

The Official Information Publication of the 129th Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard

March 2008

Lives Saved

558

These Things We Do... That Others May Live...



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Staff Sgt. Maria Tubergen beams upon receipt of the California Air National Guard NCO of the Year award. She was presented with the award at the annual Outstanding Airman of the Year banquet in San Jose Jan. 12 by Chief Master Sgt. Richard A. Smith, Command Chief Master Sergent of the Air National Guard and Maj. Gen. Dennis Lucas, Commander of the California Air National Guard.



U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Andrew Hughan, 129th Public Affairs The 129th was well represented at this year's OAY banquet.

THE RESCUEGRAM

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The mission of the 129th Rescue Wing is to provide highly trained and well-equipped rescue resources, able to respond to and sustain the state mission of furnishing trained personnel for state emergencies, such as natural disasters, and to assist civil authorities in the enforcement of the law.

When called to active duty with the Air Force, we provide manpower, material and equipment resources to conduct and complete combat and search rescue operations world-wide. We provide manpower, material and equipment to conduct and complete peacetime search operations.

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Chaplains Space - Overcoming obstacles

By Chaplain (Maj.) Ivan Williams 129th Rescue Wing Chaplain

Life brings challenges we all must face. How we deal with or respond to these challenges colors our lives with a bright or cloudy outlook. When challenged, responses are usually made in three ways. Either we dig deep to face our challenges, avoid our challenges hoping they will go away, or we choose to high tail it and run from the challenges we face.

Mr. George Dawson's story encourages me to know that even though life comes at you fast, your ability to face your challenges will grant to you a great perspective of hope.

Mr. Dawson was born 1898 in Marshall, Texas as the oldest of five children. He worked on his Dad's farm until he was 21 and then left for Memphis, Tenn. Mr. Dawson had to depend on others for information. He had to learn to keep his eyes and ears open, and stay extra alert for well over 90 years of age because he could not read. One day someone knocked on his door and shared information about adult education classes that would teach adults how to read, write, and do math. He accepted the challenge and mustered the courage to attend the Lincoln Instructional Center. First, he learned the alphabet, and then came the words. The first book he read was called "City of Life." The book wasn't too exciting to him and probably wouldn't have even been good for T.V., but he loved the reading experience.

He didn't stop with just reading. He continued going to school and started working on his GED while at 103 years of age. Mr. Dawson wanted to remarry some day, but said, "Ever since I turned a hundred, life's been awfully busy." I remind each of us today, challenges will come, but our response to them will shape our outlook on life. Let it be for the better.

God Bless You All.

SGLI Premiums are your responsibility

By Chief Master Sgt. Teresa Blanchard 129th Mission Support Flight

If you elected to have the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) then you are liable for the cost of the premium. It is automatically deducted from your ANG check each month and the amount is dependent upon the coverage you elected.

This INCLUDES nonparticipating members on an MEB, profiled or are Unsatisfactory Participants. They are still responsible for the premiums.

Technician & Traditional: If you DO NOT perform a UTA and do not get a check for that month you are still OBLIGATED to pay the premium. Usually, the premiums are taken out the following UTA if it is performed. Any changes to the SGLI must be done on the SGLI form (cancel, reduce/increase amount, change beneficiary, etc. Completed and signed forms must be mailed, sent electronically, or delivered in person to the MSF.

This is a great benefit and

can't compare to the cost of life insurance in the civilian sector.

For your reference, below is the cost of the coverage and link to the VA website:

| Coverage | Deduction |
|----------|-----------|
| 50,000 | \$4.50 |
| 100,000 | \$8.00 |
| 150,000 | \$11.50 |
| 200,000 | \$15.00 |
| 250,000 | \$18.50 |
| 300,000 | \$22.00 |
| 350,000 | \$25.50 |
| 400,000 | \$29.00 |

