



A newsletter for members of the 129th Alumni/Heritage Association

"AHA" Supports EAA Regional Fly-in

On 25-27 September at Castle AFB members of the 129th AHA supported the first "Oshkosh West" EAA Fly-in. Ken Moore, Pat Darrin, & Ed Boddington and wives worked as volunteers in support of this airshow which, in the future, is planned to be similar to the "EAA Fly-ins" in Wisconsin and Florida. The guys parked "warbirds" and the wives helped out in aircraft and personnel registration. Saw some interesting acft (F51, T28, C46, PBV, etc.). Met some "special" people - - two "Enola Gay" crewmen, Ted Van Kirk (nav) & Dick Nelson (ro) and, in addition, Dick Rutan, who flew the "Voyager" around the world. The benefits we enjoyed were daily passes and free parking for the "RV" we took with us. Lots of fun- - -. Next year we hope to have a bigger "AHA" crew.

"Special Thanks" Luncheon

On Sept 10th the Board of Director's meeting was held at the Palo Alto "Elks" Club. After the "business" discussion, we had the opportunity to acknowledge and pay tribute to "Ward Douglass" for the tremendous effort he went to, individually, in developing the sources for our association "pin logo" and wristwatch prototypes. "Thanks again, Ward."

AHA Golf Day "Fun" Success

The 129th AHA Golf Tournament on 30 August was a fun-filled time for all participants. It was a chance for many retired and current members of the 129th RQW to get together again. The tournament was a four person "best ball" scramble. There were 44 players for the inaugural event. Each team received a prize based on their finishing position. First place went to the team of Tom Brooks, David Walton, Warren Hall and Ivan Cermak. Closest to the pin were Joe Love and Pete Peterson. Long drivers were Don Housekeeper and David Rommelfanger.

The 1999 tournament is in the planning stage and we have requested 9 August as the playing date. All inquiries, suggestions and offers of assistance for the 1999 event should be addressed to Tom Brooks @ GOLF129AHA@AOL.COM.

Chatter Box

- New Pilot - Old Tradition. May '98 Ralph Nobriga went back to the A F Academy to "swear in" his Grandson, "Nick" as an Academy graduate and pilot trainee at Vance AFB, OK. Not only was Ralph a member of the 129th but so were "Nick's" dad (Chuck/Intel) and uncle (John/Photolab). Talk about family participation!
- 129 RQW web page address: WWW.CALGUARD.CA.GOV/129RQW
- Carmel, CA store has "nonstop" aviation memorabilia. "Wings America" at 7th and Dolores is filled with finished aircraft models, pictures & paintings, aircraft artifacts, flying clothing, etc. . . . Must see if you are in Monterey area.

- Visiting Washington D C? Stay at the new First Class Hotel @ Walter Reed Hospital. The "Molange House" hotel has very reasonable room rates (\$58 - \$70). Call (202) 776-8700 for current room rates and reservations. (Available to retirees and active AF/ANG personnel on official duty or leisure travel.)
- Retiree Appreciation Day, Travis AFB. Saturday, 31 Oct '98 @ 0900 is the date and time of this event. (Bldg 660, formerly "NCO Club") Good opportunity to have lunch and meet with the "Retiree Activities" office personnel and get latest info on retirement benefits. (Medical benefits, Survivor Benefit Plan or "SBP" etc.) Too often we retirees don't take time to completely brief our spouses on current procedures or policy regarding the ever-changing military retirement system.

129th RQW 1998 "Family" Picnic

This year's picnic was very successful. It was enjoyable to visit with the young men and women whose efforts allow the unit to perform its mission so professionally. The attendance of "AHA" members at this picnic really supports the family atmosphere that Wing Commander Col "Steve" Speer thinks is an important reason for its success. It was great to visit with some old "new" members of the "AHA". . . Good to see ya --- Jim Harshman, Herb Killmeyer, John Macia, Raul Pegueros, etc.

129th Rescue Wing News

- Rescue Count - 269
- TSgt's Deborah Norland & Jennifer Willwerth recently performed their own version of "rescue" when they assisted a fellow mountain biker who fell and was injured and disoriented in one of our local parks. The injured biker had a dislocated shoulder and was having trouble breathing. Their rescue training with the 129th and their

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cell phone allowed them to apply "first aid" and coordinate a rendezvous with park rangers for further medical treatment.

- 129th RQW has received the 1997 AF outstanding unit award for outstanding performance and unit combat readiness.
- C130 Face Lift - - - Under the direction of SMS "Wan" Perras, the personnel of the 129th acft gen. and maintenance squadrons undertook the task of disassembling the cockpit of one of the unit's C130s and restoring it to better than "new" condition. . . "A first time field maintenance challenge."

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