

2022_04_12_TC_Minutes
AC-119 Gunship Association
Board Video Conference Minutes

Conference was called to order by President Michael Drzyzga at 2000 hours:

Roll call was taken, those in attendance:

Roy Davis, Andrea Drzyzga, Doug Wohlgamuth, Gus Sininger, Terry Sarul, Wayne Laessig, Everett Sprou, Don Luke, Jerry McDonald, and John Cootz.

1. Secretary's report: Approval of the March 8, 2022 video conference minutes. Gus Sininger motioned to accept the Secretary's report, Roy Davis seconded the motion. Minutes approved. Please look at the Board Contact list once again, if it needs to be updated, please send email to Andrea Drzyzga or Mike Drzyzga.

2. Treasurer's report, Doug Wohlgamuth: Operating accounts \$5,750.62 Quartermaster \$4093.17 received Custom Ink check for \$3,395.34, received 2 checks from Karen Graves family totaling \$10,000.00, totaling \$14,775.76. Also deposited a few other checks and the grand total in the account is \$24,619. (with change).

Doug Wohlgamuth did change banks from Bank of America to PNC. Change of banks due to Bank of America checking fees. PNC ,we have to maintain a minimum of \$500.00 without penalty, Bank of America we had to maintain a minimum of \$3,000.00 without penalty.

Doug Wohlgamuth will scan and send the letter to Board members that came with the donation from Karen Graves.

Andrea Drzyzga moved to accept the treasurer's report, Gus Sininger seconded the motion.

3. Gus Sininger: Quartermaster (Prior President)

- Some small orders are coming in: Golf shirts, embroidered hats, hat pins and airplanes.
- Tylor, Gus's grandson, is helping tremendously with the Quartermaster and making sure that things ordered are shipped.
- Roy Davis has 20 extra Stinger-41 T-shirts which he will take to their reunion in Sept to sell.

4. Jerry McDonald - Reunion 2022, Branson, MO

- There are currently 32 members signed up for the reunion.
- People who are coming should check the website www.explorebranson.com, they can also call the Chamber of Commerce 417-243-2105. This will direct you to anything that is going on around Branson also will have RV camping sites if needed.
- The Branson Chamber of Commerce also has a "neck bill fold" for name tags that can be purchased; cost is no more than \$1.50-\$2.00. Cutoff date is the end of August; the Chamber is also putting a package together for our reunion, so they need to have a head count. Thoughts about this are to put on the Website if anyone does not have a name tag holder they can be purchased from the Chamber.
- Mike will add to his president's message asking if attendees have their name tags and lanyards from previous reunions, please bring them to the reunion.
- Gus Sininger still has some lanyards and name tag holders.

- Jerry McDonald is going to add the Association Tax exempt onto his Sam's Club Card for reunion purchases. He does have the Tax exempt sheet and will possibly need something on letter head from the Association. Mike will send Jerry the Association's letter head with all the Board members listed.
- Mike will continue to update the Who's coming list, Doug will be sending him updates that he receives.
- NEWSLETTER item. There is no shuttle service from the airport to the Hotel. People who fly in to St. Louis would have to take an Uber or rent a car, Springfield , MO Airport is about an hour away.

5. Roy Davis: Vice President:

- The awards ceremony for the Stinger 41 guys is going to be May 1st & 2nd in Tucson, the ceremony will be at Davis Monthan AFB. Approximately 20 people will be in attendance. This will be their 50th anniversary of Stinger 41's loss. Roy will give all the guys Love from those who cannot attend.
- T-Shirts were listed for approximately 30 days. One hundred and fifty one T-shirts were sold during that period. Between some donations and the sales of the shirts we raised \$3,400.00.
- Stinger award: The award package was presented to Senator J. Kelly in AZ, he then forwarded the package to the Secretary of the Air Force. We should be ready if the Air Force wants to be involved in the presentation of the award. Hopefully, it will be a very meaningful event, should all go through. We want to make it as public as we could, once the response is favorable.

6. John Cootz: Washington DC Reunion 2023

- Both the Armed Airforce Reunions and Hilton Hotel Contracts have been executed. Both are sound contracts
- Details of meals will come at a later date.

