

THE RESCUEGRAM

The Official Information Publication of the 129th Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard

June 2008

Lives Saved
558

These Things We Do...
That Others May Live...



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129th Airmen participate in full-scale local exercise

by Capt. Alyson M. Teeter
129th Rescue Wing Public Affairs



Photo by U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer Jon-Nolan Paresa, 69th Public Affairs Detachment

Tech. Sgt. Michael Bendle (left), 131st RQS pararescueman, rappels with a U.S Customs agent (right) from an HH-60G Pave Hawk to the USNS Algol April 17 during BAYEX 2008 at Alameda Point, Calif.

On a clear spring day with San Francisco set as the backdrop, an HH-60G Pave Hawk hovered over the USNS Algol at Alameda Point, Calif.

Tech. Sgt. Michael Bendle, 131st RQS pararescueman, grabbed federal agents and guardsmen in the helicopter one-by-one to drop them off on to the deck of the ship as part of a scenario that simulated the potential use of a radiological dispersal device or nuclear weapon.

129th Rescue Wing personnel participated April 16-20 in BAYEX 2008, a full-scale exer-

cise designed to test the ability of Oakland, California, and federal agencies to conduct a coordinated response to a major emergency. Field and support personnel from the nearly two dozen participating agencies tested their abilities to share intelligence and respond to three scenarios.

According to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, scenarios included terrorism-generated chemical, explosives, and radiological events. It also included one terrorism-related BART derailment, and a maritime interdiction operation against a U.S.

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THE RESCUEGRAM

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The mission of the 129th Rescue Wing is to provide highly trained and well-equipped rescue resources, able to respond to and sustain the state mission of furnishing trained personnel for state emergencies, such as natural disasters, and to assist civil authorities in the enforcement of the law.

When called to active duty with the Air Force, we provide manpower, material and equipment resources to conduct and complete combat and search rescue operations world-wide. We provide manpower, material and equipment to conduct and complete peacetime search operations.

Editorial Staff

Commander
Col. Amos Bagdasarian

Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Alyson M. Teeter

Staff Writer
Staff Sgt. Andrew Hughan

Staff Writer
Staff Sgt. Jill Jamgochian

Multimedia Staff

Photo
Master Sgt. Dan Kacir
Senior Airman Joshua Kauffman

Video
Master Sgt. Barbara Apkarian
Tech. Sgt. Ray Aquino
Staff Sgt. Kelly Hobby

Contact Us:
129th RQW/PA
P.O. Box 103, Stop 20
Moffett FAF, CA 94035
Telephone: 650-603-9152
alyson.teeter@camoff.ang.af.mil

Get ready - inspections are coming!

By Col. Wayne Albright, 129th Vice Commander

The wing has entered another inspection cycle that will lead us into our ACC Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI) Feb. 4-9, 2010. I know that seems like a long way off, but we have plenty of work and other inspections before we get there.

Our operations group kicks off the cycle this year with an Aircrew Stan/Eval Visit (ASEV) October 6-9. ASEV preparation will keep ops busy over the next five months and we all need to support their efforts. It may mean working around health exams, OJT and PME testing, flying schedules, TDYs and deployment preparation. The ASEV is an operations group inspection, but a wing grade.

Next up is the medical group's Health Services Inspection (HSI) Feb. 5-8, 2009. Again, our support is vital to their success. The wing's immunizations, mask fit tests (QNFT), physical, dental and occupational health exams must be current. Ensure you are working with your supervisor, UDM and unit health monitor to schedule your visits. Show up to your appointments on time with your ID card and all necessary paperwork. This will help the medical group pass their inspection and also insure you are medically ready to deploy during our AEF cycle.

After the HSI, the majority of the wing will continue preparation for our AEF cycle scheduled for May through August 2009. The current plan has the 129th Rescue Squadron with maintenance and support personnel

leaving for four months and the 130th Rescue Squadron with their maintenance and support personnel deploying for approximately 45 days. Also during this cycle, mission support group personnel will be filling Expeditionary Combat Support positions through out the world.

