71st, 17th, or 18th Special Operations Squadrons or their AC-119 gunship missions in any way, you are eligible to join the AC-119 Gunship Association.

NOTICE the 6 main topic "Headers"



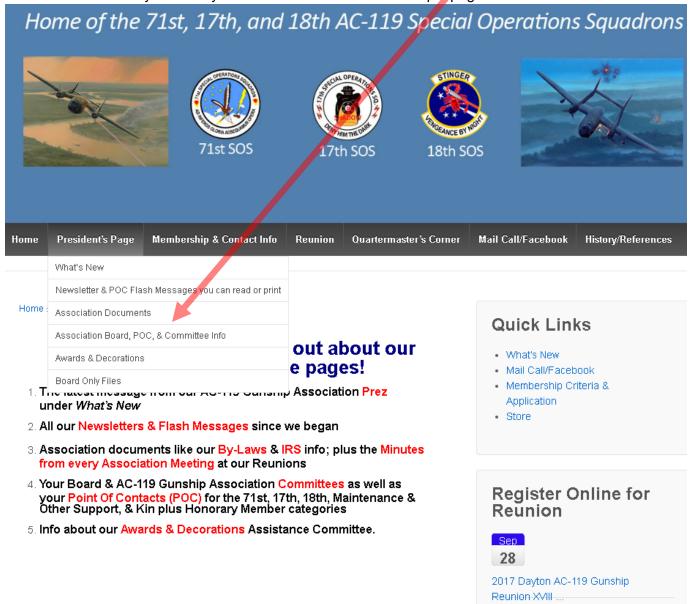
The 6 Headers all have ADDITIONAL info under each Header! So, what's in each topic's header?

The following pages provide a summary for each Header with brief explanations of what's under EACH primary

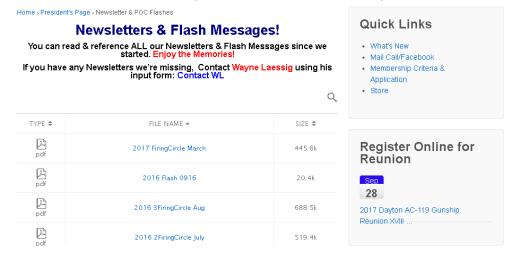
Header of the web site:

President's Page

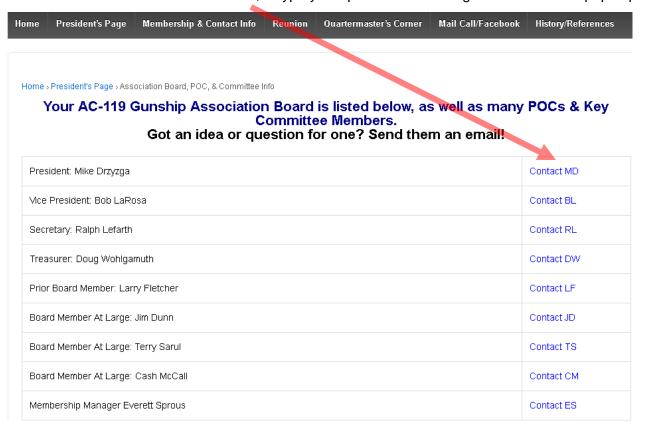
Hover your mouse over a header title & you'll see the pages that are under that header. Click on one & it takes you directly there. EVERY header has multiple pages under it.



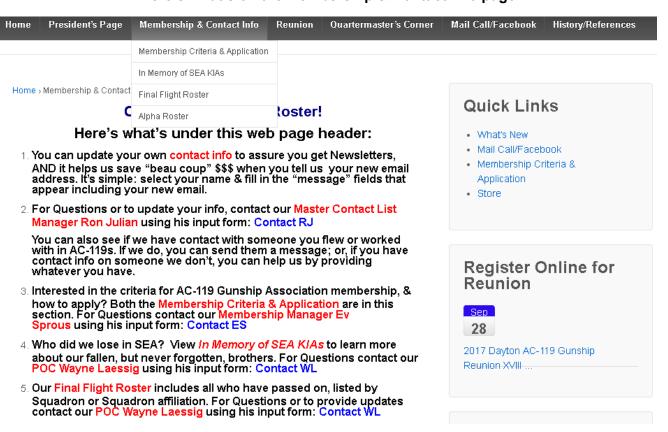
For example, if you're interested in looking through any of our old Newsletters & Flash Messages, they're all here as "pdf" files you can open & even print if you want.



