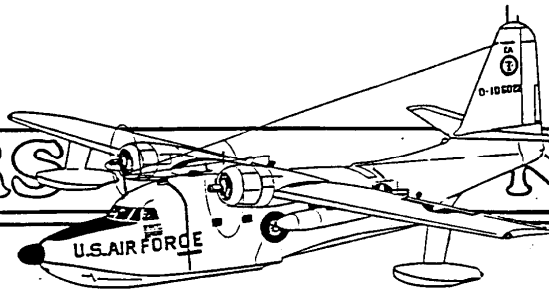


OL TIMERS NOOZZE



Volume 6, Issue 1

March 2002

Online Military Benefits Info

www.military.com

Military.com has recently published an online handbook with easy-to-understand explanations about military benefits. The handbook provides information for Active Duty, Guard/Reserve, Veterans, and Retired personnel on military benefits such as the GI Bill, TRICARE, Pay and Benefits, Insurance, and VA home loans. The guide is a free resource for Military.com members.

Those who are not members can access the guide by joining Military.com. Membership is free. To access the guide, go to:

<http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourceFileView/MainMessage.htm>

Membership includes a weekly e-mail newsletter with current military news, updates on the War on Terror, and links to many military related sites - including sites for finding old or current friends and comrades.

Military.com is well worth checking out. And remember, membership is free!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Online Military Benefits Info
- 1 Old Timers Luncheon
- 2 The Prez Sez
- 2 Disney Salutes Armed Forces
- 3 The Money Stuff - 2001 Financial Report
- 4 Senior Retired Leadership Conference
- 4 In Memoriam - Final Fly-by
- 5 129th AHA Annual Meeting Notice
- 6 Map and Directions - Old Timers Luncheon
- 7 Old Timers Luncheon Registration
- 8 Membership News & ID Card Information
- 9 129th AHA Jackets Are Back!
- 9 Change of Address Information
- 10 Board of Directors

Old Timers Luncheon

Wednesday, March 13, 2002

The 129th AHA Annual Meeting and Old Timers Luncheon will be Wednesday, March 13, 2002, at the Alameda Elks Lodge, 2255 Santa Clara Avenue, Alameda, CA. Flyers with ballots for electing officers were mailed in early February, and the information is included in this issue of *Ol Timers Noozze*. Be sure to return your ballot and luncheon registrations in a timely manner.

MG Robert Barrow will be the guest speaker, and we will also be honoring the NCOs of the year and awarding five - that's right - FIVE - scholarships.

NCOs of the year are:

- ◆ Airman - SrA Tanim Abdullah
- ◆ NCO - MSgt Rosemarie Stokes
- ◆ Sr NCO - MSgt Alice Houtz
- ◆ 1st Sgt - MSgt Jill Ruffin

The NCOs of the year will be presented with a certificate and a one-year membership in the 129th AHA.

Scholarship recipients for 2002 are:

- ◆ SrA Lisa Hernandez - MXS
- ◆ SSgt Natalie Friedenthal - RQS
- ◆ SSgt Deborah Hill - MDS
- ◆ SSgt David Weidman - AGS
- ◆ MSgt Joseph Cape - MXS

The scholarship awardees will be presented with a \$300 check for educational expenses.

And as has become tradition, there will be a raffle of photographs by Jay Craddock. This year's pictures (there are two) are the collage of the 129th Aircraft from 1955 - 1999. So come prepared to buy lots of raffle tickets. Remember, the proceeds all go to the scholarship fund to support our NCOs in continuing their education.

The Prez Sez

The President's Column

CCMS Ken Moore (Ret.)

This is my last column as President of the 129th Alumni and Heritage Association. At the annual meeting and Old Timers Luncheon on March 13, I will officially hand-off the responsibilities of this office to Ltc Jesse Craddock. He will begin a two-year term at that time.

The past few years have seen much growth and progress for the 129th AHA. We have come from being an ethereal idea floating around out there to become a bona fide non-profit tax-exempt veterans organization registered with and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service, the Franchise Tax Board, and the State of California Secretary of State.

This status allows you to deduct your dues and donations to the 129th AHA Scholarship Fund - depending, of course, on your tax situation. Your generous donations to the scholarship fund have enabled us to expand our program significantly. We initially awarded three scholarship grants of \$150 each. This year we are awarding five grants of \$300 each. We are proud to have made these improvements, and hope to expand the program even more in the years ahead. With your continued generous support, our Scholarship Fund will continue to grow.

