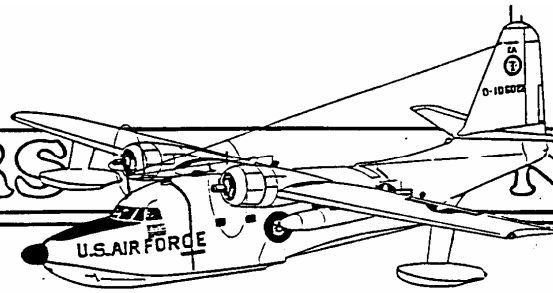


OL TIMERS' NOOZZE



Volume 8, Issue 1

February 2004



The 2004 AHA Collage will be available at the Old Timers' Luncheon for \$10. After the OTL, you can order from Dondi's Mercantile Shop for \$10 plus \$2 shipping and handling.

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Board Election

SMSgt Don Delucchi (Ret.),
Election Committee Chairman

March 2004

An election for the three Officers is scheduled for 2004. The AHA Corporation Bylaws proscribe that Officers are elected in even number years (2004) and Directors are elected in odd number years (2005).

The AHA President, Jay Craddock, appointed an Election Committee chaired by SMS Don Delucchi, Director. The committee is responsible for gathering nominations, reviewing qualifications, recommending candidates, distributing, collecting, and counting the ballots. The newly elected Officers will be announced at the Association's annual meeting, the Annual Old Timers' Lunch, scheduled for March 24, 2004.

All AHA members in good standing may vote for Officers. Ballots have been included in your newsletter if you paid your 2003 membership dues. If your last year's dues were not paid, you are not considered to be in good standing and are not eligible to vote.

There are four names on the ballot: LTC Jesse (Jay) Craddock – President; CCMS Ken Moore – Vice President; COL John Ruppel – Secretary-Treasurer; and COL Ray Fitts - President. After reviewing the qualifications of the nominees, the election committee recommends: President – Jay Craddock; Vice President – Ken Moore; and Secretary-Treasurer – John Ruppel. Those elected will be announced and begin their two-year term at the Old Timers' Luncheon

The self-addressed stamped ballot should be postmarked by March 15, 2004, and mailed to:

Col John Ruppel
6718 Zerillo Drive
Riverbank, CA 95367-2122

Mark and mail your ballots today!

The Prez Sez

The President's Column

LTC Jesse Craddock (Ret.)

As we ease into our fifth year as a non-profit organization, we can look back with pride at our accomplishments and participation in projects that have benefited the 129th RQW, our old *Alma Mater*. What started out over 20 years ago as an Old Timers' Luncheon has now evolved into a legal Non-Profit Corporation consisting of both past and present members from the 129th Resupply Squadron to today's Air Rescue Wing.

Our Membership is approaching 300, a goal we hope to attain this year. We have an active Scholarship Program and are awarding five scholarships this year. We have contributed generously to the 129th RQW Family Support program. Our only income is from membership fees and contributions. Please encourage your "Old Buddies" to join and become a member of a team that is much more than a patriotic gesture.

Our newsletter editor, Lynda Fawcett, has recently been recognized by her employer, Citibank, as well as the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation. She was presented with the President's Volunteer Service Award for contributing over 300 hours of service to the 129th AHA in both 2002 and 2003. Congratulations and thanks for your help!

The Association annual Old Timers' Lunch will be held at the Alameda Elks Club March 24, 2004. This year's speaker will be Major Keith Harper, USAFR, a counter-intelligence officer who has served in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait. The lunch price will be \$11 for members & spouses, \$12 for non-members & spouses. The 2004 Association collage - the Aircraft of the 129th - will be available for \$10 at the luncheon. Apparel items from the Mercantile Store will also be available.

Also available at the Old Timers' Luncheon will be a sign-up sheet for the electronic edition of the Old Timers' Noozze. Be sure to bring your e-mail address with you and get on the list for electronic rather than snail-mail delivery of the newsletter!

Plan now to attend the 2004 NASA Air Show, Memorial Day Weekend, May 29-30, 2004. The USAF Thunderbirds will perform both days. The Air Show is our major fund-raiser. Sign up sheets for working the booths will be available at the Luncheon.

The Prez Sez (continued)

The Bylaws call for Officer elections in even number years. The Association will only prosper and be guaranteed a strong future with the membership willingness to serve. The election details and officer ballots can be found in the Newsletter.

If you are interested in serving on the Board as a Director next year, now is the time to get involved. Attend the Board meetings. Volunteer to help with and participate in our various activities. Communicate with us and let us know what your ideas are. Board members need to be active, involved members!

