

## Past President

It has been my great honor to serve as your president for the past nearly two years. As I step down, I am proud that we have achieved many of our goals during that time, but certainly not all we had targeted. Our POC's have reached many members and potential members. We have not achieved our goal of getting a greater number of those eligible to join our ranks. We continue to contact those who have not participated in our history projects, both oral and written, to do so. We continue to encourage all AC-119 Gunshippers to attend our annual reunions.

We've had two reunions during my term—one joint at Sandestin, Fl and one at Branson, Mo. Jerry McDonald and his wife did a really outstanding job of coordinating one of our most successful reunions. We owe both of them a great deal of thanks for their enormous effort. It will be hard to top the results of the most recent reunion.

Our next reunion will return to Florida at St. Augustine, the assembly point of both the AC-119G and AC-119K aircraft. Many of the early crewmembers had the pleasure/challenge of picking up a new aircraft at the factory. I was one. Like Wright-Patterson much of our early history leads to St. Augustine. I hope to see you all in St. Augustine next year.

At this point I must thank all of the board members for their unwavering support. I look forward to our continued growth, establishment of a lasting place in military history and many more reunions.

Get your personal bio/history in now. The book will be published this year!!

Vernon C. Hansen  
Past President  
First Wave AC-119K AC  
October 1969-October 1970