http://www.insurance.va.gov/ miscellaneous/index.htm

Local cops deliver care packages for deployed Security Forces

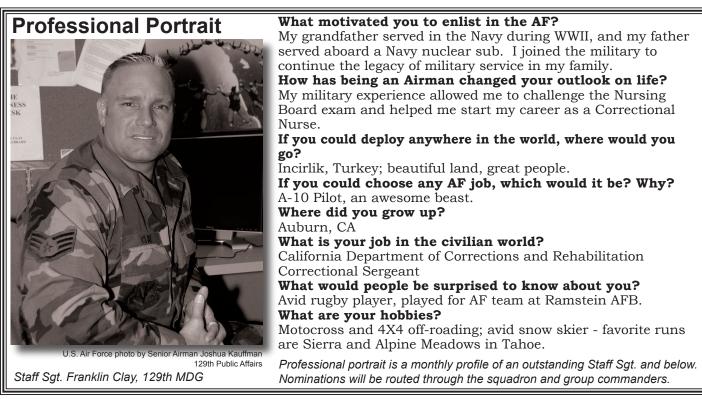


U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Dan Kacir, 129th Public Affairs

Top row; Bernardo Arce, Santa Clara S.O.; Chris Markovic, Santa Clara S.O.; Kenny Besk, Santa Cruz S.O; Kirk Adney, Santa Cruz; Kyle Ward, Santa Cruz.; Kelsey Gillingham, Santa Cruz S.O.; Regi Varghese, Santa Clara S.O.; Jun Han, Santa Clara S.O.; Abraham Velasco, Los Altos P.D.; Jae Yi, Santa Clara S.O.; Chris Scott, Santa Clara S.O.; Carlos Pescador, Santa Clara S.O.; Chris Tucker, Los Altos P.D.; Damian Camarena, Santa Clara S.O.

Standing; 129th Security Forces: Master Sgt. Roscoe Presley, Airman First Class Matthew Webster, Ricardo Cuellar, and Dylan Park Pettiford, Master Sgt. Anthony Evernham, Master Sgt. Roberto Dizon.

The fourth graduating class of the Santa Clara County Justice Training Center delivered over thirty hand packed and carefully boxed "care packages" to be sent to members of the 129th SFS currently deployed to Saudi Arabia. Soon to be sworn Sheriff's Deputies and Police Officers of four departments made these packages as part of a community service project. The police academy course began Aug. 28, 2007 and their graduation is scheduled for Feb. 12, 2008. Members of this class have been hired by the Los Altos Police Department, as well as the Sheriff's Offices of Monterey, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz counties. Staff Sgt. Abraham Velasco 129 MSG is among the proud members of the graduating class, Congratulations!



Responsibilities of the Enlisted Force

For more information on this subject please see AFI 36-2618, The Enlisted Force Structure.

Airmen (E-1 – E-4)

- Be ready to accomplish the mission by being an effective follower and accepting and executing all duties, instructions, and lawful orders in a timely and efficient manner

- Be ready to accomplish the mission by placing the requirements of their official duties and responsibilities ahead of their personal desires

- Be technically ready to accomplish the mission by attaining and maintaining a high degree of proficiency in their Air Force specialty

- Be mentally ready to accomplish the mission by striving to avert emotional complications such as financial problems, stress, and alcohol abuse

- Be physically ready to accomplish the mission by keeping themselves in good physical condition and meeting or exceeding Air Force fitness standards

- Be spiritually ready to accomplish the mission by developing those personal qualities needed to help a person through times of crisis

- Actively support the Air Force's policy of "zero tolerance" for discrimination and sexual harassment

- Be alert to people who may exhibit suicidal behavior and immediately report through their supervisory chain, first sergeant or commander

- Meet all pre-deployment requirements

NCO (E-5 - E-6)

- Be ready to accomplish the mission by being an effective follower and accepting and executing all duties, instructions, and lawful orders in a timely and efficient manner

- Be ready to accomplish the mission by placing the requirements of their official duties and responsibilities ahead of their personal desires

- Be technically ready to accomplish the mission by serving as highly skilled technicians in their Air Force specialty - Exhibit professional behavior, military bearing, respect for authority, high standards of dress and personal appearance, and exemplary standards of on and off-duty performance and conduct

- Build, prepare and lead teams to accomplish the mission

- Attend and support PME

- Be mentally, physically, and spiritually ready to accomplish the mission

- Appropriately recognize and reward those individuals whose duty performance clearly exceeds established standards

- Support and explain leaders' decisions

- Assist subordinates in resolving personal, financial, marital, alcohol, and stress related problems

- Actively promote and support the Air Force's policy of "zero tolerance" for discrimination and sexual harassment

- Be alert to people who may exhibit suicidal behavior and immediately report through their supervisory chain, first sergeant or commander

