



Affordable Care Act

Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA), all Americans including all military members and their eligible family members must have health care coverage that meets a minimum standard called minimum essential coverage or pay a fee. Your TRICARE coverage meets the minimum essential coverage requirement under the ACA.

Beginning in January 2016, DFAS will provide IRS form 1095-C to all US military members, and IRS Form 1095-B to all Retirees, Annuitants, former spouses, and all other individuals having TRICARE coverage during all or any portion of tax year 2015. An IRS Form 1095 documents you (and your family members, if applicable) have the minimum essential coverage.

The forms will document the information that DFAS will provide to the IRS on yourself and your authorized family members. The forms will be required to be reported with your 2015 federal tax return. DFAS will provide you with IRS Form 1095 no later than January 31, 2016.

You can find more information about the impact of the Affordable Care Act on your federal income tax at: <http://www.irs.gov/affordable-care-act>.

Board of Directors Vacancy

On March 11, 2015, 4 Association members were elected to the Board of Directors:

- CCMSgt Douglas B. Sale
- CMSgt Stuart Loux
- Col Michael Garcia
- Lt Col Roxanne Toy

Unfortunately, shortly after the election, CCMSgt Doug Sale passed away, leaving a vacancy on the Board of Directors.

Are you interested in becoming more involved with the 129th Alumni & Heritage Association? We are looking for a member to step forward and volunteer to serve on the Board of Directors for the next 2 years.

The Board generally holds one meeting a year – in December to review and select the Scholarship awardees. Two meetings a year are held by tele-conference. And the fourth meeting of the year is the annual luncheon in March.

If you are interested in joining the Board of Directors, please contact:

Col John L. Ruppel, Jr.

President, 129th AHA

J-L.Ruppel@att.net

1-209-988-0187

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The Prez Sez

The President's Column

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

The Annual Old Timers Lunch was held March 11th at Michaels at Shoreline Park with 120 attendees, the best attendance in three years. Twenty five members of the Wing attended the luncheon. Col Greg Jones, the new Wing Commander, spoke about his vision for the Wing and updated attendees on the Wing activities and the major construction projects. The recently approved 50 year lease and the acreage increase to 127 acres have proved the impetus for the milcon projects. The Wing has approval for a new motor pool facility and is awaiting approval for a new engine shop. The Air Guard site is completely fenced, and entry is now through a new \$225,000 gate off of the golf course perimeter.

Mr. Ron VandenBerghe and Mr. Robert Ceglio of Wells Fargo Bank, the principle donors, presented eleven Wing members with \$1,000 scholarships. This was the largest group to receive Alumni Association Scholarships.

The Wing dedicated the new \$27 million Pararescue Facility on April 20th. Congresswoman Anna Eshoo assisted by Brig. Gen. Matthew Beevers, Deputy Adjutant General, and Col Gregory Jones, 129th Commander, cut the ceremonial ribbon opening the facility. The new facility will house the 131st Rescue Squadron and provide a modern operation and administrative facility for the assigned personnel. A number of Association members attended the ceremony and participated in the facility tour.

CCMSgt Doug Sale passed March 24, 2015. The family requested no electronic messages or obituaries. Doug served as the Medical Group Superintendent prior to retiring. He had been an Association Board member the last six years.

The Association was informed that Col Alvin Millsbaugh passed November 24, 2014.

The President's Column

(continued)

The Wing is entering the deployment cycle. The Alumni Association provided 210 Deployment Bags that will be distributed to deploying personnel. The bags contain a snack variety and a deck of cards to help pass the travel time. The Black Oak Casino Resort provided the playing cards. The Association has provided the bags since 2002 when the Wing commenced the deployment cycle.

There have been several Wing leadership changes and promotions. Col Jeff Magram, the Wing Vice Commander, was appointed Director of the Air Division Staff. Lt Col Daniel Lapostole will assume the Vice Commander position. Lt Col Jeff Richard, the Support Group Commander, and Lt Col Taft Aujero, the Operations Group Commander, were promoted to Colonel. Major Roxanne Toy, the Logistics Squadron Commander, was promoted to Lt Colonel. Roxanne serves on the Association Board.

Secretary–Treasurer Dave Russell and I appreciate the membership's prompt annual dues payments. The Board undertook a comprehensive review of the large membership dues delinquency over the last two years and the dues collection efforts. The Board decided to strictly enforce the two year delinquency rule. The decision resulted in a membership reduction from 304 to 284, which included adjustment from new memberships. The Association has received 94% of the 2015 dues assessment. A final notice is being sent to 20 delinquent members with a payment due date after which their membership will be terminated. The Board believes this will stabilize the membership, along with plans to seek more Wing memberships, and a program to solicit retiring or departing Wing members to join the Association.

Have a great summer season.

John

2014 Scholarship Awards

CCMSgt Liliana Ramos (Ret.)