The Logistics Standardization and Evaluation Team (LSET) visit also comes during our AEF cycle, and is scheduled June 8-14, 2009. The maintenance group and the logistics support squadron will be busy showing their inspectors how well they do their jobs. This inspection will give the rest of the wing a flavor for how the UCI will be conducted. The LSET is an ANG inspection and currently ACC does not give the maintenance group or the logistics support squadron UCI credit for the inspection. Therefore, they will continue to review and improve their processes as they and the rest of the wing prepare for the UCI in February 2010.

Throughout the next 18 months as you prepare for inspections and deployments, remember we have an excellent record because of your hard work and attention to detail. I have every confidence that you will continue to excel in all you do to the benefit of your fellow Airmen, the 129th Rescue Wing and the California Air National Guard. Our mission is saving lives and we do that by being prepared. Thanks for making it happen!



The 129th Rescue Wing posted a new billboard in May along Highway 101 in Mountain View. The other side displays a photo of a MC-130P.

New helicopter blade software improves safety

By 129th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

The 129th Rescue Wing's HH-60G flightline hosted a team of engineers April 5-10 from the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Test Center's Maintenance Test and Logistics Division, headquartered at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Ariz.

The goal of the visit was to introduce new track and balance software designed to reduce rotor system track and balance labor hours by up to 90 percent (including flight crew requirements).

"Initially, we had quite a few naysayers who proclaimed, 'There is no way this new software will provide rotor track and balance solutions that will lower vibration levels down to the .00 range with just one or two flights,'"

said Lt. Col. James Henderson, commander of the 129th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron.

After one day of classroom training with HH-60G mechanics and select propulsion members familiar with the MC-130P and HH-60G systems, maintenance personnel requested an HH-60G functional check flight crew from operations and got down to business.

"Sure enough as advertised, the software, called Magic by its users, provided a balance solution consisting of a single trim tab adjustment and the addition of balance weight on one of the main blades," Colonel Henderson said. "Our flight crew took to the air and was amazed by the results. In two flights, vibration levels were down

to .003. The standard with the older balance technology was 2.0."

This technology will be utilized during the next AEF cycle and has a variety of applications to include spectrum analysis, which determines material failures long before a catastrophic event could occur during flight.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Hughan, 129th Public Affairs

Portrait of a Professional -- Staff Sgt. Walter Engle, 129th MXS

What is your favorite memory in the military?

First time TDY to Rhein-Main AFB, Germany. I've noticed that no matter what rank you are, at the end of the day you're still a person. I've also noticed that some of the people you thought you could count on would be the first to sell you out, and those you don't expect to be anywhere near you are the ones to help you at the end.

What motivated you to enlist in the military?

I'm a firm believer in serving your country. I just don't know if I'd join in other services.

How has being an Airman changed your outlook on life?

It's hard to say. I sometimes wonder how screwed up my life would have been had I not joined.



Photo by Technical Sgt. Ray Aquino, 129th Public Affairs

What's the most important lesson you've learned in the military?

I've learned to get used to the "hurry up, and wait" mentality.

If you could deploy anywhere in the world, where would you go?

Tuzla Air Base, Bosnia; a TDY area with the comforts of home.

If you could choose any AF job, what would it be? Why?

OSI and a commission! It's something I can see myself doing.

Where did you grow up?

Carson, Calif.

What is your job in the civilian world?

Guidance and Control Specialist / Production Controller

What would people be surprised to know about you?

I'm an extroverted person. Sometimes I am surprised when they are surprised about me.

What are your hobbies?

Big game fishing and target shooting

Portrait of a Professional is a monthly profile of an outstanding Staff Sgt. and below. Nominations will be routed through the squadron and group commanders.

The Contributions of America's Airmen

By Secretary of the Air Force Michael W. Wynne and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen. T. Michael Moseley

April 21, the Secretary of Defense delivered an address at Maxwell AFB to the students of our Air War College and Air Command and Staff College. Initial press coverage of his remarks misrepresented the tone and content of his address. Whereas some press reports characterized Secretary Gates as making a singular critique about one Service's commitment to the Global War on Terror, his remarks were instead focused on the need for innovative thinking from all the Services.

As Secretary Gates himself explained: "I think if you read the text of the speech, you'll see that it's not a dig at the Air Force at all. In fact, a significant part of the speech was full of praise at what the Air Force had done in the Middle East and Iraq and Afghanistan and the whole theater." Secretary Gates challenged his entire Department and the leaders of every Service "to think out of the box" in continuous pursuit of better ways to deliver what is needed for the joint force in harm's way. The Air Force is well suited for that innovative pursuit.