Many people have volunteered uncounted hours over the past few years to help bring this organization to where it is today. I want to express my thanks to all of you for your effort and support during the birthing of the 129th Alumni and Heritage Association. As we face the years ahead, our fledgling troupe can anticipate much growth. However, that growth and success will depend largely on you and your efforts. Please consider how you can help the 129th AHA grow and succeed. This time next year, we will be electing the Members at Large for the Board of Directors. Consider putting your name on the ballot and becoming more involved in the actual hands-on operation and maintenance of the Association. Keep in mind, too, the Air Show will soon be back in town and we will need volunteers to man the booths!

Many thanks to all of you for your support.

Ken

Disney Salutes Armed Forces

129th Public Affairs Rescue Gram

February 2002

From January to the end of April, "Disney's Armed Forces Salute" will offer discounts at both the Walt Disney World Resort in Florida and the Disneyland Resort in California. Active US military personnel, with proper US military identification, are eligible, including active members of the United States Coast Guard and activated members of the National Guard and Reserves.

At Walt Disney World Resort, each active member of the US military may obtain one complimentary seven-day ticket during the offer period (January 1, 2002, to April 30, 2002). US military personnel are also eligible for discounts at select Disney resorts, starting with a \$49 per night rate (plus tax) at Disney's All-Star Resorts.

At the Disneyland Resort, each active service member may purchase 50 percent discount tickets to the Disneyland Resort theme parks for up to five friends and family members. Additionally, the service member accompanying the party will receive the same ticket for free. According to the Disneyland website, this discount is only available at the ticket windows, and activated members (or their spouses) of the Guard and Reserve must show active duty orders.

For more information on these and other discounts, contact your base ticket office, or call:

Disney World - (407) 939-7424

Disneyland - (714) 781-4565



The Money Stuff

Financial Report - 2001

John L. Ruppel, Jr. - Secretary - Treasurer

The 129th AHA has had a very good year. We ended the year with more money in the bank than we had at the beginning of the year. We have sufficient funds in the scholarship account to award five scholarships for the year 2002. Thank you all for your generous donations and hard work at the fundraisers. We ended the year with 268 members, an increase of 23 members. We have already added four new members in 2002, and would like to reach 300 active members this year. Please encourage all current and former members of the 129th Rescue Wing to join the Association. Below is the financial statement for the year ended December 31, 2001.

Membership dues for 2002 are now due and payable. The dues billing notices were mailed in early February. If you have not yet paid your 2002 dues, please mail your check. If you will be attending the Old Timers Luncheon, you can pay there. After March 13, 2002, unpaid dues will be considered delinquent.

EXPENSES

Newsletter	882.17
Old-timers Lunch	1,380.23
Family Day	74.08
Alumni Day Golf Tournament	2,632.23
Jackets	218.66
Scholarships	1,225.01
Board Expense	336.03
Secretary - Treasurer Expense	345.60
Membership	234.51
Air Show 129 RQW Foundation	727.07

Total 2001 Expenses	<u><u>8,055.59</u></u>
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Total 2001 Income	10,124.56
Total 2001 Expenses	(8,055.59)

Net 2001 Income	<u><u>2,068.97</u></u>
------------------------	------------------------

INCOME

Memberships	2,058.00
Dues Trust	120.00
Scholarship	2,389.00
Logo Lapel Pins	25.00
Family Day	0.00
Golf Tournament	2,660.00
Old-timers Lunch	1,190.00
Office Supplies Rebate	21.43
Apparel	139.00
Air Show	1,522.13

Total 2001 Income	<u><u>10,124.56</u></u>
--------------------------	-------------------------

Bank Bal 12/31/00	4,600.95
2001 Dues Inc @ 12/31/00	(170.00)
2001 Prepaid Dues	170.00
2001 Income	10,124.56
2001 Expense	<u>(8,055.59)</u>
Bank Bal 12/31/01	<u><u>6,669.92</u></u>

Encumbrances

Scholarship	2,614.06
Prepaid Dues	<u>235.00</u>
Total Encumbrances	<u><u>2,849.06</u></u>

Unencumbered Balance	<u><u>1,751.89</u></u>
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Senior Retired Leadership Conference

March 28 - 29, 2002

MG Paul D. Monroe, Jr., The Adjutant General

The Office of the Adjutant General is once again hosting the annual Senior Retired Leadership Conference. Designed for retired personnel with rank of E-8 or E-9, or O-6 and above, the conference is a review of the California Guard's many and varied accomplishments during the past year, as well as its plans for the future.

This year's gathering promises to be the most unique, informative, and exciting conference ever, with a wide variety of highly informative briefings, including in-depth details regarding the California Guard's past, present, and future Homeland Security missions. It is a rare opportunity for us to keep our valued retiree force of senior officers and NCOs informed and up-to-date on California National Guard activities.