Thanks to the generosity of Ron & Patti VandenBerghe, Wells Fargo Bank, and LtCol Charles Fuller, we were able to award scholarships to 11 members of the 129th RQW. Scholarship award checks of \$1,000 were presented to each of the following young people at the annual Ol' Timers' Luncheon on Wednesday, March 11, 2015.

- ✔ BG Albert R. Santos Scholarship
 - SrA Radley Agbanlog – 129th LRS
- ✔ BG Charles W. Koenig Scholarship
 - SSgt Sage Savage – 129th RQS
- ✔ Col Ralston D. McKee Scholarship
 - SSgt Felipe Mancera – 129th LRS
- ✔ SMSgt Donald Delucchi Scholarship
 - SSgt Kareemah Mata – 129th MXG
- ✔ SMSgt Joaquin “Joe” Preciado Scholarship
 - TSgt John Groboske – 129th CF
- ✔ Col John R. Breeden Scholarship
 - MSgt Joel Mattenson – 129th MXS
- ✔ Col Lina A. Ruppel Scholarship
 - TSgt Brian Strukan – 130th RQS
- ✔ LtCol John W. O’Sullivan Scholarship
 - A1C Christopher Walker – 130th RQS
- ✔ CMSgt Richard Butow Scholarship
 - TSgt Michael Wang – 129th ARS
- ✔ SMSgt Vaughn H. Clearman Scholarship
 - TSgt Hong Zhou – 129th LRS
- ✔ LtCol Charles E. Fuller Scholarship
 - SMSgt Todd Schneider – 129th MSF





2014 AHA Scholarship Awardees
Mr. Bob Ceglio – Wells Fargo Bank
Mr. Ron VandenBerghe – 129 AHA
member & Scholarship Donor
Col Greg Jones – Wing Commander

Old Timers Lunch – March 11, 2015
Michaels at Shoreline



Lt Col Roxanne Toy
Logistics Squadron Commander
Pinned By
Col Jeff Richard – Support Group
Commander
Col Greg Jones – Wing Commander





Col Taft Aujero – Operations Group Commander
Col Greg Jones – with the Promotion Orders Trudy Aujero – pinning on the Eagles



The Ribbon Cutting
The New PJ Building is Officially Open!

BG Matthew Beevers – Deputy
Adjutant General, California National
Guard
Anna Eschoo - U.S. Representative
Col Greg Jones – Wing Commander



Dondi's Mercantile Store

129th AHA Merchandise & Apparel

If you would like to order a 129th AHA jacket, we again have jackets in stock. Please contact Liliana Ramos for ordering information.

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 and vests 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.

Order from Dave Russell at:
 (209) 551-8077
DPRussell11@comcast.net
 or online at
<http://www.129aha.org>

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>SIZES</u>
Logo Jacket or Vest	\$65 - \$80	
Polo Shirts - Blackhawk & 130	\$25 & up	Special Order
Logo Baseball Cap	\$15	
Large Jacket Patch	\$10	
Small Shirt / Hat Patch	\$5	
Logo Pin	\$5	

All items can be shipped. Shipping and handling are EXTRA. All items are sent via U.S. Mail.

All profits are used for 129 AHA benefit projects.

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / CHANGE OF INFORMATION FORM 2015 Dues \$15.00

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!!**

Form is available at www.129aha.org

129th RQW Dedicates New PJ Building

Members of the California Air National Guard's 129th Rescue Wing inaugurated a new building to house their Guardian Angel (GA) Squadron on Monday, April 20, 2015, with a ribbon cutting of the 48,750 square foot Pararescue Training Facility.

Construction began in January 2013 and was recently finished. The building will house the Wing's 131st Rescue Squadron. From arid deserts to snow covered mountain tops, from urban environments to rural setting, Guardian Angels (GAs) from the 131st Rescue Squadron can reach any destination by land, air or sea. The new Pararescue Training Facility at the 129th Rescue Wing will provide a modern operations and administrative facility for the GAs based here at Moffett Federal Airfield.

Based in the heart of Silicon Valley, the primary mission of the 129th Rescue Wing is to perform personnel recovery anywhere in the world. Equipped with MC-130P Combat Shadow aircraft, HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters and Guardian Angel teams, the 129th Rescue Wing performs a wide variety of civilian and military personnel-recovery missions, including the rescue of distressed persons aboard ships, lost or injured hikers, and medical evacuations. To date, the Wing is credited with saving the lives of more than 1,000 people. Guardian Angel (GA) is the U.S. Air Force's human-centric and equipment-based weapon system that executes all five tasks of personnel recovery (PR): report, locate, support, recover and reintegrate. GA consists of Combat Rescue Officers (CROs), Pararescuemen (PJs), and Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape (SERE) Specialists. GA is considered the ground component within the USAF rescue triad, comprising the MC-130P Combat Shadow aircraft and the HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopter. As such, CROs and PJs deploy as teams into uncertain or hostile environments. They are trained to operate independently or in conjunction with rotary and fixed-wing aircraft, watercraft and overland vehicles, in order to locate, authenticate, and recover isolated personnel for return to friendly control. In addition to preparing personnel at risk of isolation, SERE Specialists conduct planning and execution operations across the full spectrum of Personnel Recovery.