In this **Association**, **Board**, **POC**, **& Committee Info** page, we give you the capability of sending any of them an email. Just click on their Contact link, & type your question or message in the form that pops up.



Here's what's on the Membership & Contact Info page



Also, on our Alpha Roster page, you can update your own email for us, tell us about someone else you have contact with, or update us on the status of an existing person.

Home > Membership & Contact Info > Alpha Roster

Alpha Roster

This is where anyone can view ALL the names we have of those who flew or supported AC-119s. Some names are missing & you can submit info on those, as well as on any who are on the ALPHA Roster, but without contact info. For those, if you can send us their email, phone number, or address it can help us make contact with them.

You can use the Search box below & if they are in the "sort codes" where we have contact with them, you can use the message box to send them a message. NOTE: your message will NOT go directly to them, but instead goes to their POC who reviews it & forwards it unless there's a reason not to.

NOTE: The "Sort Codes" we referenced are at the end of the line for each person on the roster.

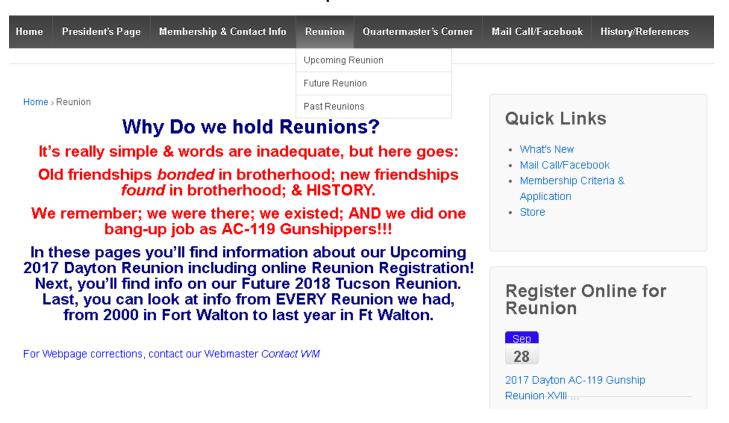
For any Questions: contact us using the contact form at the BOTTOM of this page.

We have contact information	The guys we have contact info on have the following sort codes: 71AM, 17A, 18A, 02MO. The first three are Squadrons & the 02MO sort code includes all AC-119 Maintainers & other Support Personnel. You can send any of them a message "through" their POC (go to the <i>President's Page</i> & use the <i>Association Board, POC, & Committee Contact Info</i>)					
We have a name only & no contact information	Our guys who we do NOT have contact information on have the following sort code: 99NI If you have information on any of these individuals, please send a note to Ron Julian using the contact form at the bottom of this page with their contact information: name, postal address, email address, phone.					
Final Flight	The sort code O1FF contains names of our deceased, & we may or may not have contact information on family members. Information is shared only in very special circumstances.					
Folks not yet on our Roster	yet on If you know of an AC-119 Gunshipper who is not on the Alpha Roster, please contact Ron Julian with as much information as possible about the missing individual (Crew or Ground position, years in country, locations, anything helps).					
Search: (select) ▼ Sort by:	Search Clear Ascending Descending Sort					

The Alpha Roster includes all the names we have of those who flew or supported AC-119s.

There are LOTs of missing names! If you have any missing names, please send us a message using the contact form at the end of the Alpha Roster page.

Pretty obvious here: info on our Upcoming (Dayton) Reunion, Future (Tucson) Reunion, & all the past Reunions.



You might see either pdf files and/or "Directories" on a page (this is our Past Reunions page). Directories are folders with multiple files inside; simply click on a one to open it & see the files within.

Home > Reunion > Past Reunions

What DID we do at all those Reunions?

Click on a Year to see some interesting things from that year, like Association Meeting Agendas, Presentations, & Minutes; Banquet Programs; & PICTURES!