See you at the luncheon!

Jay

Scholarship Winners

Lt Col Cynthia Kepple, Scholarship Chair

Each year, the 129th AHA awards scholarships to deserving members of the Unit. For the year 2004, we will be providing five scholarships - four to members of the Wing and two to dependents. Additionally, the Bay Area Chapter of The Military Officers' Association of America (formerly The Retired Officers' Association), now headed by Jay Craddock, will be supplementing each of the \$300 129th AHA scholarships with an additional \$100 scholarship from MOAA.

Scholarship recipients for 2004 are:

- ◆ MSgt Armando Martinez - MXS
- ◆ TSgt Richard Lower - MXG
- ◆ SrA Raul Ayala - SVF
- ◆ SrA Gloria Fabre - SVF
- ◆ SrA Luke Fitzgerald

The scholarship awardees will be our guests at the Old Timers' Luncheon and be presented with checks for educational expenses. Plan on being there to congratulate these young people for their accomplishments.

Cindy

Membership News and Notes

Reminders and Updates

Dues billings for 2004 have been mailed, and dues should be paid by March 24, 2004. You may send your dues check with your Old Timers' Luncheon reservations, or you may pay at the luncheon. After that date, dues are considered delinquent.

Beginning with the June 2003 edition of the newsletter, the Board directed that a reminder will be published listing the names of those who have not yet paid their dues.

Effective December 31, 2003, any member who has not paid their 2003 dues will be suspended from the mailing list (both snail-mail and e-mail) of the Old Timers' Noozze until all arrears are paid. This policy was finalized at the July 2003 Board meeting.

If you for some reason choose to discontinue your affiliation with the 129th AHA, please do not just quit paying your dues. The by-laws require that you give notice at the end of the year that you wish to resign from the Association. Attach a note to your billing notice requesting your name be removed from the membership. You cannot resign unless you are a member in good standing (translation: current with your dues). If you are sufficiently delinquent in dues payment, the Board can vote to expel you from the Association. If in the future you wish to re-establish your affiliation with the 129th AHA, you must petition the Board for membership and pay current dues. The Board may elect to assess dues in arrears.

Don't want to hassle with remembering to pay your dues? The Board has decided you may prepay up to 5 years of dues at the current rate (that would be \$50 currently). That will be drawn upon until exhausted, and in the final year you will be responsible for any shortfall. In other words, you will not be protected from any dues increases.

Remember – your dues and donations are the primary support of the 129th AHA. Your membership is both needed and valued.

Outstanding Airmen - 2003

The Wing has selected the Outstanding Airmen for 2003. These individuals will be our guests at the Old Timers Luncheon and will be presented with a one-year membership to the Association. Congratulations and Welcome!

Airman of the Year

SrA Christina Mathews
Services Flight



NCO of the Year

TSgt Tom Bilinski
Airfield Management



Sr NCO of the Year

MSgt Mickie King
Operations



1st Sgt of the Year

1st Sgt Tom Davidson
Band



Elks Lodge Alameda - 2255 Santa Clara Drive



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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 24, 2004

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 for member or spouse; \$12.00 for non-member or spouse
- 1330 Hrs 129th AHA Annual Meeting**
Call to Order, Announcement of New Board Directors
Presentation of Scholarship Awards
- 1400 Hrs Guest Speaker**
Maj Keith Harper, USAFR
- 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 19, 2004

Please Reserve Ramp Service For:

Name: _____

_____ **Member (\$11.00)** _____ **Non-Member (\$12.00)**

Guest's Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Number of Souls Attending:** _____

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

Total Amount Enclosed (\$12.00 per person - non-members): _____

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

Money Talk

The Secretary – Treasurer's Report

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

The annual financial statement is presented below. The Association is in sound financial condition, and can continue supporting the various programs. We have received excellent scholarship support for 2004 from the membership, our Air Show participation, and a grant from Citibank. The Association membership has continued to grow with a net increase of 4 members. The dues delinquency rate is approximately 3% - a number we would like to see decrease in 2004. We have budgeted for another golf tournament in 2004. Details will be in a future newsletter. Questions or comments? Contact me by e-mail or at the Old Timers' Luncheon. Thanks for your continued support.