Every Airman should take Secretary Gates' comments to heart and strive to find more and better ways for the Air Force to contribute to the War on Terror. It is important for all Airmen to know Secretary Gates applauded Airmen for their significant contributions to the Long War, just as he has praised America's Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines. It is also important for Airmen to know Air Force contributions are making a difference, and that Airmen continue to do everything possible to support the Secretary of Defense's priorities. He has asked all Services to accelerate transformational initiatives like those in the Quadrennial Defense Review, and the Air Force is doing just that.

In short, Airmen are "all in" to fight today's war on global terrorism. From strategy to tactics, the Air Force has leaned

far forward to deliver instruments of national power in a rapidly changing world. Every able-bodied Airman--Regular, Guard, and Reserve--is fully deployable. Indeed, Airmen have filled over 524,000 deployments since the war began. Today, 24,000 Airmen are delivering a full spectrum of air, space, and cyber power to the Joint Force Commanders conducting operations in USCENTCOM, every hour of every day.

Air Force engagement in CENTCOM's AOR is only the tip of the iceberg. About 200,000-plus Airmen are in direct support of Combatant Commanders around the clock and around the globe to provide all with critical air, space, and cyber capabilities. Airmen are in the most dangerous places on the planet tonight to protect America. Airmen have been vital to the success of the Joint team in this critical Global War on Terror, while at the same time providing the global strength and deterrence that keep our enemies at bay and our friends assured.

The Air Force was born of an innovative spirit and a willingness to question the status quo. Airmen are applying that spirit daily to address America's challenges. In sum, our Air Force is 'in the fight' to win, and is deterring any aggressor from doing us harm while we succeed in the Global War on Terror.

We are proud of the hard work that you ... America's Airmen ... undertake every day. Secretary Gates has challenged us to continue to honor our heritage of innovation. The Airmen of the United States Air Force will succeed in meeting his charge.

Air Force in Theater

From one Combined Air Operations Center in the AOR, Airmen daily command and control a fleet of hundreds of US, allied, and coalition aircraft which provide every Joint Force Commander complete air coverage across a 27-country theater. Airmen produce and fly over 300 sorties a day over

Iraq and Afghanistan, delivering precision strike, close air support, mobility, ISR, air refueling and aeromedevac. Just this past week, the Air Force surpassed one million sorties flown in the Global War on Terror. The Air Force has nearly 300 aircraft stationed in the CENTCOM AOR today, and Airmen operate out of over 60 locations.

Intelligence reports indicate the enemy's worst fear is US airpower; indeed, the majority of the dead or captured enemy leadership have been taken off the battlefield using the airpower capabilities provided the Joint Force Commanders.

In addition, Airmen are operating 68 Air Force satellites providing overhead intelligence, communications, and positioning continuously to every Joint Force Commander. Every 90 seconds, Airmen launch and fly an Air Force mobility aircraft from somewhere on the globe, providing vital combat logistics for the GWOT. Inter-theater assets have airlifted 2,500 MRAPs to the CENTCOM AOR (Central Command Area of Responsibility).

Also, Airmen operate intratheater airlifters that keep more than 12,000 people and 5,000 vehicles out of harm's way each month. Moreover, in less than 10 months, Airmen developed and fielded a Joint Precision Airdrop System, allowing forward-based ground warriors in Afghanistan and Iraq to receive vital supplies daily with pinpoint accuracy in all types of weather to any remote location.

In the area of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, Airmen have pushed every available UAV to the AOR. The stated requirement is to provide 21 Predator Combat Air Patrols (CAPs) to CENTCOM by 2010, and Airmen beat that timeline by two years and with greater numbers--today we have 23 CAPs over Iraq and Afghanistan, and we'll have 25 CAPs by Jun, and 31 CAPs by Apr 09. General Petraeus, Commanding General, MNF-I, this month: "I don't know who the Predator pilots are here, but the Predator teams have just been doing unbelievable work down

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More providers accepting TRICARE

Courtesy of TRICARE

FALLS CHURCH, Va. - There's good news for TRICARE Standard beneficiaries—more civilian providers are accepting new patients, according to a recently released survey. Yet, TRICARE officials acknowledge that increasing the number of providers and types of providers across the Nation remains a high priority, especially in remote areas.