2015 Dues Delinquency Notices

2015 dues delinquency notices will be mailed this week. We currently have 20 members who have not paid 2015 dues. When you receive a delinquent dues notice, please send a check for your 2015 dues. If we do not receive your dues payment, your membership will be terminated. Your dues are what keep our association running.

If you have already paid your 2015 dues, you will **NOT** receive a delinquency notice.

The dues notice contains a request for your current email address. Please provide so we can keep our files current. If you change your email address, please be sure to notify us of the change. We still need to keep your physical mailing address current, as well, so please don't forget to keep us on the "need to notify" list.

As usual, you will need Adobe Reader to open the newsletter. You can download the free software at www.adobe.com. Go to Downloads and select "Adobe Reader". When you download the software, be aware that unless you want to download and install Google Chrome as well, you will need to UNCHECK the "Install Google Chrome" box BEFORE you push the "download" button.

Capt R. Stephen Waldeck

1947 – 14 May 2015



Ralph Stephen Waldeck passed away at home in Woodland, May 14, 2015. He was born to Ralph and Dorothy Cranston Waldeck in 1947 in Woodland.

While at Woodland High School, Steve played basketball (a team captain); track and field where he won the Jay Sehorn Award for pole-vaulting. He was a quarterback at the first football game for the league championship against arch-rival Davis. Steve was amazed when he looked out at the crowd from the field, and remembered a "sea of orange" in the stands. Attendance for this game was estimated at 5,500. The Wolves beat the Blue Devils: 35 to 7.

During high school, Steve loved working at Cranston Bros for his favorite uncle, Eldon Cranston. They had the same personality and could make each other "crack up" by just glancing at each other.

Steve graduated from Chico State College, with Bachelor degrees in Science and Art and earned an MBA from Central Michigan University.

After college he joined the [US Air Force](#) in 1970 and received a regular commission in 1973. He flew helicopters for 11 years and piloted: Hughes 300, Bell H-12, Bell UH-1 and instructor-pilot on the CH-3 (Jolly Green Giant).

Steve's last 3 years of active duty assignment was with the 1st Helicopter Squadron of the United States Air Force based in Washington, D.C. His Squadron was charged with flying the Executive Branch, members of the Cabinet and foreign dignitaries.

After resigning his commission in 1978, at the rank of Captain, he returned to California and continued flying helicopters with the Air Force Reserve, assigned to the 129th Air Rescue Squadron out of Hayward, CA until 1981.

Steve taught Business Management courses at Woodland Center of Yuba College, and began his tax preparation business as an Enrolled Agent in Woodland.

Steve was a member of Woodland Lodge #81 Free & Accepted Masons and was elected Master of the lodge in 1995 and served as Treasurer since 1996, joined the Ben Ali Shriners and served as president of the Yolo Shrine. Steve was chairman "by acclamation" of refreshments for all parades that the Yolo Shrine participated.

He served as Treasurer to American Legion Woodland Post #77 and chairman of the Legion's County Fair Parking concession at Woodland Mall.

Steve acted as spotter/announcer for the Woodland High School football home games since 2001.

Steve drove a bright red Smart Car, and bragged that he had to fill the gas tank regularly once or twice a year. Steve loved JoAnn, family, his co-workers, his work and sitting on the deck at Shasta Retreat.

He is survived by his sweetheart of 32 years, JoAnn Wright. His children, Stephen B. Waldeck (Erika), Amanda Waldeck, Kelli Palmer (Frank) and Kyndell Wright-Hobson, and grandchildren: Nicole Waldeck and Stephen W. Waldeck, Madeline and Bryson Palmer and Korrbyn Hobson.

Steve is also survived by his brothers and sister, Gary Waldeck (Barbara); John Waldeck (Monica); Connie Beard (Bernard Hendrix); nephews, Nicholas Beard; Schuyler Waldeck-Myers, and Scott Waldeck; nieces, Karen Murvin; Kathy Chudakoff; and Mallory Waldeck; and was predeceased by his parents, sister, Joan Waldeck, brother-in-law Wallace (Larry) Beard, nephews Kenneth Waldeck and Christopher Beard.

Memorials may be made to [Shriners Hospital for Children](#), Office of Development, 2900 Rocky Point Dr., Tampa, FL 33607 or through their website: www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org/donate or to a [charity of the donor's choice](#).

Lt Col Alvin Millspaugh
15 January 1923 – 24 November 2014



CCMSgt Douglas B. Sale
Passed 24 March 2015

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

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Have a Safe Summer!



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AND
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Director Vacancy

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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 or change your email address.

The newsletter is mailed out with a request for address correction. The post office does not forward the newsletter to you – nor do they return it to us. They charge us 75¢ for providing your forwarding address. Then we update your file, but you do not get a newsletter until next edition. 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 – or when you change your email address. A member information form is included in every issue.

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