- Meet all pre-deployment requirements

Senior NCO (E-7 – E-9)

- Provide healthy, robust and effective leadership

- Translate their leaders' direction into specific tasks and responsibilities their teams understand and can execute

- Be an active, visible leader and develop others to be effective leaders

- Help leadership make informed decisions and support those decisions

- Exceed the standards and expectations levied upon their NCOs and Airmen

- Epitomize excellence, professionalism, and competence, serving as a role model for NCOs and Airmen to emulate

- Ensure money, facilities and resources are utilized in a manner that is efficient, effective, and in the best interest of the Air Force and the American people

- Continue professional development through books, voluntary career development courses, lectures, off-duty education, and leadership seminars

- Be mentally, physically, and spiritually ready to accomplish the mission

- Appropriately recognize and reward those individuals whose duty performance clearly exceeds established standards

- Promote in-residence attendance at Professional Military Education schools

- Assist subordinates in resolving personal, financial, marital, alcohol, and stress related problems

- Actively promote and support the Air Force's policy of "zero tolerance" for discrimination and sexual harassment

- Be alert to people who may exhibit suicidal behavior

Airmen's Roll Call A little recognition goes a long way

Air Force people make extraordinary personal and professional sacrifices to ensure the Air Force accomplishes its mission, and the outstanding accomplishments of our Airmen deserve recognition.

Recognition doesn't always have to come from large organizations or from the headquarters level. A supervisor who takes the time to submit his or her Airmen for local awards, an Airman who points out a job well done at an office meeting, a commander or chief master sergeant who walks the halls to thank Airmen for their work ... these are all ways we can recognize the great things that happen every day in our service because of our Airmen.

While a pat on the back or "kudos" from the boss can do the job, it's also important to go the extra mile and formally recognize those truly outstanding Airmen for their accomplishments through the Air Force Awards and Decorations program. Here are some things to remember about awards:

- There are several types of awards from local quarterly and annual awards that recognize

Comm. Flight stays connected during the month with new online tool

By Staff Sgt. Jill Jamgochian 129th Public Affairs

Due to lack of time and access to materials, it's difficult for traditional guard members to be apprised of their training needs before they come to drill Saturday morning. The 129th RQW is working to remedy that problem one group or flight at a time. Communications Flight has already created a Community of Practice website for certain groups to keep those members connected during the month.

"For traditional guard members, as long as you can access the Internet, you can access the COP," said Master Sgt. Adan Carrillo, the 129th Base Information Resource Manager.

"What drove me crazy is that traditional guard members would come in blind on the weekends to what needed to be done. Now, the COP prevents people from saying, 'I didn't get the bulletins, I didn't check my emails, I was on vacation.'"

One of the features to CF's own COP is the UTA Bulletin folder, which contains information on the Uniform of the Day, Schedule, Reporting Times, and Mandatory Appointments. There's also a Training Manager folder, listing names of CF members who've initiated training, what type of training, and when it expires.

A key feature to the flight or group's COP is that every time an administrator makes an update or revision to a folder, an email is sent to the members of that COP.

"The learning curve for us starting out was that people were placing their military email account as their primary email. They've figured out to use the email they check the most on their AF Knowledge Now accounts," Sergeant Carrillo said.

Sergeant Carrillo has also set up a COP for the Base Education and Training Management Office. Now the Unit Training Managers are empowered with immediate access to the proper documentation needed to complete training for the wing.

"We've gotten great feedback from our leadership. It's made the UTAs much easier, and members are coming in with completed certificates in hand," Sergeant Carrillo said.

Even though the COPs are yielding tremendous results, Sergeant Carrillo doesn't encourage other groups to begin their own COPs. They should leave it up to him and his group to initiate.

"In order to maintain data integrity and to insure we are in compliance with the posting of sensitive information, all COPs are routed through and initiated by Comm. Flight, AKA me," Sergeant Carrillo said.

In the meantime, groups and flights can prepare for their COPs by signing up for their Knowledge Now accounts via the AF Portal, Carrillo said. You can access Knowledge Now under the Knowledge Areas section of the Communities tab from the AF Portal homepage.

What is a Community of Practice (COP)?

A Community of Practice is a group of people connected to each other by a need to solve common problems, develop skills, and share common practices. A Community of Practice typically shares a common responsibility or function. Community members collaborate to more effectively accomplish their mission.