The findings, part of the Department of Defense Survey of Civilian Physician Acceptance of TRICARE Standard, show that in Fiscal Year (FY) 2007, almost 93 percent of responding physicians in 53 hospital service areas (HSAs) were aware of the TRICARE program, with 84 percent of physicians in those 53 HSAs accepting new TRICARE Standard patients.

"The survey results are very encouraging," said Army Major General Elder Granger, Deputy Director, TRICARE Management Activity (TMA). "It shows that more doctors are working with us to ensure that our Reserve Component warriors, retirees,

and their families have access to quality care."

The 2007 survey was the final installment of a three-year national effort to measure awareness of TRICARE and to determine the number of physicians that accept new TRICARE Standard patients. The Department randomly surveyed physicians in 20 states in both FYs 2005 and 2006. The 10 remaining states and Washington, DC, were surveyed in FY 2007. Physicians in local HSAs were also surveyed each year. Approximately 40,000 physicians from a variety of medical specialties were randomly picked.

The aggregate results show that civilian provider awareness and acceptance is generally high, but may vary depending on location. In addition, the survey revealed a need for increasing both TRICARE awareness and acceptance among psychiatrists—a specialty critical in meeting the behavioral health needs of veterans of the Global War on Terror.



GRAP promotion includes backpacks, iPods and laptops

By 129th Recruiting Office

If you haven't already signed up for GRAP but have been thinking about it - now is a great time to do it! Here is some information regarding a Third Quarter promotion that is currently running through June 30th.

Active Recruiting Assistants are eligible for additional incentives based on their cumulative accessions occurring within the promotional timeframe.

Recruiting Assistants will be rewarded the following incentives in addition to the payment received for their eligible Officer or Airmen enlistments:

- Two qualifying accessions: ABU Backpack

- Three qualifying accessions: 8 GB Apple iPod Touch, ABU Backpack and a chance to win a Gateway Laptop Computer

- Every third accession entitles Recruiting Assistants to an additional chance to win!

At the end of the promotion, a drawing will be held for the winner of a Gateway Laptop Computer.

Please go to <http://www.guardrecruitingassistant.com/air/faq.php> to find out how you can become a Recruiting Assistant today.

Note: Fulltime status (AGR, Technician, ADSW) members are not eligible to participate in the GRAP program.

AIRMEN, Continued from Page 4

there and in Baghdad as well.

And, I think there's some path-breaking work on going here. It has been really impressive."

In October 2007, Airmen fielded the first MQ-9 Reaper, with nearly twice the performance of Predator and 6 times the payload.

In another example of Airmen enhancing the kill chain, the Air Force developed, fielded, and put in the hands of ground force commanders over 3,000 sets of ROVER technology which provides real-time video situational awareness and pinpoints enemy positions. It is this very development that is driving ground force demand for added coverage, and the Air Force is responding.

Airmen are also fulfilling other warfighting tasks in the AOR, as nearly 6,000 Airmen currently perform full-time duties in areas such as Detainee Operations, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, and Convoy Operations. Saving lives, Airmen operate combat surgical hospitals that are saving 97% of the wounded warriors that are airlifted to their operating tables--more than 50,000 since 2001.

Building partner capacity, Airmen have built from scratch, in less than 2 years, a nascent Iraqi Air Force and Afghan Air Corps which now operate in combat alongside Iraqi Security Forces and the Afghan National Army. Embedded training teams filled by Airmen are performing such tasks as building the Afghan National Army's Logistics Command. Provincial Reconstruction Teams are being manned by Airmen; indeed, half of the US-led Provincial Reconstruction Teams in Afghanistan are commanded by Airmen.

Finally, often overlooked are the Airmen ensuring America's Air Sovereignty every day, now having exceeded 50,000 sorties flown over our skies defending the homeland since Sept. 11, 2001.

News & notes

Operations Group

Do you think you have what it takes to be a leader, an example for everyone around you, superiors and subordinates?

The Operations Group is currently looking for an outstanding Airman to be the 1st Sgt.

If you are interested please contact your Chief for an application package.



The following are the newest members of the 129th. When you see them in their shops and around the wing smile and make them feel welcome at Moffett.

