

# News



# Letter

Vol. 1 No. 1

January 2006

Jan - Mar

---

This news letter is published in an attempt to keep the membership better informed on the activities of The Association and its members. The plans now are to publish it every three months (Jan-Apr-Jul-Oct). Anyone having anything to add to the newsletter may submit it to me at the following address.

V. G. Bristol  
20595 Old 205 Apt 1  
Edwardsburg, MI. 49112  
E-mail address  
[shaky52601@aol.com](mailto:shaky52601@aol.com)

Please, nothing with political or religious overtones. We particularly want to know of any member or family member who is sick or has passed away so we can send a card or something that is appropriate.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

Another year is behind us and we are looking forward to our 2006 reunion in Branson, Missouri in August. Our membership continues to increase and we look forward to meeting our new members and renewing old acquaintances.

Some of our folks are putting in many volunteer hours to plan our reunions and our get togethers are getting bigger and better each time we meet.

Please let us know of any happenings that might be of interest to the membership and we will try to get out the word. As always, pictures and correspondence of years past in the 463<sup>rd</sup> will be appreciated.

I hope all of you can make it to Branson. I look forward to seeing you there. I can guarantee a good time will be had by all. See you there.

Paul Isaacs, President

#### REUNION

The next reunion will be held at Branson, Mo. Jerry Haines and Rick Kirkpatrick went to Branson and were impressed by the package that was offered to them by the Ramada Inn and Conference Center there.

The rooms are \$56.29 (Tax Included) per night with a Continental Breakfast included. The hospitality room is included and is handicap accessible. The rooms do not have refrigerators or microwaves, but are available on request for medicines etc.

The dates for the reunion will be 17-20 August 2006. Cost will be \$50.00 per person as follows.

Registration	\$15.00 per person
Banquet	\$20.00 per person
Cookout	\$15.00 per person

We are told that there will be additional benefits, but we will have to wait until after March 2006. That is when big additions are to be added to the Ramada Inn and conference Center. We will try to have more information on this in the next newsletter.

## DUES

Some member's dues are delinquent. These monies are critical to the operation and success of the organization. Those members who wish to bring their dues up to date, may do so by sending them to:

G. A. Haines  
2411 S. Tecumseh Rd.  
Springfield OH. 45502  
Phone: (973) 325-9306

BY JERRY HAINES

At our last reunion, Maynard Cusworth, a former pilot in the 463<sup>rd</sup> flew his "MOONEY" aircraft into WPAFB accompanied by his wife Beverley and Ed Carpenter, another former 463<sup>rd</sup> pilot. Maynard was told that he was the oldest pilot ever to land on base. However, there are no official logs reflect his age when he flew in. Maynard currently flies for the Shriners located in South Carolina transporting Patients from hospital to hospital and other locations he may be directed to. Maynard does this all as volunteer work. While talking to Maynard, he mentioned to me that he was getting ready to fly to Cincinnati to pick up a patient. Maynard is 84 years old and is looking forward to flying to Branson, MO. in August 2006. This article does not do justice to a worthy individual such as Maynard. However if you want the straight story, come to Branson and talk directly to him.

## TAPS

Russell Popejoy	2002	Charter Member
Robert Engle		Charter Member
George A. Grant	14 Sept 2004	

## ITEM OF INTEREST

For those who knew him:

L/Col Clement H. Armstrong (USAF Ret). Although not a member of the 463<sup>rd</sup> Airlifters Association, Col. Armstrong was a long time member of the 773<sup>rd</sup> TCS/TAS. He was highly respected by everyone in the squadron. It is with utmost sadness that I most report that he passed away on 21 Dec 2004. Col. Armstrong was 87 years old.

## CAPS

We have ordered 20 white baseball caps and 30 black baseball caps. Jerry Haines has them now. If you wish to purchase any, contact Jerry Haines. The price for the caps are \$15.00 each including shipping and handling.



## NEWS RELEASE

BY SARA GREENE, Arkansas Leader (LRAFB)

Besides being a schoolhouse for all things related to the C-130 cargo plane, Little Rock Air Force Base houses the 463<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Group, which transports "beans and bullets" as well as troops, all over the world.

"Airlift is one of the most vital part of the war on terror," said Col. Scott Lockhard, deputy commander of the 463<sup>rd</sup>, which was established at Little Rock Air Force Base in 1997.

We're using it to get over some of those areas that are hazardous to military convoys," Lockhard said, adding that this year the 463<sup>rd</sup> helped train the first all Iraqi C-130 Hercules crew.

The 463<sup>rd</sup> has about 1,200 airman under its command divided up among an aircraft maintenance squadron, maintenance operations squadron and an operations support squadron, as well as two airlift squadrons, the 50<sup>th</sup> and the 61<sup>st</sup>.

The 61<sup>st</sup> Airlift Squadron flies 12 of the older C-130E aircraft and the 50<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron flies 14 of the C-130H2 aircraft. Currently about 20 percent of the 463<sup>rd</sup> is constantly leaving or arriving on rotating deployments that typically last 180 days.

"They're ours in our hearts, but while they're in the theater (war) they belong to the commander over there. As a commander, you have to trust them to take care of your troops," Lockhard said.

"It's tough on a commander to not have that day-to-day involvement with your airmen."

"Personnel are performing magnificently across the board in the AOR (Area of Responsibility). The personnel are coming back feeling fulfilled because they understand the importance of what they're doing over there. They're fired up when they get back," Lockhard said. Currently, there are five C-130s from the 463<sup>rd</sup> in South-east Asia, which includes Iraq and Afghanistan. Like personnel, the aircraft are rotated back to Little Rock Air Force base regularly.

"We fly the aircraft hard and we land in austere conditions. It's hard on the tires and brakes," Lockhard said. "We bring them back for the maintenance we can't perform in the desert."

Originally stationed at Ardmore Air Force Base in Oklahoma as the 463<sup>rd</sup> Troop carrier Wing, the wing received the first C-130A from Lockheed Aircraft Corporation on Dec 9, 1956.

To celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first C-130, Lockhard said the 463<sup>rd</sup> is planning a variety of events to make 2006 "The Year of the Herk," referring to the Hercules.

## LETTER

This is a letter our President Paul Isaacs wrote to Col. Lockhard.

Col. Lockhard

I read an article from the Arkansas Leader that you are planning 'The Year of the Herk' in 2006 to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the first delivery of the Hercules.

The 463<sup>rd</sup> Airlifters Association is planning the 2006 reunion to be held in Branson, Missouri on the weekend of the 18-20 August 2006. We have members who were in the 463<sup>rd</sup> at Ardmore, OK and we have members who are currently assigned to the 463<sup>rd</sup> at Little Rock as well as members who have been assigned to the 463<sup>rd</sup> from the several other locations where the 463<sup>rd</sup> has been located. The 463<sup>rd</sup> hosted our 2004 reunion there at Little Rock. We would like very much to have the participation from the 463<sup>rd</sup> at our Branson reunion in August. Perhaps the reunion could be worked as one of the Activities/events for the "year of the Herk" celebration.

Please let me know if you think this idea has any possibilities.

Paul Isaacs

Colonel, USAF (Ret)

So until next time---happy landing. Please feel free to visit our web site at: [www.463rdairliftersassoc.org](http://www.463rdairliftersassoc.org)