What features are in a COP?

- * Search Selected Web Sites
- * News Ticker
- * Calendar
- * Document Management System
- * Discussion Forums
- * Alert
- * Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- * Feedback/Help
- * Member Directory
- * Tell a Friend
- * User Login
- * Links
- * Metrics
- * Workspace Administration Who owns a COP?

The Community of Practice workspace is owned by the team who initiates the request. The team is responsible to populate and maintain the content (documents, links, briefings, etc.) for the

Community of Practice workspace How can I join a COP?

There are several categories of Community of Practice workspaces. Some Communities of Practice are open to all Knowledge Now users and do not require a login. Some Communities of Practice are open to all Knowledge Now users but require a user login. Other Communities of Practice are closed to Knowledge Now users and require application via an e-mail link on their homepage for membership. Each Community of Practice sets its own criteria for membership. Individuals can belong to as many Communities of Practice in which they have time to participate.

How can I start a COP? Defer to Communications Flight What's the difference between

a COP versus a Community of Interest?

The Air Force Knowledge Now Communities of Practice are the official collaboration tool of the Air Force. As such, the Communities of Interest are being deprecated over time.



News and notes

Operations Group

Do you think you have what it takes to be a leader, an example for everyone around you, superiors and subordinates?

The Operations Group is currently looking for an outstanding NCO to be the 1st Sgt. If you are

interested please



contact Command Chief Ramos at 650.603.9202 or liliana. ramos@camoff.ang.af.mil for an application package.

The following are the newest members of the 129th. When you see them in their shops and around the wing smile and make them feel welcome at Moffett.

Lindsey Bartlett Michael Curtin Manuel Lock Grant Martinez Mark Elledge Tiffany Garcia James Wheeler Ed Cachuela Joseph Couch Sarah Fepuleai Angelo Reyes

The following 129th members reenlisted.

Tech. Sgt. Brian Taylor Staff Sgt. Susan Avalos Staff Sgt. Angela Weiss Senior Airman Joshua Go Forth Airman 1st Class Caleb Kiley Airman 1st Class Jacob Mecchi Airman 1st Class Allan Bungay Airman 1st Class Kenitra Newman

The following members have retired or gone to other assignments, we wish them well and thank them for their service.

Master Sgt. Jessica Bannerman-Richter

Master Sgt. Richard Beauchesne Master Sgt. Joseph Grinzi Tech. Sgt. Jan Pieplow Staff Sgt. Darius Abasta Staff Sgt. Carlos Moralescastillo Senior Airman Michael Gaerlan Senior Airman Randy Vo

The following members received awards and decorations for

their service to the State and Nation.

Meritorious Service Medal

Lt. Col. Stephen Spillane Chief Master Sgt. Liliana Ramos Maj. Antonio Rodriquez 1st Lt. Mario Montero Senior Master Sgt. Kristina Keck Master Sgt. Robert Anderson Master Sgt. Gary Flossman

Air Force Acheivement Medal

Master Sgt. Chris Dahl Master Sgt. Mark Gudelunas Master Sgt. John Huerta Master Sgt. Darryl James Master Sgt. Noah McDaniel Master Sgt. Alex Medina Master Sgt. David Sanders Tech. Sgt. Benjamin Baker Tech. Sgt. Geoffrey Caravallo Tech. Sgt. Ronald Cook Tech. Sgt. Alan Perry Tech. Sgt. Evelyn Surla Tech. Sgt. Mark Vindiola Staff Sgt. Steven Bjerk Staff Sgt. Eleazar Calupig Staff Sgt. Donald Ohlson Staff Sgt. Rachel Pugh Staff Sgt. John Schultz Senior Airman Frederico Bala Senior Airman Troy Jackson Senior Airman Artem Morozov

Religious Services

Your Chapel Program provides services for you and your families. We exist because of the first amendment and your constitutional right to freedom of religion. Our mission is to provide you spiritual care and the opportunity for worship. Please let us know how we can assist you. It is our honor to serve you!

We provide: Worship Services, Non-denominational Sundays at 1100 in Bldg "650, Room 135. Catholic Mass: call for times and locations. We also offer counseling, chapel literature and Visitation.

Our office extension is x9140 Worship services will begin at 1100.

Cell phone usage

July 1 is the deadline for a hands' free device with cell phones, however cell phones can still be used in emergency situations.

