

# AC119 Assoc POLICY Discussion on Membership

**From:** Wayne Laessig [qadvocate@sbcglobal.net] **Sent:** Wed, Jul 10, 2013 1:08 PM **To:** 'Bob' **Cc:** 'Michael Drzyzga'; busch791@tampabay.rr.com; 'Gus Cell'; Jim Mattison (jmatti@sonic.net); Jim Dunn (ac119kjimd@aol.com); Joe Goryl (gorylj@bellsouth.net) **Subject:** RE: AC-119 Membership Bob, good question. The By-Laws (part included below and attached) are more specifics (and yes, we need to get this version posted on the website – I'll work with Bill to get it posted). We have been allowing anyone who "worked on" AC-119 equipment to be a Regular Member, like someone who worked on our avionics, guns, etc – including some who probably worked primarily in a shop environment.

## Article IV - Membership

**Section IV-1. Regular:** Regular membership is limited to persons who were directly associated with or supported the 71<sup>st</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Squadrons or AC-119 missions, including their establishment, development, support, or training. Regular Members either pay annual dues or can become Life Regular Members, and can hold Association Officer positions. Regular Members shall have full voting rights in all Association matters including election of officers and the amending of these bylaws. (Amended 9-29-02 Membership Meeting, & clarified 10-2-04 Membership Meeting)

**Section IV-2. Associate:** Associate Membership may be conferred upon persons not qualified for Regular Membership but deserving of membership. This includes spouses or extended family. Applications or recommendations for Associate Membership in the AC-119 Gunship Association shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary by applicants or Regular Members of the Association. Associate Members either pay annual dues or can become Life Associate Members at fees commensurate with those of Regular Members. Associate Members cannot hold Association Officer positions and do not have Association voting privileges, but do enjoy all other rights and privileges as do Regular Members. (Added 9-29-02 Membership Meeting, expanded 10-2-04 Membership Meeting, and Life Associate Membership clarified 9-30-06 Membership Meeting, BoD Mtg 1-8-2012 deleted 2/3 affirmative vote by BoD for acceptance of Assoc Members – Secy makes the call & elevates to BoD if questionable.)

**Section IV-3. Life:** Life Members are Members who have elected to make a single payment of dues in the amount then set by the Board of Directors and as approved by the membership. A Life Member shall enjoy all of the rights and privileges of their respective Membership category. Both Regular and Associate Life Memberships automatically transfer to surviving spouses (both transfer as Associate Life Members). (Changed 11-23-03 by Board to provide consistency with approved changes from 10-4-03 Membership Meeting)

**Section IV-4. Honorary Life:** Honorary Life Memberships include the next-closest-kin of AC-119 personnel killed in action in Southeast Asia and other specific honorees who contribute significantly to the AC-119 Gunship Association, at the discretion and vote of the Board. Honorary Life Members have the same rights and privileges as Associate Life Members. (Clarified 10-4-03 Membership Meeting)

And, here's the pertinent info from the Association meeting where we voted on the changes.

10. By-Law changes: members voted that Association Regular Membership eligibility includes anyone associated with the AC-119 Gunship program. Membership summary:

- Regular Memberships (Annual or Life) include any air or ground personnel associated with the AC-119 program, either SEA or stateside. As an example, this includes our Lockbourne C-119 instructors and maintainers from our phase I training.
- Honorary Memberships (Life) include next-of-kin for those we lost in SEA and others deserving this recognition – both as designated by the Association Board.
- Associate Membership (Annual) is available to all others.

Let's discuss these at our next Teleconference. I believe we consciously chose to broaden the criteria to get more guys directly involved – particularly maintainers, and we've had some great ones like Jim Alvis, Jim Terry, Andy Bright, etc. There "is" a definite bond for those who served in SEA, in harm's way, and for those who worked on or in AC-119s every day like our Crew Chiefs. With that said, I think we decided to use our crew concept as a broader context - - like "we couldn't fly without avionics, Intel, guns, trainers, POL, etc" and that made all of them part of a larger AC-119 crew of "those who made it possible to fly our missions".

It's good to refresh our reasons, and our By-Laws are amendable. Let's discuss more. Thanks! Wayne

**From:** Bob [desertfox1@q.com] **Sent:** Tues, Jul 09, 2013 2:51 PM **To:** Wayne Laessig **Cc:** Michael Drzyzga; busch791@tampabay.rr.com; takitus@email.com; Gus Cell; ac119gunner@hotmail.com Hey gang. Was this fellow just a fuel truck driver from the base POL fuel dump that fueled the birds, from time to time. How is that directly involved ?.....Just saying Bob

**From:** qadvocate@sbcglobal.net **To:** <drzyzga513@hotmail.com>, desertfox1@q.com, busch791@tampabay.rr.com, takitus@email.com, stinger7172@live.com, ac119gunner@hotmail.com **Sent:** Mon, Jul 8, 2013 7:40:01 AM **Ev**, our By-Law criteria says "directly involved with AC-119s" so I'd say Yes, he meets regular membership eligibility. Sign him up! Wayne Sent from Yahoo! Mail on Android

**From:** EVERETT SPROUS <ac119gunner@hotmail.com>; **To:** Laessig Wayne <qadvocate@sbcglobal.net>; Drzyzga Michael <drzyzga513@hotmail.com>; La Rosa Bob <desertfox1@q.com>; Wogamuth Doug <busch791@tampabay.rr.com>; Julian Ron <takitus@email.com>; sininger gus

<stinger7172@live.com>; **Subject:** Membership **Sent:** Sun, Jul 7, 2013 6:11:08 PM I was asked if a person could join that pumped gas in our planes. I can't see why not. Ev