To begin this year's event, we plan to hold a two-hour social "icebreaker," Thursday evening, March 28, with the actual update briefings occurring from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Friday, March 29. Both events will be held at Sacramento's new Marriott Hotel near State Headquarters. Every attempt has been made to make this year's conference the finest we've ever had: a four-star location; new, state-of-the-art audio-visual equipment; excellent food and accommodations; and a chance to meet with old friends. It's a conference you definitely don't want to miss.

For the registration fee of \$30.00, you get the Social (No-Host Bar) on Thursday, March 28, and lunch and refreshments on Friday, March 29. Military Air transport will be available from Los Alamitos, and possibly from Fresno. If sufficient pre-registrations are received by March 11 requesting MILAIR from Fresno, we will coordinate for either the Los Alamitos aircraft to stop in Fresno or arrange for an additional aircraft.

Continued - next column

Senior Retired Leadership Conference - continued

Additionally, a block of rooms has been reserved at the Marriott at the 1/2 price rate of \$70.00 + tax. For reservations, call the hotel directly at (916) 638-1100 no later than March 11, 2002. Be sure to tell them you will be attending the California National Guard Retired Senior Leadership Conference.

Conference packets have been mailed, and you should have yours by now. If you plan to attend, please be sure to return your registration no later than March 11, 2002.

HQ, California National Guard
ATTN: Protocol Office, SMSgt Ignatow
PO Box 269101
Sacramento, CA 95826-9101

If you did not receive a conference packet in the mail, and are interested in attending, please contact the Office of Protocol at (916) 854-3507. SMSgt Nancy Ignatow, Chief of Protocol, will be happy to assist you with registration and any questions you may have.

Final Flyby

In Memoriam

We bid farewell to one of our members who has departed on his final journey.

Col Ralston D. McKee



The 129th AHA Annual Meeting

March 13, 2002

Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue
(510) 522-1015

The 2002 Annual Meeting of the 129th Alumni and Heritage Association will be held in conjunction with the Annual Old Timers Luncheon on Wednesday, March 13, 2002, at the Alameda Elks Lodge.

An election for the three Officers is scheduled for 2002. The AHA Corporation Bylaws proscribes that Officers are elected in even number years (2002) and Directors are elected in odd number years (2003). Ballots, a self-addressed stamped postcard, were included with the original OTL flyer mailed February 4, 2002 (provided, of course, you are an eligible, dues-paid member). Please mark your ballot and drop it in the mail. Ballots must be returned with a postmark no later than March 4, 2002, to be valid. The nominees with the highest number of votes will be declared Officers, and will be announced and begin their two-year term at the Old Timers Luncheon.

MG Robert Barrow will be the guest speaker at the Old Timers Luncheon. There will also be the now-traditional raffle for aircraft artwork prepared by Jay Craddock. This year there will be two framed collages of the historic and current aircraft of the 129th. All proceeds go to the scholarship fund.

Membership dues for the year 2002 have been set (one more time) at \$10.00. Dues information is included with this flyer. You may mail your dues with your Old Timers Luncheon reservation or you may pay at the Luncheon. Dues must be received by March 13, 2002, to be considered timely paid.

Elks Lodge Alameda - 2255 Santa Clara Drive



Driving Directions to the Alameda Elks Lodge - 2255 Santa Clara Ave.

- Take the High Street exit off the 880 freeway whether you are coming from the North or the South.
- Go West on High Street to Santa Clara Street.
- Turn right (North) onto Santa Clara Street.
- The lodge is located one (1) block past (North) Park Street.
- Parking is in the rear.

The Annual 129th AHA Old Timers Luncheon March 13, 2002



Alameda Elks Lodge
2255 Santa Clara Avenue
(510) 522-1015

- 1130 Hrs At the Bar**
Trim Adjustment, Hangar Flying, Ramp Rumors,
Old Buddies Checklist
- 1215 Hrs Gear Down & Locked Lunch**
Roast Beef Buffet with all the trimmings
\$11.00 per person
- 1330 Hrs 129th AHA Annual Meeting**
Call to Order, Announcement of New Board Officers
Presentation of Scholarship Awards
- 1400 Hrs Guest Speaker**
MG Robert Barrow, CA ANG
- 1430 Hrs Raffle and Social Hour**

Spouses and guests are welcome!

P.O.C. Jesse Craddock (650) 968-0446
Ed Boddington (209) 536-1777

Reservation Form - Must Be Received (with payment) by March 8, 2002

Please Reserve Ramp Service For:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Number of Souls Attending: _____

Total Amount Enclosed (\$11.00 per person): _____

Make Check Payable To: 129th AHA
Mail Check and Reservation Form To:
Col. John L. Ruppel, Jr. (ret)
6718 Zerillo Drive
Riverbank, CA 95367-2122

Membership Report

Your Support Is Appreciated

CCMS Ed Boddington, Membership Director

As your membership Director, I want to thank all our membership for a great 2001 and a super start to 2002. We have continued to increase our roster of active members (now 268), and this year has started with an onslaught of early renewals and new memberships. Keep up the good work!

