



Volume 3, Issue 3

September 1999

Alumni Day at Moffett

August 7, 1999

The 129th Rescue Wing hosted an Alumni Day for members of the 129th Alumni & Heritage Association on Saturday, August 7. Approximately 50 members and guests enjoyed a continental breakfast provided by the Officers' Club. Col Steven Speer presented a slide show highlighting the Wing's history at Moffett FAF, and outlining the recent and current missions of the Wing. It was brought to the attention of the group that the 129th is the primary remaining military organization in the Bay Area. The Wing has become more actively involved in the local political arena in order to promote support for the various missions, and to maintain and expand services available at Moffett for both active and retired military families.

Following the slide presentation, Col Speer took the group on a bus tour of the base. The highlight of the tour was the location of the new hangar and park area. Groundbreaking for the hanger is planned for June 2000 – and you are all invited! More information will be forthcoming as the day comes nearer. The tour ended at the park across from the new hangar – with a BBQ lunch provided by Randy's BBQ of Modesto.

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Who Are the Members of This Gang?

Can you identify these members of the 129th AHA enjoying the lunch at the Alumni Day Picnic?

Alumni Day Golf Tourney

Alumni Day in actuality included Sunday, August 8. A golf tournament was organized by Tommy Brooks, a retired member and marshal at the Moffett Golf Course. Twenty-five players, including retired and active members and guests, joined the competition. Format was a four man scramble, best ball. Eighteen holes later, Col Speer, Col Warren Hall, and Tommy Brooks came in with the lowest score. LTC Jimmy Rommelfanger and Ray Estrella had the longest drives. Bill Horkey and Dan Guerrero had closest to the pin. Hamburgers with all the fixings completed a beautiful day on the golf course.

The Prez Sez

A Word (or Two) from the President – Ken Moore

Hooray! As of July 15, 1999, the Articles of Incorporation and the Bylaws are complete, and we are officially a California Nonprofit Mutual Benefit Corporation. My heartfelt thanks go to John Ruppel and Bob Hall for their efforts on our behalf.

The Alumni Day and Golf Tournament planned for August were successfully completed. Both days were enjoyed by all who were able to participate. Several pictures taken at the picnic are included for your enjoyment. The first member to correctly identify all persons in the picture on the front page will be awarded a 129th AHA T-shirt. Send your responses to Ken Moore, 41658 Covington Dr., Fremont CA 94539.

We now have an emblem cap, white with 129th Rescue Wing and 129th Air Resupply Squadron emblems in black. For more information, see page 6.

We are proud to report that our membership has surpassed the 200 mark. My sincere thanks to those who have become members and are supporting our Association. However, some have not renewed their membership, and I urge you to do so. If you are lucky enough to find a **SECOND NOTICE** included in your newsletter, please return it with your dues payment!

Pictures Needed

The Audio Visual Department is creating an Enlisted Call Video to be published in November. Do you have pictures from the early days of the unit, particularly from the Hayward era (1955-1985), you would be willing to share? If so, please clearly label who the pictures are from (they WILL be returned), and send them to:

CMSgt Liliana L. Ramos
680 Macon Road – Stop #2
Moffett FAF, CA 94035-5006



Cold War Recognition Certificate

In accordance with section 1084 of the Fiscal Year 1998 National Defense Authorization Act, the

Secretary of Defense approved awarding Cold War Recognition Certificates to all members of the armed forces and personnel who faithfully and honorably served the United States anytime during the Cold War era, which is defined as September 2, 1945, to December 26, 1991. The certificate may be awarded posthumously to those whose relatives apply on their behalf. National Guard and Reservists are eligible.

For more information go online to:

<http://coldwar.army.mil>

If you do not have inter-net access, contact:

Col John L. Ruppel, Jr. (ret)
6718 Zerillo Drive
Riverbank, CA 95367-2122
(209) 869-2879



129th Dining Out

The members of the 129th Alumni & Heritage Association were invited to attend the (somewhat) annual Dining Out of the 129th RQW. The formal dinner was held Saturday, July 10, at the Sunnyvale Hyatt. The 129th AHA was well represented.

BG Craig R. McKinley, Deputy Director, Air National Guard, was the guest speaker. He assists the director in formulating, developing, and coordinating all programs, policies, and plans affecting the almost 109,300 Air National Guard members in more than 1,260 units throughout the United State, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

BG McKinley, Chief Moore & Col Speer

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER 1999

WING CHRISTMAS PARTY

DATE YET TO BE DETERMINED - WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED

MARCH 2000

OLD TIMERS LUNCHEON

DATE YET TO BE DETERMINED - WE WILL KEEP YOU POSTED

JULY 9, 2000

FAMILY DAY PICNIC AND OPEN HOUSE

SET THIS WEEKEND ASIDE NOW!



FINAL FLY-BY IN MEMORIAM

COL CHARLES KUBAN

LTC JOHN VINTNER

Trivia Question

Just how thoroughly do you read the *Air Force Times*? Specifically, how much attention did you pay to the August 2, 1999, issue?

Check out the Air Force Snapshot on page 4. The 129th Rescue Wing is the Unit of the Week. The article presents a very nice review of current and future operations (including the new planes coming on board in September), as well as a history many of you are very familiar with (all the way back to the beginnings at Hayward).

Would you like a copy? We'll make you a photocopy if you ask nicely!!! Contact:

Col John L. Ruppel, Jr. (ret)

6718 Zerillo Drive

Riverbank, CA 95367-2122

(209) 869-2879

Have you moved? Know a former member of the 129th who isn't a member yet?

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORM

1999 Dues \$10.00

NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP+4: _____ + _____

TELEPHONE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

RANK: _____ 129TH SERVICE DATES FROM: _____ TO _____

Please complete the above information and mail to: 129th Alumni & Heritage Association,
c/o Col John L. Ruppel, Jr. (ret), 6718 Zerillo Dr., Riverbank, CA 95367-2122

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID YOUR DUES YET

PLEASE USE THIS FORM AND DO SO IMMEDIATELY!!

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

CMS Ken Moore – (510) 656-1529 – kande@pacbell.net

VICE PRESIDENT

Ltc Jesse Craddock – (650) 968-0446 – B25jay@aol.com

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J-L.RUPPEL@worldnet.att.net

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129th Alumni & Heritage Assn.
C/O Col John L. Ruppel, Jr. (ret)
6718 Zerillo Drive
Riverbank, CA 95367-2122

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

129th AHA Jackets & Caps Available

Customized with your name and rank!

Want to own a really distinctive jacket to show your affiliation with the 129th AHA? Order your navy blue, MembersOnly, summer-weight poplin jacket today. The left breast has the current wing patch and the original troop carrier group patch (now worn by the Rescue Squadron), with 129 AHA embroidered below. The right breast sports the Air Force Patch with your name embroidered below. Jackets are available for \$70 (\$35 deposit per jacket required). Caps, pins, and T-shirts are also available. Order yours from Don Delucchi at (925) 689-2683 or online at Nonononi@aol.com – or contact 'Hoot' Gibson at (510) 581-9501.

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