Capt. Anil Menon
Capt. Jason Carranza
Tech. Sgt. Wendy Durupan
Staff. Sgt. Kevin Brady
Staff. Sgt. Bernard Brown
Senior Airman Richard Bisnar
Senior Airman Ross Smathers
Airman 1st Class Vandy Chan
Airman 1st Class Josett Crisostomo
Airman 1st Class Christina Jenkins
Airman 1st Class Jason Pak
Airman 1st Class Henry Wright

The following members have retired or gone to other assignments, we wish them well and thank them for their service.

Master Sgt. Christopher Lasater
Master Sgt. Chantel Parish
Staff Sgt. Regina Cong

The following members were recently promoted to their current rank. Congratulations!

Senior Master Sgt. George Granada
Senior Master Sgt. Leon Kempner
Tech. Sgt. Joseph Kenney
Staff Sgt. Rachel Cruz
Staff Sgt. Kelly Hobby
Staff Sgt. Elijah Jackson
Staff Sgt. Robert Sandbothe, Jr.

The following members received awards and decorations for their service to the State and Nation.

Meritorious Service Medal

Senior Master Sgt. Robert Simmons
Master Sgt. Armando Martinez

Air Force Achievement Medal

Master Sgt. Natali Clayton

Master Sgt. Rosemarie Stokes
Staff Sgt. John Anderson

The following members recently graduated from various schools and training.

Airman Leadership School

Senior Airman Sean Pellaton

Squadron Officer School

Capt. Jeffrey Borg
Capt. Shawn Perceful

CCAF Degree

Master Sgt. Erik Fabre
Tech. Sgt. Steven Bjerck
Tech. Sgt. Abad Ramiro
Staff Sgt. Michael Foust
Staff Sgt. Christina Matthews
Staff Sgt. Latoshica Williams

Traditional Opportunity

The Wing is currently seeking applicants for the 129th Rescue Wing Human Resources Advisor.

The Human Resources Advisor role is to advise command leadership on issues that require recommendations leading to the enhancement of the organization's culture; promoting opportunities for all ANG members to maximize their individual potential for success without regard to their cultural differences. The HRA develops and maintains liaisons with the Director of Personnel, MEO, CCM, First Sergeants, Recruiters, ROM and Chaplain with developing strategies and goals to address human resource development that results in a culture that enables 129th unit members to develop the AFSC skills and leadership qualities needed to enhance their career progression.

We will be taking applications for the 129th RQW Human Resources Advisor (HRA) position. The closing date will be 22 August 2008. The application will consist of a Records Review RIP, a ready to submit School Application with primary and alternate HRA course dates, a current Fitness Score, and a cover letter addressed to the Wing Commander highlighting the essence of what the individual brings to the HRA position.

Eligibility requirements is as follows:

Rank: E-8 or E-7 immediately

promotable to E-8 (In-residence or correspondence SNCOA has to have been completed prior to applying for position.) Military Status: Traditional

Retainability: 2 years
Unit: 129th RQW personnel only

A two-week HRA course within 6 months of selection will be a mandatory requirement. Other opportunities for additional proficiency training are attendance at CA ANG Recruiting and Retention Regional Workshops, State Senior Leadership Conference and other regional and national conferences.

Please submit your packages to 129RQW/CV, Stop #20. If you have any questions, please call Senior Master Sgt. Kristina Keck at 650-603-9202.

Beware of local wildlife

It's that time of year again... local wildlife skitter across Moffett roads and hawks and vultures swoop overhead. If you see an animal that appears sick, injured or dead near any buildings or hangers, do not touch or pick up the animal! Instead, contact one of the following offices:

- Ground safety, 3-9273
- Bio environmental, 3-9062
- Public Health, 3-9059.

These agencies will contact NASA who will come and retrieve the animal.

DOD to phase out full Social Security numbers on IDs

As a means of combating identity theft, the Defense Department will issue identification cards without full Social Security numbers printed onto them. Plans are to remove the Social Security numbers from identification cards issued to military family members by the end of this year, but those cards will still display the sponsors' SSN, for now. Between 2009 and 2010, all department-issued identification cards will feature only the last four digits of a holder's Social Security number. New identification cards will be issued as they reach their expiration dates.

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129th website gets a makeover and shorter URL

By 129th Rescue Wing Public Affairs and Air Force Print News

The 129th Rescue Wing's public Web site received a makeover in May after its content was migrated to the Air Force Public Web at www.129rqw.ang.af.mil.

