

14th AC-119 Gunship Association Meeting Sept 28th, 2013

1. Opening Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance – Baby Huey & Wayne
2. Secretary, Treasurer Reports – Mike D, Doug, Bill
3. Association “Charter” Accomplishments and “To Do” priorities
 - a. IT Committee Reports: Database → MCL – Ron, Wayne; Facebook – Ev, Jim;
 - b. Web Search – Jim, Bill, Wayne
 - c. Outreach Project, Volunteers, Results, & Next Steps – Wayne
 - d. Video Sessions & Plans – JP Mac Isaac, Wayne
4. Legacy Squadrons – POCs Gus, Wayne (for Al Heuss), Mac & Bob
5. Stinger AC-119K #850 – Bruce
6. Hootch
7. DD 214s - Mac
8. McBlan Lee Intro – Lee Kyser
9. KIA Families: Ruckers/McConnell and Barker/Slagle – POC Wayne
10. 2014 Albuquerque Reunion – Mac
11. 2015 Reunion proposals; Al Sproul Report on AC-47 Reunion in D.C
10. Nominations and Election of 2014 Association Officers - Wayne

Adjourn → PHOTOS! → McBlan Lee Session with VNAF Instructors

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>
Life	192	215	248	275	284	293	306		
Annual	131	164	153	124	108	97	81		
<u>Honorary</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>25</u>		
Total	335	397	419	420	413	412	412		

Annual memberships continue to decrease as Life members increase

Contacts (e-mail/snail mail)

- Newsletter snail-mailing = (\$1,039 annually for 3-5 issues)
- Newsletter E-mailing = \$0

Keep your e-mail up to date - we'll have more money to run the Association

Treasurer's Report Doug Wohlgamuth

- Expected Annual Costs:

– Mailings, Newsletter, Reunion Advertising	\$ 1,500 ↑
– “In Memory of” donations	\$ 400
– Association Awards	\$ 150
– Reunions: Hootch, KIA Families, Hootch, Fee Offsets, T-Shirts, Videos,	\$10,000
– Outreach, Legacy Squadrons	\$ 500
– IT , Db	\$ 400
– Db Support & Web Search	<u>\$???</u>
	\$13-15,000

- Expected Annual Revenue

– Dues	\$ 1,750 ↓
– Reunion Fees	\$ 4,000
– Merchandise / T-Shirts, etc	\$ 5,000
– Raffles / Auctions	\$ 4,000
– Inventory: History Books, lithos	<u>???</u>
	\$14-15,000

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
- VOLUNTEERS (who are getting to the point they can't continue to do it all)

What do we need to continue & do it better

- \$\$\$\$\$
- New Volunteers

What We've Done

1. History
 - a. History Book – only a few left! Videotaped sessions – DO one if you haven't; over 140 done; videos supplement HB.
 - b. Web: pictures, stories, histories, merchandise
 - c. Database: ALL our media (HB, videos, pix, lithos, documents, etc)
2. Old & New Friends
 - a. Outreach → MCL → Database; 300+ new contacts from 3 volunteers; still have 2000 or so who are NOT yet in our MCL
 - b. Web & FaceBook
3. Legacy Squadrons – we are their history, heritage, & legacy. They are our future.

NONE of these will achieve our History Charter if we don't contact the 55% we've "missed" so far, AND get our historical stuff into an accessible Db/Archive

What investments do we prioritize to achieve our charter?