1 3 2 Past R	eunions /	Q
TYPE \$	DRAWER/FILE ▼	SIZE 🗢
dir	2000 FWB 1STTIME	
dir	2001 FWB 2NDTIME	
dir	2002 FWB 3RDTIME	
dir	2003 FWB 4THTIME	
dir	2004 DAYTON WPAFB 1STTIME	
dir	2005 FWB STHTIME	
dir	2006 ABQ NM 1STTIME	

Quartermaster Gus & his Assistant Lee have lots of neat things you can get. Visit the store online, order online, & even pay online. It's simple!

Home	President's Page	Membership & Contact Info	Reunion	Quartermaster's Corner	Mail	Call/Facebook	History/References	
				Store				_
				Cart				
Home	> Quartermaster			Checkout				

Welcome to the Quartermaster's Corner

From the day we began our Reunions & our Association, we wanted to make items available that commemorate some of the things from our SEA & AC-119 Gunship time.

We have history & heritage items like hats; patches; decals; gunship hat pins, & actual Mission Tapes.

Get a *Shadow* or *Stinger* litho, AC-119 "*Brothers*" prints, a History Book full of AC-119 history-pictures-individual stories, or individual videotaped sessions by our members relating what it was like during their time in AC-119s & what it meant to them.

Those are the items you'll find here, along with other got-to-have items like Reunion T-Shirts, Shadow & Stinger mouse pads, Association Golf Shirts, & many, many others! Check it out – we hope you'll enjoy them!

If you have a question or input please send our our Quartermaster a message using this input form: Contact GS

Please wear & use these treasures with pride!

We "are" AC-119 Gunshippers!

We will never forget that, & we want others to know, learn, & remember that too.

Enter Store





Challenge Coins
(4)



Cups, Mugs, Water Bottles (7)



Hat Pins, Mouse Pads, License Plate Holders (13)



History Book, DVDs, CDs (5)



Lithos & Prints (5)



Patches & Decals (16)



Shirts, Ascots, Ties, Vests (13)



Squadron Hats (5)

Use Mail Call to provide info on special occasions or events. Once you fill in the form at the bottom of that page, it goes directly to Bill Petrie.

Home President's Page Membership & Contact Info Reunion Quartermaster's Corner Mail Call/Facebook History/References Home > Mail Call/Facebook Quick Links Mail Call & Facebook We use both Mail Call & Facebook to keep folks updated What's New about our goings on as an Association as well as Mail Call/Facebook Membership Criteria & individuals. Application Click here to access: Mail Call Store Click here to access our Facebook Sites: AC-119 Gunship &

Home > Mail Call/Facebook > Mail Call

Mail Call is one of our communication tools for significant events in our Association & individual members' lives, including notifications of illnesses & Last Flights.

other endorsed Facebook Sites

You can open the Directories at the bottom of this page to access prior year Mail Call entries.

Here are the 2017 Mail Calls.

March 1, 2017 – AC-119 Gunship group loses another Stinger. From Steve Meleen: Stinger and AC-119 gunship brother Dick Mahany passed peacefully last night in Charleston, SC with Angela, son Richard, and family by his side. Angela's daughter Angie called me and the services are this Saturday in Savannah at St. James Roman Catholic Church ... more info later. Let us toast a good man, better friend... one who loved his country and Stingers.

March 1, 2017 – Jim Moore, Stinger FE and long-time Association member stricken with Cancer. We received this note from Jim's Daughter Lorraine McElrath.... "I am writing to let the association know that my Dad, Jim Moore, has been diagnosed with lung (mesothelioma) cancer. He is now at home recovering from surgery. The recovery process from the biopsy surgery is going a bit rough. Prayers and warm thoughts are appreciated He has two appointments next week so we will have more information after that." Messages for Jim can be sent to helenneely@gmail.com