It now has a new look and feel similar to other Air Force Web sites currently using the Air Force Public Information Management System, or AFPIMS.

"AFPIMS streamlines the content posting process, which helps keep our public Web site dynamic and relevant," said Capt. Alyson Teeter, 129th Rescue Wing Public Affairs Officer. "New photos, videos, press releases, newsletters, recruiting opportunities, and family program information can be posted to the site within a matter of minutes."

According to a February Air Force Print News article, the web-based content management tool, AFPIMS, allows AFPW to run as one entity and eliminates the need for Web-developing expertise.

"This gives content providers more time to focus on the content, and security and policy review of information they post online," said Joe Bela, chief of AFPW at the Air Force News Agency in San Antonio.

The AFPIMS gives content-approval authorities the mechanisms for editing, approving or rejecting Web content, while administrative authorities are able to build Web pages, create content tabs, administer usernames and passwords and control access to content. 129th

public affairs personnel administer and manage the Web site content.

"Be sure to stay tuned to the Web site," Captain Teeter said. "Airmen, potential recruits, and family members will discover that the new 129th public Web site is an excellent one-stop shop for external wing news and information."



www.129rqw.ang.af.mil

NEWS & NOTES *Continued from page 6*

Religious Services

Your Chapel Program provides services for you and your families. We exist because of the first amendment and your constitutional right to freedom of religion. Our mission is to provide you spiritual care and the opportunity for worship. Please let us know how we can assist you. It is our honor to serve you!

We provide: Worship Services, Non-denominational Sundays at 1100 in Bldg 650, Room 135. We also offer counseling, chapel literature and Visitation.

Catholic Mass will now be held every Sunday drill weekend, BLDG 650, RM 135 at 1030 hrs. Please come by to welcome Father Arthur Yabes.

Our office extension is x9140.

BAYEX *Continued from page 1*

Maritime Administration Ready Reserve Fleet ship (USNS Algot) that was used as a platform for a fictitious containerized cargo ship.

"The Air Force and Air National Guard implemented the Air Force Incident Management System, a method of response that is the equivalent to that of civilian agencies," said Master Sgt. Kkoby Griffin, 129th Emergency Management Program Manager. "We needed an opportunity to implement the new process and the BAYEX was a perfect opportunity."

The wing's Emergency Operations Center, or EOC, was activated once the exercise commenced. The exercise gave full-time wing personnel an opportunity to iron out emergency response procedures and put interagency coordination into practice.

"We were able to perform the response piece, which was the request by OES, and we were able to recall and deploy personnel while

completing the required paperwork for the state," Sergeant Griffin said. "This exercise allowed us to pull all the pieces together and identify our shortfalls."

Wing medical personnel also functioned as role players and exercise observers during the rail derailment and terrorist attack scenarios.

"All the opportunities for experience in observation and operations with civilian first responders is extremely valuable to us, as we take all the information we learn and use it in our planning for future responses," said Capt. Brett Bruderer, 129th Medical Group administrative officer and BAYEX 2008 participant. "The type of data we were able to gather assists us with seamlessly integrating with our civilian counterparts, and prepares us for when the need for medical assistance from the Air National Guard arises."

AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Recruiting Assistance Program



Earn up to \$2,000 for each new recruit who enlists and reports to Basic Training. For eligibility information please visit <http://www.guardrecruitingassistant.com/>.

129th Alumni and Heritage Association

Do you belong to the 129th Alumni and Heritage Association? You don't need to be an alumni to be a member, currently we have about 300 members, total! Our goal is to continue the ongoing heritage of the 129th through current and past members. We support the wing during deployments and homecoming and have an annual scholarship for wing personnel or their families attending college. Please see your Chief for details. Continue your legacy....please support the AHA.

2008 - 2009 UTAs

7-8 June	4-5 April
12-13 July	2-3 May
2-3 August	6-7 June
6-7 September	12-13 July
4-5 October	2-3 August
1-2 November	6-7 September
6-7 December	4-5 October
3-4 January	1-2 November
7-8 February	6-7 December
7-8 March	

129th RQW/PA
MOFFETT FAF, CA 94035

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

These Things We Do, That Others May Live...