



*315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association
315th Airlift Wing Excellence over the Years
Joint Base Charleston, South Carolina*

31 August 2017

Visit our website at: <http://www.315awaalumniassoc.com/>

Hurricane Harvey

The news about Hurricane Harvey has been in the news 24/7 at this writing and continues to make headline news in all the main stream media. The President and Vice President have made official visits to Texas and almost all guard and reserve units have sprung into action. One of those was the 315th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron here at Joint Base Charleston. Six of their personnel in key positions were sent to Little Rock AFB Ark, evacuation staging location for aeromedical evacuation support. AMC has directed allocation of its AES airlifts and contingency response assets to the federal Hurricane Harvey relief efforts. C-17, C-130, C-5 and KC-10 aircraft from all parts of the country are being utilized. C-17 aircraft from Charleston have been carrying supplies from Pope Field beginning 31 August.

Michael Kavanagh of the 701st Squadron has presented an opportunity for us to help those in need after Hurricane Harvey. Michael shared information that was given to him by Andrew Hart of the 300th Squadron. It's called Ad Astra 300th Squadron Hurricane Harvey support. Andrew offers this opportunity by going to the following website: <http://www.support.gofundme.com> An additional website given was <http://www.teamrubiconusa.org>, a veterans service organization.

There are countless organizations taking donations, the Red Cross, Salvation Army, United Way, and Samaritans Purse. On my visit to Staples Office Supply today to get supplies for mailing out this newsletter, I gave my donation to the cashier. Many retail stores are taking donations as you pay for your purchase. Normally many give \$10.00, or some may give \$1.00. It all adds up. The American people have worked together like never before and our military were at their best.

Retired Colonel Jim Roberts, one of our strongest supporters of the 315th Alumni, presented the following quote:

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you imagined. - Henry David Thoreau

Final Fly-Bye

Robert “Bob” McKinnon Griffeth, Jr. (rank not confirmed), C-141 Pilot, 707th Airlift Squadron 1973-1987, passed on 17 August 2017 at the age of 66 in Savannah, GA due to complications of cancer. He is survived by his wife, Hidi Hess Griffeth . From 1986-2015, Bob was a commercial airline pilot for Piedmont, US Airways and American Airlines. He was a longstanding member of the Quiet Birdmen. Burial will be at Beaufort VA National Cemetery at 1601 Boundary Street, Beaufort, SC 29902 on Friday, October 6, 1017 at 1:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Port Royal Sound Foundation <http://prsfoundation.info/donate-now/>

Information presented by Lt Col Steve Avery, 707th AS Pilot

Lt Colonel James Alvin “Al” Edwards II, 315th Airlift Wing passed on July 24, 2017. Colonel Edwards was assigned to the 315th Wing Commanders staff in an administrative capacity. He retired in the early nineties. He was known for being easy going, very patriotic, and he was well respected. Services were held July 31, 2017 at 2:00 pm at Greenlawn Memorial Park, 845 Leesburg Road, Columbia, SC with interment and full military honors followed. Colonel Edwards was an active member of the 315th Alumni Association.

Information presented by Lt Col Andy Savage, ret 315th Wing Legal Officer

Our speaker at the Heritage Trust sponsored luncheon on **Friday, September 8th 2017 at 11:00 pm** will be Mrs Cheryl Irwin. Tina Doscher of Heritage Trust has set this up for us. Tina said she is wonderful and her speech will be very impassioned. Ms Irwin now resides in Charleston, but was working at the Pentagon on 9/11 as the Senior Civilian Press Officer in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. She continued to inform the media as the building burned, and rescue and recovery operations continued. Ms Irwin will speak about her experience, answer questions and moderate comments from the audience.

Tina Doscher sponsors the Heritage Trust Luncheon for the 315th Alumni

It's Election Time

Election time is here and all of our membership will have the opportunity to nominate the candidates of their choice to serve as officers of the association. The election ballot is attached to this newsletter. All those currently serving are listed so that you can place an X beside their name if you wish for them to serve another term, or you may write in a candidate of your choice. The ballots will be processed and the winners will be selected on Friday, September 8th at the Heritage Trust sponsored luncheon.

Alumni Board Scheduled Meetings/Heritage Trust Sponsored Luncheons for Year 2017

8 Sept, Friday, 09:30 am, Special Board Meeting, 11:00 am, **Heritage Trust Luncheon. Processing of Election Ballots will follow the luncheon.**

7 Nov, Tuesday, 10:00 am, Special Board Meeting, Charleston Club.

1 Dec, Friday, 09:30 am Special Board Meeting, 11:00 am, **Heritage Trust Special Christmas Luncheon** at the Charleston Club.

I just received a telephone call only a few minutes ago from President Dick Fuller to confirm that our luncheon will be held on Friday the 8th as planned, even though Hurricane Irma is moving in our direction. That is certainly good news for us. Vice President Ray Ardis has sent out a special news bulletin a few days ago to explain about our membership dues and the importance of attending and being with old friends again. Weather wise, we're looking good for Friday. Drive safely, and we will look forward to seeing you.

MSG Del Oxford, Newsletter Editor & Historian

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Election Ballot 2017

Flight 315

315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association (Office Term 2 years -- 3 Directors 4 Years)

The officers of the Alumni shall be a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and six (6) Directors. These ten officers form the governing body of the association. The governing body initiates and coordinates the activities of the association in accordance with the By-Laws of the 315th Airlift Wing Alumni Association. The 315th Airlift Wing Commander, Senior Enlisted Advisor and one Staff Officer (appointed by the Wing Commander) shall serve as ex-officio members of the governing body. Officers shall serve a two year term, exception three (3) Directors shall serve a four (4) year term, thus allowing no more than 50% Director rotation.

Vote for only (1) candidate for each office by placing an "X" adjacent to their name or write-in candidate, if so desired you can nominate from the floor of the Annual Association Meeting. A copy of the association By-Laws are available upon request.

Nominations: (Voting: place an "X" by name of write in a candidate/nomination)

Return Ballot to Secretary: Linda Skillman, 7033 N. Kenwood Drive, Charleston, SC 29406

President:

CMSgt (Ret) Dick Fuller Write-in Candidate _____

Vice President:

SMSgt (Ret) Ray Ardis Write-in Candidate _____

MSgt (Ret) Chris Beiler

Treasurer:

Vacant Write-in Candidate _____

Secretary:

Civ (Ret) Linda Skillman Write-in Candidate _____

Directors (2-year Term)

Lt Col (Ret) Eileen Wilson Write-in Candidate _____

MSgt (Ret) Roy Griffin Write-in Candidate _____

CMSgt Tom Clemmons Write-in Candidate _____

Directors (4-year Term)

CMSgt (Ret) George Shread Write-in Candidate _____

Vacant Write-in Candidate _____

CMSgt (Ret) Sam Brock Write-in Candidate _____

Exercise your right to vote... Vote Now and Return ballot to the Alumni Secretary!