129th Alumni and Heritage Association Financial Statement 2003

EXPENSES

Newsletter	1,803.08
Old Timers' Luncheon	1,431.00
Family Day	0.00
Alumni Day Golf Tournament	631.50
Apparel Program	2,149.48
Scholarships	2,390.86
Board Expense	20.00
Secretary – Treasurer Expense	360.06
Membership	250.23
Air Show 129 RQW Foundation	1,052.84

Total 2003 Expenses	10,089.05
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Total 2003 Income	10,948.01
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Total 2003 Expenses	(10,089.05)
----------------------------	-------------

Net 2003 Income	858.96
------------------------	--------

INCOME

Memberships	2,464.00
Dues Trust	340.00
Scholarship	2,952.00
Logo Lapel Pins	11.00
Family Day	0.00
Golf Tournament	760.00
Old Timers' Luncheon	1,742.00
Air Show	1,760.01
Apparel	919.00
Photos	0.00

Total 2003 Income	10,948.01
--------------------------	-----------

Bank Balance 12/31/02	7,522.76
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2003 Income	10,948.01
-------------	-----------

2003 Expenses	(10,089.05)
---------------	-------------

Bank Balance 12/31/03	8,241.72
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Encumbrances

Scholarship Program	5,376.65
Scholarship Awards 2004	1,800.00
Prepaid Dues	485.00
Total	7,661.65

Unencumbered Balance	580.07
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129th Rescue Wing Organization



129th Rescue Wing (129 RQW)
Colonel James T. Williams
Wing Commander

129th Rescue Wing (129 RQW)
Colonel Wayne Albright
Vice Commander

129th Rescue Wing (129 RQW)
CMSgt Liliana Ramos
Command Chief Master Sgt.



129th Operations Group
Lt Col Tom Saxe
Commander

129th Rescue Squadron
Major Tom Roberts
Commander

130th Rescue Squadron
Lt Col Charles Ingalls
Commander

131st Rescue Squadron
Lt Jeff Borg
Commander



129th Mission Support Group
Colonel Jeff Stuard
Commander

129th Civil Engineering Sqdn
Lt Col Angela Alexander
Commander

129th Logistics Readiness Sqdn
Major David Jaurique
Commander

129th Security Forces Sqdn
Capt Tom Venable
Commander

129th Mission Support Flight
Lt Susannah Chadwick
Commander

129th Services Flight
Capt Kimberly Koenig
Commander

129th Communications Flight
Capt Garrick Yokoe
Commander

129th Maintenance Group
Col Amos Bagdasarlian
Commander

129th Maintenance Sqdn
Lt Col Cynthia Kepple
Commander

129th Aircraft Maintenance Sqdn
Lt Col William Marton
Commander

129th Maintenance Operations Flight
Lt Col James Henderson
Commander

129th Medical Group
Colonel David Walton
Commander



561st Air Force Band

The 129th Rescue Wing has been reorganized in a combat unit and is now included in Special Operations (AFSOC). The Operations Group has been divided into 3 squadrons – Pararescue, Helicopters, and 130s. Col Wayne Albright has moved into the position of Vice Wing Commander, and Col Amos Bagdasarlian has assumed the duties of Logistics Commander.



SrA Raeann M. Cordova – 129th SVF

1981 – 2003

SrA Raeann Cordova, age 22, passed away November 30, 2003, at Kipu Falls, Kauai. She was Outstanding Airman of the Year, 2001, and had been named Outstanding Airman of the Quarter twice. She was attending the University of Hawaii. She loved to travel, go camping, and play basketball and tennis. She also sky-dived, scuba-dived, and enjoyed many other hobbies. She would spend her spare time working with the needy or just helping others in whatever community she was residing in at the time. She is survived by her parents, Gordon and Cynthia Cordova, brothers, Gordon, Jr. and Joseph Cordova, fiancé, Derek McGoy, grandparents, Ray and Diane Cordova, grandmother, Elsie Oribello, great-grandmother, Virginia Souza, and many relatives and friends.



MSgt Pastor D. Abelaye

1930 – 2003

MSgt Pastor Dagandagan Abelaye, 73, of Kapolei, passed away November 12, 2003, in Straub Clinic & Hospital. He was born in Pahala, Hawaii. He was Flight Chief in the early 1970s when the Unit was stationed at Hayward. He is survived by wife Merci F. Abelaye, brothers Ireneo Abelaye and Ding Abelaye, and sisters Mary Celion and Irene Bareng. Burial was at Hawaii State Veterans Cemetery, Kaneohe.



Col Edwin Kalkowski

1919 – 2003

Col Edwin Kalkowski, 84, passed away November 26, 2003, in Clovis, CA. He was born near Ashton, Nebraska. He joined the Army Air Corps in 1941, and was trained as an aircraft mechanic, certified to repair various aircraft from P-38s to B-26s. He retired from the 144th FIW in 1975. He is survived by his wife, Elaine; sons, Parry (wife Michelle); Bruce (wife Carol); and Kevin (wife Debra); six grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, two brothers, a sister, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Dondi's Mercantile Store

129th AHA Merchandise & Apparel

After much searching we have found a new source of MembersOnly jackets - so we are once again taking orders for 129th AHA jackets.

