

AC-119 Gunship Association Board -- Teleconference minutes

Wednesday, August 13, 2014

I. Roll Call: started at 2000 hours EDT.

In Attendance: L. Fletcher, M. Drzyzga (host/recording), S. Macisssac, J. Mattison, D. Wohlgamuth, F. Rider, C. McCall, W. Laessig, Jim Dunn.

This call was originally scheduled for Tue. Aug. 12. Technical problems with more than two attendees calling, forced a postponement until Wed. 8/13.

II. Secretary Report: The Board accepted the minutes for the July 8 Teleconference. A copy of the minutes accompanied the August 13, meeting agenda.

Col Mac made two points:

1) He stressed that we need more of us to make our video histories at the reunion with JP, and

2) proposed that the Association change ourselves to become more than just AC-119ers – suggesting a broader “Gunship Association” to include our legacy units – his concern is our future. This is a NEW topic for future debate/discussion.

III. Treasurer Report:

1. Association Financial Status: Currently in the bank: \$36,998.47.

2. Latest number signed-up for Reunion XV at ABQ: We received 182 registrants which includes NINE “1st timers.” Also, there are 83 Shirts orders (\$1850 worth!).

Col Mac question: what % for additional 2nd run Shirts? He will ask Gus for guidance via email. There will be “ordering cards” at the hooch if we run out of Shirts. Due to the fact that we offer pre-reunion ordering, there may not be a large demand for shirts at ABQ, therefore caution should be taken in estimating “how many more” we need.

IV. Quartermaster report via Fletch: We sold out of “Ground Crew License Plate Brackets, probably due to an error in the July Flash that had images missing the Combat Aircrew Bracket. The Aug. Flash, planned for distribution before Aug. 22, with be correct showing both Brackets, and the Mouse Pads.

V. N/L Bill P. intends to do a post-reunion Oct. “Firing Circle”. Lots pictures and stories. Larry/Mike will do an Aug. FLASH, distributed on or before Aug. 22 in order to stay ahead of the Aug. 26 regi deadline.

VI. Reunion XV Update:

1. Approved labels for Ale Bottles as distributed to the Board as image files for review. There is a spare batch of Ale (another 100 bottles). WHAT “name” or call sign for this label? Brew master Steve suggests either the AC-119 MaKay trophy winner OR an AC-130 Specter lost? Also, Fred has Hollywood producer to do a documentary on “Call Signs Brewery” and wants to video tape at our reunion. Wayne will be sure that any family members present will be OK with video taping. We can do the video with options for family to participate. NOTE: We shall request a copy of the video, plus a JP back-up video is possible/likely. Fred’s idea for this “special” event: take an ale, open a bottle for each KIA placed on the bar, and make a toast. Fred/Wayne will find the best person to make the toast. Timing: In hooch (5PM), prior to Fri. “meet & greet”.

2. Col Mac request: how to recruit warm bodies for duty station on the registration desk? Wayne suggests “ask personally” or “via email”.
3. Name Tags: Nancy Mac can do the Name Tags but need data. Wayne has Tony Paks’s program, Doug has attendee list in Excel, therefore name tag data can be sorted for printing. Wayne and Nancy will get this done. Wayne will send to Mac the tag templates for Nancy to print.
4. Program back cover: Fred suggests Andrea’s banner for the ale memorials can be used on the back page. Andrea will send jpeg to Mac, Wayne, Fred.
5. Ale will be carefully controlled for distribution to those who are not in attendance.
6. Ale will not be offered until Fri.’s event.
7. We shall provide brewer Steve direction on the spare Ale’s labels: We should do an AC-130 label, NOT model specifics. We can include the call sign of a AC-130 lost.

VII. **IT Report** - Wayne. Three bids are detailed on a “source selection criteria” spreadsheet. One more round of discussion with the contractors is planned to verify their capabilities. The IT subcommittee believes that they will have a proposal in front of the Board for discussion on the aggressive scheduled time line: Aug. 26 will have a summary to Larry, Sept. 2 will be an IT Telconf for summary finalization, and Sept. 9 a vote with 8 Board members is intended (we can have up to 15 on the call, to include IT committee members).

VIII. Facebook request: Dr. James Martin needs our input for his proposed new book research on Gunships, which will include AC-119s. We can help him, therefore Ev may post his request on FB, as long as he does not intend to promote or sell on our FB page. He is already getting help from AC-47 guys, and other root sources for information.

IX. Association Historian: Larry **reports** -Phil has well established plans to begin writing our Association history.

X. 1. We never had USAF Official Approved of Shadow/Stinger patches. Wayne has been working on this for a while. We need high level of support to move this forward. We should engage the legacy units “uppers echelon” to help us with this. It will take some work nevertheless quite do-able. Larry and Wayne will try to move this forward.

2. Larry Reports: July 25, USAF Museum, 38 people attended a private event (not open to the public); attendees included folks from the 71st, 17th, and 18th. Larry wrote a summary, in Mikes hands, to be included in the August Flash. Coins were given to Museum leaders. Also,40 attended the 71st reunion, which included a stop at the enlarged Attenbury Museum in Columbus, ID.

Around Orbit: No other business discussed – guns safe, bingo fuel, 2 min. past the hour (mission accomplished)!!

Next Teleconference: **Tuesday, 9 Sept. 2014, Mike will be host**

Adjourn at 2102 hoursR Respectfully submitted 8/18/14 M. Drzyzga