February 28, 2017 – the 18th Special Operations Sq and AC-119 Gunship Association lost a great pilot. It is with profound sadness we note the passing of our Brother-in-Arms, Al Milacek. The Funeral services celebrating and honoring the life of Lt. Col. Ret. Alan D. Milacek, 77, of Waukomis were held February 27th in the First United Methodist Church with Graveside services in the Waukomis Cemetery. A Family visitation was held Sunday February 26, 2017 in the Brown-Cummings Funeral Home. Alan was aircraft Commander on Stinger AC-119K tail number 883 whose crew received the coveted Mackay Trophy in 1971 for the most Meritorious Flight of the Year (1970). Milacek's aircraft sustained a devastating anti-aircraft artillery hit that shot off more than 17 feet of one wing. Milacek and his crew literally brought their limping aircraft home on "a wing and a prayer"! The citation reads, in part: Working as a team and displaying the highest degree of airmanship and courage in the face of extreme danger, they managed to successfully return to their home base, thereby saving a valuable aircraft. The exceptional distinctive accomplishments of Captain Milacek and his crew reflect great credit upon themselves and the United States Air Force. For additional info, please visit http://www.brown-cummings.com/home/obituary/4132123 We will post any updates as we receive them. Your Association Crew Please use the following Contact Form to send Bill Petrie a message you want posted in Mail Call. Put Gunship Mail Call in the Subject line. If you want your e-mail address posted so members can contact you please SAY THAT in your message; like: Please include that I can be contacted at BrucePismo@sca.net (but use YOUR actual email). Bill will review & post your message as soon as possible.

Note: To help cut down on harvesting of email addresses Bill will use the word **at** instead of the **@** sign in e-mail addresses. Remember to change the **at** to **@** if you use the email.

Valir Namo (roquirod)		
Your Name (required)		
Your Email (required)		
Subject		
Your Message		
_		
Enter the last name of the third Pres	es	
Send to BP		

You want Facebook? We got it! There are three different Facebook sites we use or endorse.

The links on this page take you direct to those.

Home President's Page Membership & Contact Info Reunion Quartermaster's Corner Mail Call/Facebook History/References

Home > Mail Call/Facebook > AC-119 & Related FaceBook Sites

There's lots of info you can access in the 3 FaceBook sites we endorse. Here's what they're about, how to join them, & posting guidelines.

- Our official Facebook Group Page for the AC-119 Gunship Association is called "AC-119Gunships". It is a
 closed group requiring a request for membership. This is to aid in spam & hacking prevention. Requestors will
 be asked for a brief note explaining their connection or interest in AC-119 Gunships. The purpose of the group
 page is to provide an additional means to share experiences, stories, photos and information relating to the
 AC-119s and the Association. Please go to this FB link for it or to request
 inclusion: https://www.facebook.com/groups/195912423919726/
- We endorse an "AIR FORCE GUNNERS" initiated by our own Ev Sprous. This is a closed Facebook group
 page requiring membership. We do this to aid in spam & hacking prevention. This page focuses on US Air
 Force fixed wing and rotary winged gunners and related topics. This FB link is
 at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/254925914650237/
- We also endorse another site created by our FaceBook Admins titled "U.S. Military Veterans news you can
 use." This is a public group, open to all Facebook members. The focus is on disseminating information that
 may be of interest to US Military Veterans. We encourage polite discussion. This FB link is
 at: https://www.facebook.com/groups/459924394154971/

LASTLY, here's the History/References page where we've loaded TONs of info about AC-119s, from Technical Data, to Squadron Histories, to personal stories, to declassified reports from SEA operations, book lists, & some info on where you can donate your personal SEA historical items/documents/etc. These pages provide a treasure trove of insights into our AC-119 Legacy!! Dig in & ENJOY!

Home	President's Page	Membership & Contact Info	Reunion	Quartermaster's Corner	Mail Call/Facebook	History/References	
						AC 119s and Gunship Historica	l Information
						AC 119 Squadrons and DOD Hi	istorical Info
Home > History/References						AC 119 Air and Ground Crew Info and Personal Storie	
Here's where you can find everything you wanted to know about AC-119s, Gunships, & Vietnam!					• What's New • Mail Call/Facebo	Vietnam Historical Information & Book List	
							storical Repository
Tech Data, Nose Art, Squadrons, Personal stories & pictures, Magazine Articles, Vietnam Info, Declassified Reports, & the Association's Historical Repository of Preference.				Membership Cri Application Store	tena &		
		Beaucoup Info	Gls!				

And finally, if you have problems, many pages have a "Contact" listed.

USE THOSE!

When you click on the Contact link a form shows up -fill it in & send it!