Want to own a really unique & distinctive shirt or cap to show your affiliation with the 129th AHA? Dondi's Mercantile Store has a healthy stock of 129th AHA related items. Jackets are customized with your name and rank.

All merchandise can be ordered by phone or on-line. Items and prices are shown at right. Shipping and handling are EXTRA.

All items as well as order forms for the jackets will be available at the Old Timers Luncheon.

Order from Don Delucchi at:

(925) 689-2683

or online at Nonononi@aol.com

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>SIZES</u>
Logo Jacket	\$70 - \$75	XL & 2XL
Logo Polo Shirts	\$20	M, L, XL, & 2XL
Logo Baseball Cap w/ Embroidered Logo	\$10	
Logo Baseball Cap w/ Silk-screened Logo	\$5	
Large Jacket Patch	\$10	
Small Shirt / Hat Patch	\$5	
Logo Pin	\$5	
129 th Aircraft Collage	\$10	

All items will be available at the OTL. All items can be shipped. Shipping and handling are EXTRA. All items are sent via U.S. Mail.

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORM 2004 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!!**

RoseDog Books Online Store



www.rosedogbookstore.com

Why? by Gus Pappas

Why? begins with an examination of our situation in the post-September 11 world and our transition from past to present and into the future.

Gus Pappas hopes to enhance and open the minds of individuals, making them more than tenants in this life. In *Why?* he seeks to lead readers toward being a part of the human race through family so that they will age in time and not become a zero.

(2003, paperback, 72 pages)

Availability: Usually ships in 2-3 business days.

ISBN: 0-8059-9358-4 **\$11.00**

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NOTE: In order to view this e-book, you're going to need the Adobe Acrobat Reader.
ISBN: 0-8059-9358-4 [E-book] **\$6.00**

2004 NASA Air Show

Memorial Day Weekend

May 29 - 30, 2004

The USAF Thunderbirds

will perform BOTH days!

Mark your calendar! Plan to attend!

Sign up sheets to work our booths will be available
at the Old Timers Luncheon!!

DEMONS PHANTOMS AND ME

"A Love Affair with Flying"

G. WARREN HALL

DEMONS PHANTOMS AND ME



G. WARREN HALL

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Demons Phantoms and Me: "A Love Affair with Flying" is a wonderful story of a NASA Test Pilot's aviation adventures from learning to fly as a teenager in Aeronca Champions, to piloting Phantom IIs off an Aircraft Carrier. The author takes you into the cockpit and eloquently shares the emotions, feelings and trepidations that accompany the process of becoming a Navy Fighter Pilot and logging over 300 Carrier landings. You will experience the exhilaration of that first carrier landing and the apprehension and anxiety a Naval Aviator undergoes as he threads the tiny margins of safety to land a high performance fighter on an often rolling, pitching Carrier deck on a black night at sea. Feel the rush of dueling with a UFO over the Gulf of Mexico and survive a deadly flight deck crash. The author freely admits this book could not have been written as it was happening. His macho image would not allow an honest outpouring of what was really going on in his mind and heart during that exciting period in his impressive flying career. It is a great trip down memory lane for anyone who went through the process or who may wonder what it was really like. The book contains over 240 photographs, most from the author's personal collection.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Warren Hall has truly had a lifetime love affair with flying. He learned to fly in High School as a "line boy" at a local airport in Richmond, Virginia. After college, he became a Navy Fighter Pilot flying the F3B "Demon" and F4B "Phantom II," logging over 300 Carrier Landings. He is currently a NASA Test Pilot and has flown over 65 different types of aircraft including the X-14B, XV-15, X-22A, AD-1 Swing Wing, and the unique Rotor Systems Research Aircraft. Mr. Hall is a "Fellow" in the Society of Experimental Test Pilots. In November 2003, the San Francisco Chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics designated him a "Living Legend of Aerospace." He completed twenty-eight years of continuous military flying retiring as the Commander of a California Air National Guard Rescue Group, with the rank of Colonel. Mr. Hall is currently the Assistant Director for Aviation at NASA Ames Research Center and still actively flying. He has authored 73 Technical Reports and received three International awards for technical excellence.

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www.1stbooks.com

Dec 2003, 404 pages

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P.O. Box 196 Moffett field, CA 94035.

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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 37¢. Then we update your file, put your newsletter in an envelope, put a 37¢ 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

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