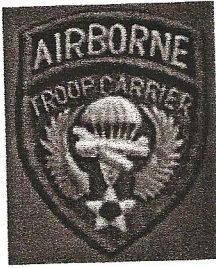


The Airlifter



The Airlifter

Newsletter of the Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association

Issue 001

April 27, 2007

Editorial Comment

Welcome to the first issue of *The Airlifter*, the newsletter of the Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association. *The Airlifter* is published four times a year to keep the membership of the Association informed. The TCTAA was established on June 26, 2006 as a non-profit corporation incorporated in the State of Texas. Membership is composed of veterans of the US Army and US Air Force troop carrier mission and its tactical airlift successors. The fourfold purpose of the association is to promote camaraderie among troop carrier and tactical airlift veterans, to preserve the troop carrier/tactical airlift heritage, to educate the public regarding the troop carrier/tactical airlift mission and to promote patriotism. For the title of our newsletter, we are borrowing the name of the 315th Air Division newspaper by the same name, although the title was originally used for the newspaper for the Berlin Airlift.

Our purpose with *The Airlifter*, which will be published four times a year, is to inform, educate and entertain the membership of the Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association. Contributions – first person accounts, articles, photographs, opinions, letters – are encouraged.

Reunion Update

In some ways, the Troop Carrier/Tactical Airlift Association is an outgrowth of informal reunions held in Galveston, Texas in 2005 and 2006. The success of the reunions prompted organizers Bob Ruffin and Sam McGowan to decide to form a non-profit corporation to sponsor future reunions and preserve and promote the troop carrier heritage. At this point, plans for the 2007 meeting are indefinite, other than that President Jim Lopez has decided that it will be at the Casa Del Mar hotel on Galveston Island, Texas over Veterans Day Weekend. We hope to have further details and registration forms in the June newsletter.

Officers and Board Members

President – Jim Lopez
Vice President – Bob Ruffin
Secretary – Sam McGowan
Treasurer – Ralph Bemis
Tony Girtman
Ace Bowman
Billie B. Mills
Bobby Gassiott
Chick Anderson
Craig Clifton
Sherman Pyle
Tony Kelley
Jim Esbeck

Legal Advisor – Ernie Gassiott

Financial Report

Funds on Hand as of April 26, 2007

Funds in checking acct - \$5,963.00

All funds are from membership fees.
No expenditures to this date

Report of Board of Directors Meeting

The first Board of Directors meeting was held in Galveston, Texas on November 10, 2006. Founding board members Tony Girtman, Ralph Bemis and Sam McGowan were present, along with Ernie Gassoitt, the association legal advisor. Board member Robert Ruffin was not present due to ill health. Filing of IRS Form 1024 was discussed – Sam McGowan agreed to file the form. The members decided to choose and present a slate of nominees for the positions of officers and board members to the members present for the reunion.