Your membership is the lifeblood of our organization. As in any successful organization or country, we must be united to function. I, for one, am very proud to have been a member of the Air National Guard and the 129th RQW, and to be a member of our 129th Alumni and Heritage Association. The 129th AHA brings together a diversified group of people who really believe in military service, our freedom, and the land we call America.

In our organization, we have people who have gone before us, showing us the way and providing the foundation to build upon. Their heritage is for all of us. The active members of the Association are now preserving and passing on the legacy of our 129th Air Guard unit to its present Guard members.

The events of September 11, 2001, have made many changes in our American way of life. Our National Guard personnel have been in the forefront of our nation's effort to eliminate terrorism in our land and around the world. The Air National Guard units throughout our land are strong.

Through your support of our 129th RQW personnel and their families, and your membership in our Alumni and Heritage Association, we can help keep the spirit of America and its heritage alive and continuously growing.

I am looking forward to seeing you all at our Annual 129th AHA Old Timers Luncheon on March 13, and the other AHA events held throughout the year.

God Bless America

US Uniformed Service ID Card

Is your ID Card Current?

CCMS Ed Boddington, Membership Director

Your Air Force identification card is a very important document that should be current and in your possession at all times. What about your spouse? Does she or he have an Air Force identification and privilege card? If she has one, is it current? Or has the date on the card expired? While our US Air Force retired (gray) ID card has no expiration date, dependent cards must be renewed periodically.

Take a few minutes and review both of your ID cards. Current retiree ID cards (DD Form 2 Retired) will be gray, and your spouse's card (DD Form 1173) will be tan.

The expiration date will be in the top, right-hand corner of your spouse's card. If the date is past, the card is invalid and must be renewed if your spouse wishes to be authorized to use military exchanges, commissaries, and MWR facilities. Current ID is also required for flights on military aircraft (Space A), use of military accommodations, and hospitalization.

I recently had coffee with one of our AHA members, CMS Roy Frances. Roy informed me that Mr. R. McBride III at the US Army HQ 91st Division, Bldg 500, Parks RFTA, Dublin, CA, has the capability of handling any of your ID card questions and renewals, as well as providing information regarding the DEERS and TRICARE medical programs.

I visited with Mr. McBride at Parks RFTA and found him to be very knowledgeable and helpful. Mr. McBride is a civilian working varied hours at Parks, so it would be appropriate to call and make an appointment.

Mr. R. McBride - DEERS/RAPIDS Representative
Dept of the Army, HQ 91st Division
Bldg 500, Parks RFTA, Dublin, CA 94568-5201
Phone: (925) 803-5504
Fax: (925) 803-5515
TRICARE Package - (800) 242-6788

Thanks to Roy Frances for the heads up. It is always good to have another reliable source for current information and military personnel services.

New to the Gang

Our Newest Members

Maj Donald W. Bradley

Ltc Bill Feeter

SSG Gary A. Flossman

TSgt Steven L. Rosellini

Welcome!

Do you know someone who has been affiliated with the 129th RQW or its predecessor organizations - and is not a member of the Association? Let's get them signed up!

129th AHA Jackets Available

Customized with your name and rank!

After much searching we have found a new source of MembersOnly jackets - so we are once again taking orders for 129th AHA jackets. Order forms will be available at the Old Timers Luncheon.

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).

Order your jacket from Don Delucchi at:

(925) 689-2683

or online at Nonononi@aol.com

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORM 2002 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 your personal information has changed,
PLEASE USE THIS FORM AND NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY!!**

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

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

VICE PRESIDENT

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

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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

Are You Missing in Action?

Dead Letter Department

Have you moved recently - or not so recently? Do we have your correct mail and e-mail addresses & phone number? Please let us know when you move.

The newsletter is mailed out with a request for address correction. The post office does not forward the newsletter to you. They return it to us - and charge us 34¢. Then we update your file, put your newsletter in an envelope, put a 34¢ stamp on the packet, and mail it out to you. Total additional cost to the association is nearly \$1.00 per returned newsletter.

Please take a moment to remember the 129th AHA when you notify your correspondents of your new address. A member information form is included in every issue.

Col. John L. Ruppel, Jr. (Ret.)

6718 Zerillo Drive

Riverbank, CA 95367-2122

E-mail: J-L.RUPPEL@WORLDNET.ATT.NET

NON-PROFIT ORG.

US POSTAGE

PAID

RIVERBANK, CA

PERMIT #20

See you at the Old Timers Lunch!