6. Everett Spouse: Outreach/ Membership/Facebook:

- Facebook now has 723 members.
- JP and Liz Bu Certificates are complete. Everett Spouse will present JP with his certificate at the Stinger 41 gathering. He will send Liz buss her certificate. Michael Drzyzga will write a cover letter.
- Everett Spouse mentioned his friend Dave Hathaway's would like to have a table at our reunion to put literature out and about joining MOFW (Military Order of the US Wars), they are a 501C4 organization. Michael Drzyzga did review their website and to be welcomed into the organization you have to be an Officer or Warrant Officer, they do not mention enlisted or served in the wars.
- Roy Davis will reach out to Dave Hathaway.

7. Website, Wayne Laessig:

- There have been some difficulties with Dream Host.
- John Cootz, Liz Bus and Wayne Laessig will be working with the Arm Forces Reunions for the 2023 Washington DC reunion to establish how tours will be set up, will we be able to use their registration paperwork, payment methods etc.
- Compliments to Liz of keeping the website fresh adding some holiday touches.

8. Newsletter (Firing Circle), Don Luke/Michael Drzyzga:

- Target date for the Firing Circle should be by April 15 to be reviewed by Wayne Laessig, for additional updates to the Final Flight and Who's Coming. Any new personnel contacts that are made should be

sent to Ron Julian to update the master contact list, also to the appropriate POC's, and Everett to announce on our Face Book page.

9. New/Old Business: Michael Drzyzga

- Succession Planning Search committee. What will the leadership be beyond Branson? Michael Drzyzga, Wayne Laessig, Roy Davis and Gus Sininger met and went down the complete list of those members that they felt would bring our Association forward. They will be reaching out to those members for any feedback and how they would feel stepping up to help run the organization. The committee is also trying to have the terms of service to be only 1-2 years, not several!
- Certificates of Appreciation went to: Vern Gwin for the Stingers Presentation. The Association also sent an Association coin. Anna Gregory for her donation. John Wolf for outgoing BoD Member at Large.
- Michael Drzyzga will send a letter of appreciation to Karen Grave's Niece and Nephew. Wayne would like to view the letters to ensure a Family members are recognized, (Sherry, Mark and Heather) Karen graves inurnment will be at the end of May, Wayne and Lynette Laessig will attend, perfect time to present the letter to the family.
- Roy Davis mentioned having new coins made to possibly give to family members who make in kind donations. Don Luke recently had coins made for another organization and gave pricing of \$150.00 initial dye and each coin costs approx.\$ 4.25 apiece. Don Luke will give Gus Sininger contact information.
- Col Mac will take charge of a more formal Committee for the AC-119 Plaque at the AF Academy Pavilion. He has 3 former graduates from that time period, which are familiar with the project. He will update Mike accordingly.
- The AFSOC 1st SOW Historian at Hurlburt, Stuart Camp, wants to set up a heritage area. No update on this.
- Simon Beck, a Teck book Author for the history of the C-119, need info especially how it became an AC-119. Mike directed him to Bill Dudley, for further information and will continue to follow up. Roy Davis did send Simon Beck and email about the cost of the book and how to get it, he has not heard back. Mr. Beck lives out of the Country.

10. Last Orbit:

Andrea Drzyzga talked about Zoom VS the VAST Conference calling and pricing. Without paying the cost is free up to 40 minutes. Still need to investigate the cost of using Zoom. Test run was completed by Andrea, Terry Sarul, and Michael Drzyzga. Doug Wohlgamuth will work on what we currently pay for the Vast conference calling.

Michael Drzyzga reached out to JP to complete the work-up of videos that he had completed at FWB.

Terry Sarul will reach out to Michael Drzyzga and Wayne Laessig about the Powerpoint presentation for the EAA Museum

Wayne Laessig will be attending Frank Bartlett inurnment in Reno; he also helped Shirley with the military honors.

Our next Board Telecom Meeting: **May 10, 2022, 8PM EDT.**

Respectfully submitted: Andrea Drzyzga, Secretary 04/28/2022

Reviewed: Michael Drzyzga President 04/29 /2022