Old Friends – New Friends

1. Web: historical info, stories, pictures
 - a. Primary for merchandising & great for initial web search contacts
 - b. Challenges: management time and \$\$\$
2. FB: open, real-time communication
 - a. 3 Musket-eers FB Management Team & FB Guidelines
 - b. Challenges: only helps “IF” you use FB & if it feeds Web, Db, MCL
3. Newsletter: the only way several hundred guys get info!!
4. Outreach: we have contacts for less than half of the AC-119ers who existed
 - a. Made good progress this year - hundreds of contacts
 - b. We have more emails vs just snail mails
 - c. Challenges: need several Volunteers and some \$\$

How do we get what we'll need

- Need a Web Search Team (contract + volunteer development & management)
- Need IT Team (contract + volunteer Db, MCL & interface management).
- Need Outreach Team who can & will spend HOURS looking for, finding, and TALKING to guys
- Newsletters – decide how many & what to include
- Everyone sign up spouse for Assoc Life Membership (one-time \$\$ gain)
- Brothers: Stinger I/II; Shadow/Osprey
- BUY raffle tickets, participate in Auctions, increase web's merchandise presence

What Else: Active Duty Squadron Connections

18th FLTS; Hurlburt – Gus; 18th SOS Flag from Da Nang; Hupe Model; Weekly interfaces & solid Commander support; Heritage Friday Patches

71st SOS; Kirtland CV-22 Ospreys - Al Heuss; tougher (distance) but strong Commander support

- Critical for 2014 Reunion

17th SOS; Kadena MC-130 Combat Shadows - John Morrow; toughest but good Wing / Squadron interest: Heritage Friday Patches

73rd SOS; Cannon AC-130W Stinger II – Mac Mac Isaac & Bob LaRosa; newest but strong heritage interest

- AC-130 Spectre interest
- Critical for 2014 Reunion

ALL are VERY interested in seeing, meeting, talking to Ron Terry

Last AC-119 (History...?)

- Tail # 850 located at Tan Son Nhut:
- 2009: Do not spend Association money; use Air Attaché to determine whether any of it is recoverable because airframe too corroded to recover; too expensive to restore; & there are other AC-119 aircraft in Taiwan, China, or somewhere
- 2010-2011: No Association money spent, but no Air Attaches for Vietnam anymore, & no other AC-119 aircraft exist.
- 2011-2012: ac was jacked & towed to other locations & did not fall apart, but increased risk of destruction or inclusion in “American War” Museum
- We continue to stay updated on 850’s status & authorized Bruce Byrd to extend business stay in Vietnam to initiate contacts to improve chances to get them to let us have the ac

DD 214s – What YOU need to Know

1. Mac Mac Isaac
2. Wayne Laessig – volunteers helping on VA Claims

McBlan Lee

1. McBlan's authored the story of the Fall of Saigon & the loss of the last AC-119K defending it, based on that crew's only surviving crewmembers recollections
2. MCBlan will meet with VNAF Instructors & anyone else interested here after Photo Session

Hootch

1. Check the MCL; ADD names
2. 73rd Booster Club Items
3. Pat McGillis *20MM/7.62 Memorabilia Boxes*
4. Doc Fletcher *Charlie Chasers*
5. HBs; AR-15 & Other Raffle and Silent Auction Items; Lithos & Brothers Print autographing; DVDs; Simulator
6. KIA Families

2014 Reunion XV

“Operation Legacy”

1. Coordinator: Mac Mac Isaac
2. Albuquerque, NM
3. MCM Elegante – best rate in years! Under \$100 with breakfast
 1. Hootch, M&G, Banquet, & BBQ in the hotel
 2. Tours and Events
 3. Legacy Quadrons & Hosts
4. Sept 18th – 21st 2014

2015 Reunion XVI Location Proposals

1. Coordinator Volunteer's Name _____
(If there isn't one, the buck stops on that location)
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. Dick Pollmann: Dallas
 - b. Ron Julian / Rogers Stevens – Washington DC
4. Is it time to go contractor support?

Nominations & Election of 2014 Board Members

1. President:
2. Vice-President:
3. Secretary:
4. Treasurer:
5. Past Bd Member:
6. Member-At-Large
7. Member-At-Large
8. Member-At-Large

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

Photographs

1. AKA “pitchers” for the Shadows & Navs
2. When: AS SOON AS WE ADJOURN
3. Who: EVERYONE, then Squadrons, Maintainers, & Ladies
4. On-Site Printing