

AC-119 Gunship Association Annual Business Meeting Minutes - Saturday, October 1, 2005

Meeting called to order at 0805 hours by President Craig Corbett. Invocation by Chaplain Larry Hunter

1. Association Treasurer Doug Wohlgamuth presented his annual report.
\$11K donations last year; \$24K EOY; Monument & coins this year \$16.5K \$13K dues, etc \$22K at Year End
A nomination was presented, seconded, and approved as read.
2. Association Secretary Jim Alvis presented the annual report about membership statistics.

2004:	164 Life	11 Honorary	147 Annual	321 Total
2005	192 Life	12 Honorary	131 Annual	335 Total (up 4%)

A nomination was presented, seconded, and approved as read.
3. Ron Julian presented a report on the Master Contact List.
1200 400 confirmed (requested 800 – got 275) Need 600-700 MORE
Ron is seeking updated information about current and lost/deceased members.
4. President Craig Corbett reported ‘Final Flight’ of deceased association members since last reunion.
Gehrens, Askins, Hampton, John Burks, Jack Parrisk (Mtx), Chuck Jedlich 18th Gunner)
5. President Craig Corbett recognized the year-in and year-out hard work of six dedicated members. They are Wayne Laessig, Bill Petrie, Everett Sprous, Doug Wohlgamuth, Gus Sininger, and Norm Evans. The six will be presented with special challenge coins at the Saturday evening banquet.
6. One member suggested a swap of coin numbers to match the member’s LIFE membership number. This can be done among members.
7. A motion was presented to have the official AC-119 Gunship Association record changed to reflect that Larry Fletcher be recognized as a past president of the 2001-02 term. Larry filled in for the elected president during his absence and effectively led the organization during the entire term. A nomination was presented, seconded, and accepted.
8. Discussion ensued about changing the bylaws to recognize the newsletter editor and webmaster as non-voting board positions rather than voting positions. The Board of five elected positions will be the only official voting board members. Approved.
9. President Craig Corbett offered a proposal that Larry Hunter be nominated to be the Association’s designated Chaplain. The nomination was voted and accepted.
10. President Craig Corbett proposed the establishment of *appointed* coordinators for each squadron (3) plus all maintenance/support people (a total of four coordinators). The purpose of the coordinators is to assist in contacting and finding lost members and perspective members. *71st (Jim Alvis), 17th (Chuck James), 18th (Ev Sprous), Mtx (Bright and) They will work/coordinate w/Ron Julian on Master Roster.* Approved.
11. President Craig Corbett proposes the establishment of an *appointed* Quartermaster to oversee the purchase and sale of assoc. merchandise. Approved.
12. Turner Publishing is offering to produce and sell a book about the AC-119 gunship program. This would be a hardcover book, about 129 pages - *minimum sale 300 copies*. Much discussion ensued about the value of the publication. Several Gunship Association members who are/were Air Commando Association members stated they were quite disappointed in the final product. A few also supported the product. At this point, the Association will not pursue the book. Instead, we will attempt to collect the before and after information for next year’s reunion to then decide if we are to go forward *and do the book (including when)*. The requirements will be posted in the newsletter and website to seek member’s input. *Larry Fletcher will be the coordinator on this project to collect pictures, bios, stories, etc via web & other inputs, using standard input format.* The vote was to table until next year.
13. Carryover elected positions for 2005-06 will be Treasurer Doug Wohlgamuth and Secretary Jim Alvis. Wayne Laessig was nominated for President. Vern Hansen nominated for Vice President. Nominations were seconded and accepted for Pres and VP. A nomination was made for current President Craig Corbett’s election to the board to fill the ~~Pres~~ *Past President Prior Board Member* position. The nomination was presented, seconded, and approved.
14. President Craig Corbett proposed a bylaw change to reflect that members attending the annual association business meeting would vote for the reunion location two years forward instead of one (at the 2003 Membership Meeting we voted for Dayton 2004 then FWB for 4 years).
 - *Wayne Laessig presented Reunion participation on a graph showing declining registration from R1 thru R 4 (FWB), a large gain for R5 (Dayton) and another decline for R6 (FWB). While 9-11 had an impact, the increase for R5 in Dayton indictes its location more than anything else.* A nomination was presented, seconded, and approved to change the by-laws to make the reunion location determination two years ahead (*instead of at the reunion just prior*). *Decision will be made at Membership Meeting. That meant both the next Reunion and the one after were up for “re-decision” vote.*
 - A hand-count indicated members would like to have a reunion in DC and out west. To move the reunion to other locations, a local reunion coordinator is absolutely necessary. The concern about having reunions at FWB for four more reunions is taxing on Gus and Norm.

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- Steve Mac Isaac offered to be the reunion coordinator for reunion VII at Albuquerque, NM, home of the recently reactivated 71st SOS. The available dates are Sept 29, 30, and Oct 1, 2006. Steve made a presentation showing amenities and other factors for ABQ. A nomination was made and seconded to hold Reunion VII at ABQ, and was unanimously approved.
- Regarding Reunion 2007, a nomination was made to have Gus and Norm be the reunion coordinators, with assistance from other FWB members. The date would likely be Columbus Day weekend in October. This may be a combined reunion with the Spectre group. The hotel location may be the Hilton at Destin.

Next Year: BRING PROPOSALS! TASK: Create a "How To" for Reunion recommendations.

15. Wayne Laessig noted the association wants to continue the DVD project next year. Members are encouraged to buy the DVD set from Reunion V at Dayton, Ohio.
16. Steve Mac Isaac offered a message to all members – be sure to check out the Awards and Decorations web page. Mac has seven cases pending to acquire awards. One case is nearly completed successfully. Awards were made based on crew-awards rather than an individual basis. For any questions about awards and decorations, contact Steve.
17. Anybody with mission tapes, please forward them to Larry Fletcher. Larry will be the focal point to collect and document AC-119 historical items.
18. Everett Sprous is stepping down as newsletter editor, and Rogers Stevens will be his replacement. Everett has volunteered to be the Squadron Coordinator for the 18th SOS.

The 2005 annual business meeting was adjourned at 1043 hours by President Craig Corbett. Respectfully Submitted, James R. Alvis Secretary, AC-119 Gunship Association October 7, 2005