AC-119 Gunship Association Minutes - from Teleconference Meeting, Tuesday, 10/11/2016

**Reporting: M. Drzyzga 10/13/2016**

Participants: L. Fletcher, R. LaRosa, M. Drzyzga, D. Wohlgamuth, W. Laessig, G. Sininger, E. Sprous, C. McCall, P. Diel, R. Julian, J. Mattison.

1. Meeting Duration 81 min., it began at 8:00 p.m. EST, Pres. Fletcher completed roll-call. Once again, in order the reduce background crackling noise/interference; LF reminded everyone that we should use the “mute” function on our phones until we need to say something. This worked very well in Aug & Sept.

Even with the agenda clear indicating: “press 5\* to turn ON & OFF the session on-line recorder”, – MD only remembered during discussion on agenda item III.3. Therefore: **ACTION ITEM D.W**. – send email to MD & LF with a scanned summary of Treasurer’s Report.

2. Secretary’s Report (MD): The *revised* Minutes from the Sept. 13, 2016, Telecom, were accepted, as distributed with the telecom agenda.

3. Treasurer’s Report: DW - Bank Total: $41,737.99. QM Acct = $4,954.84.

Reunion sign-ups: 170, includes THIRTEEN 1st timers.

Tour: 47 signed-up ($1022 collected), plus $209 extra donated for transportation.

$1,870 is in for the “Pistol Raffle”.

Total payments to Web site developer TWE: $13,105

Recurring expenses include: Newsletter postage $800, Telecom Line: $268.28, PayPal $360, Website Maintenance Fee $600 as needed, Final Flt donation $100, Dream Host $215.68

Memorial Bench: Rec’d donations of $1,625. Made one-time payment of $500 for “perpetual care”.

Note: The Museum inquired about our Bench being posted on their Web site. YES - Agreed that it is ok.

Note: Gus indicated the bus company for Fri Tour indicates we owe $1300, the total cost $850 each for 2 buses minus two down payments (DP). The receipt that DW has for the DP on 2nd bus contradicts that.

**ACTION ITEM DW**: Scan receipt & send to Gus.

**ACTION ITEM Gus**: Contact the bus company & amend the contact - we need only one bus & can cancel the 2nd bus before the tour.

4. Quartermaster’s Report: Gus – Inventory will be up after the reunion. We will need to raise the prices on stock items, due to PayPal overhead & increased postage. Now we are losing money. Gus is requesting help in figuring what the cost should be, & then TRAINING on how to change the prices. It may take a conference call to implement this, esp. since Lee is not attending the reunion.

5. Media Manager: Ev: Ev sent two HDs to Gus, but the duplicator will cost $90 via UPS, & is looking for another way. Ev will also need to “borrow” a printer from a local gunshipper, instead of transporting his. Gus can help with this situation.

MD – still waiting for the updated/revised HD with interviews from JP. He did send an email requesting an update.

**ACTION ITEM: MD** will telephone call JP in a few days if no email reply is received.

Another situation is the TV monitor that Ev uses at the reunion. We sold it at auction last year, therefore Ev bought a new one & sent it to Gus. Gus provided Ron the dimensions of the TV box requesting that he consider taking it from FWB to Dayton.

**ACTION ITEM : Ron** will check his vehicle load for the trip & tell to Gus whether or not he can take it.

W.L. indicated that Greyhound bus will transport boxes for a lot less cost than UPS, FedEx or USPS.

6. Web Site (IT Committee) Report, WL –

a. Wayne, Gus & Lee will do TRAINING on e-commerce as needed, & bring in Earl if necessary.

b. Earl has been very productive providing Content Management Systems (CMS) for almost everything, although he is still a very poor communicator. WL will test reports, then train Ron on these reports. The next major task is the Alpha Roster & linking to the Database.

c. We’ll stretch TWE payment based on hourly-rate – WL will get “hours worked report” from Earl

d. WL will have his laptop & projector in the hootch to show & tell anyone interested.

e. During the business meeting, WL will have about 15 min max. to demo IF he can get Web Access. No time for audience questions here – questions will be answered by WL in the hootch.

f. LF asked for new Web site launch date – WL said “at the reunion”**.**

**WL ACTION ITEM:** Communicate with Bill Petrie re: Final Flt & Mail Call parts. Once WL has the documents, he can load the new Web site.

g. The old Web site will be kept intact, but not open to the Web. If you access the old site address, you will be redirected to the new site.

7. Newsletter *Firing Circle*: MD Completed both a FB post & a FLASH email-only blast re: Bruce Muller’s reflective tow-hitch cover. Bruce made six, three Shadow & three Stingers. One pair will be actioned this year, one pair next year, & one pair will go onto eBay auction. This could make some money for the Association. The other FLASH bulletin was for the special auction & specific reunion push.

8. Facebook Management: Ev – 369 members on AC-119 page. 697 members on USAF “gunners page”.

9. Historian P. Diel: still needs the Firing Circle NLs, which are all on the new Web site. WL explained to PD where they are located. **ACTION ITEM -- MD** The REVISED master contact list must be completed & sent to all, INCLUDING PD

9. Reunion XVII, FWB Update: (Gus) –

a. PROBLEM: We need SSN & DOB for those going to Hulbert. We will need to ask reunion attendees during registration. The deadline to inform the base is three days ahead, but will interfere with late arrivers.

b. **ACTION Item WL** Send Gus “rules for seating”. DW will send Gus updated list of attendees.

c. Gus went over the agenda for the reunion in detail. Sat business meeting is in the EMPIRE room, & the Spouses room is the FORUM. This room is available the entire event, & can be used to set up the silent auction. On Sat, we need to be at the base at 1045. Gus needs an agenda for the memorial service. Gus needs a 17th & 18th volunteer to read names. Lunch will be at the 18th FTS area – they supply drinks & we supply food. Larry will do Pizza in two groups, based on two groups going out to the fight line. The base Historian will be a “guest speaker”. Timing on the visit is TIGHT, with a 1430 return to hotel. Car pool to the base, with parking at the Chapel & larger parking area next to the Air Park. People can leave after the memorial service if they want to skip lunch & the flight-line. LF suggests a “donation box” to recover the cost of lunch money, but that will go to the 18th. – can we split the money???

d. Gus outlined the Banquet agenda. All our activity will be in the EMPIRE Room.

e. Thur will be “groups out to local restaurants”.

f. Sun is the Golf Tournament at Hulbert, & New Bd meeting will be in the Senator Room (next to Ambassadors room).

g. Banquet Tables all set, with a 4 x 4 foot fiber-board seating chart!!

10. Reunion 2017, Dayton, OH RJ: Hootch will open ON THUR. 9/28/17 – we must emphasize this “later than usual” time to avoid early arrival accustomed to Wed. start.

Fri will have a “meet & greet”, & also a chance to sign up for the tour of Museum “restoration buildings” on base. Also, on Fri is the Memorial Bench dedication. Sat will have dinner “under the wings”, & Sun will have a Golf Tournament. LF invited Ron & Rogers to attend the new board meeting on Sun

11. Last Orbit:

a. Slate of next Board: MD reported that his 2nd attempt to secure a person for the Secretary’s position failed. Many suggested **MD (ACTION ITEM)** ask Ralph LeFarth.

b. MD: suggested a new Web Site manager – Bruce Muller’s daughter is volunteering for this position. WL suggests a telecom to discuss this going forward.

c. WL will be sending items to Gus via Greyhound bus.

NEXT BOARD Meeting: AT FWB.

Respectfully, Mike D 10/13/2016 (Rev2 LF)