

A/101 AVIATION ASSOCIATION, INC. 2008 Annual Report

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The A/101 Aviation Scholarship Fund that was started by our association in 2007 topped the \$10,000 mark from generous donations of our members just before the NKY fund raising event in MAY 2008. Because of the organization and planning of Paul Wiley, the Moose Lodge #1469 and the generosity of corporate donors Anheuser-Busch, Wal-Mart, John Deere and Home Depot the fundraiser was a huge success. Kenny Tromp volunteered his auctioneering duties at the fundraiser. Moose lodge #1469 presented our scholarship fund with checks in total of \$16132.39. We thank the Moose Lodge, Paul Wiley and the generous people of Northern KY for their huge support of our scholarship fund. Because of all of these generous donations and the hard work of many of our members we were able to close the 2008 year out with a total of \$26963.53 in the fund. This is a great foundation to build on and will allow us to award of first scholarship in June of 2009. The name of the 2009-2010 scholarship award winner(s) will be announced at our 2009 annual meeting.

Our 2008 association membership numbers were up from 2007 by 32 members to end the year at 548 total members. Brass Comanchero Eagle Bells were presented to Tom Halligan, Paul Wiley and the Moose Lodge #1469 in 2008 for their work on our scholarship fund.

We lost one of our association founding trustees in 2008. Don Kennedy passed on after a prolonged illness NOV 28, 2008. Don was an A/101 "Wings of the Eagle" Veteran who volunteered several years of his time and energy to our association, he will be deeply missed. Several bouquets of flowers and plaques were presented to our members and to family members in ill health during the year.

The remains of SGT Timothy Jacobsen were repatriated to his home and family in OCT 2008. SGT Jacobsen served with the Comancheros in 1971 and was lost on April 16, 1971 along with three other Comanchero crewmembers in a helicopter crash in Thus Thien, South Vietnam. A full military funeral was held for SGT Jacobsen on OCT 4, 2008 in his home town of Ferndale, CA which was attended by several of his Comanchero Brothers, his family and hundreds of local townspeople. Our association presented the family members with commemorative coins and "A/101 Avn Legacy" prints.

After hearing of an urgent need our association purchased and sent 36 full sets of thermal underwear to our Comanchero brothers serving in Afghanistan in JAN 2009. If

you would like to help support our deployed Comancheros with a letter or care package please contact us for the address. A/4/101 Avn Regt presented our association with an presentation certificate and a American Flag that was flown on a mission in Afghanistan in honor of the support we have provided the unit. The flag and certificate will be on display at our annual meeting for the membership to enjoy.

Our association stocks a full line of merchandise that is available with a tax deductible donation on our web site. We have a good selection of various decals, hats and patches which are a major source of funding for our association. We will be adding two newly designed hat pins in the next few weeks. Please help support your association with the purchase of our era merchandise.

Our A/101 Aviation Association is holding our 2009 reunion, annual meeting, and election of trustees in conjunction with the Vietnam Helicopter Crew Members Association Reunion, June 17th – 21st 2009, at the Atlantis Hotel and Casino, Reno, NV. Our annual meeting will be held Saturday morning, June 20th @ 11:00 AM. The VHCMA is providing A/101 Avn Association members with a separate hospitality room for our unit members to gather in that will be connected to the main VHCMA hospitality room. Membership in the VHCMA is not required to attend this reunion. A/101 Avn members only need to pay the \$35.00 VHCMA reunion fee to attend this reunion. Attending this reunion will be hundreds of other crewmembers and pilots who served in aviation units in RVN. Enclosed is a reunion registration form, address is on the form. A morning report of reunion attendees is located on our web site under reunions.

Also enclosed is a ballot to vote for reaffirmation/reelection of two trustees to three year terms as association trustees. The ballots can be returned by mail to our association secretary or you can vote in person at the annual meeting in Reno.

Thank you, we will see you all in Reno!

A/101 Aviation Association Board of Trustees