ANG Bass fishing tournament

The 13th Annual ANG Bass Tournament, hosted by the 117th ARW, will be held14-17 April 2008 on Lake Mitchell, Alabama. The tournament website with all the info is

http://www.angbasstourney.com There are more than 40 boats registered so far, so expect this tournament to be one of the best ever - we may even have an entry from Alaska (that has to be one dedicated fisherman)!

Use energy wisely!

Conserve energy - turn off the lights and your computer monitors when not working Or the Governor will get you... In a press release from the Office of the Governor, Governor Schwarzenegger calls for energy conservation and explains when his children leave the lights on after leaving a room, he'll start unscrewing the light bulbs. "Now even though they think that I'm a little crazy, it works. Now they never leave their rooms," said Governor Schwarzenegger.

Do not dryclean ABU's or you'll glow in the dark

Excerpt taken from Volume 1, Issue 2 of the Bio-environmental Career Field News and Events newsletter, 1 Sep 2007:

The new ABU contains a significant amount of nylon and because of this it is not fire resistant and does not hold up well to starching and hot pressing which are actually prohibited. "Wash in warm water with detergent containing no optical brighteners or bleach. Tumble dry at low heat. The use of starch, sizing and any process that involves dry-cleaning or steam press will adversely affect the treatments and durability of the uniform and is not authorized." The washing instructions also require laundry soap that does not contain optical brighteners.

The following detergents do not contain optical brighteners: Cheer, Cheer Free, All Detergent Free Clear, Country Save Liquid Detergent, Allens Laundry, Bi-O-Kleen, Charlies Soap, ECOS Free and Clear, Mountain Green Liquid,

News and notes cont.

Nature Clean, Oxy-Prime Powder, Planet Ultra, Seventh Generation, Sportwash, Sun and Earth Liquid, Surf Powder (Surf Liquid does and should not be used), Washeze, Woolite

Ethnic Observance Committee needs motivated volunteers

Come represent your group! Next meeting is slated for Saturday, March 1 of March UTA at 2pm.

Please contact Staff Sgt. Jeannie Wong to sign up: Ms.Jeannie.Wong@gmail.com

Jul 2008

European American Heritage Month

Sept 2008

Hispanic Heritage Month **Nov 2008**

Native American Heritage Month

Feb 2009

African American/Black

History Month Mar 2009

Women's History Month

May 2009

Asian Pacific Heritage Month

Financial Assistance for deployed National Guard members and families

<u>California National Guard</u> <u>Financial Assistance Fund</u> Eligibility Criteria:

1. He or she is a member of the CNG in good standing or is family of the member, custodial parent, or legal guardian of a member's dependent.

2. The CNG member was, or currently is, on federal active military duty in connection with Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

3. The CNG member for the family member has an unmet need, as defined in the CNG-FAF SOP.

To receive consideration for a grant, the applicant must submit the JFHQ Form 37-5-R. The application form can be found online at: www.calguard.ca.gov/jlcngfaf

These applications must be submitted to:

California National Guard ATTN: CNGFAF P.O. Box 269101 Box 37 Sacramento, CA 95827-3562 Via fax (916) 854-3439 or email to j1@ca.ngb.army.mil. NOTE: The application with origi-

NOTE: The application with original signatures must be submitted before any grant payments may be disbursed.

<u>California Military Family Relief</u> <u>Fund</u>

The CMFRF provides financial assistance, in the form of a one-time grant, to service members and their dependents when there is a valid need. This fund is open to CNG members who meet the following criteria.

1. Current member of the CNG in good standing.

2. Current CA resident.

3. Deployment to active duty for at least 60 consecutive days in Title 10 USC status.

4. Member's military salary has decreased by 10% or household income of member's family has decreased by at least 10% from income prior to deployment.

Contact representative at J1@ ca.ngb.army.mil to apply for financial assistance grants.

Application forms are also available online at: http://www.calguard. ca.gov/cmfrf

AHA awards 2007 scholarships

The 129th Alumni & Heritage Association (AHA) is proud to announce the following Wing members will be receiving \$1,000 scholarships at the Old Timer's Luncheon on Wednesday, March 26, 2008:

Senior Airman Teresa Trawick Staff Sgt. Michael Foust Tech. Sgt Heidi J. Quartaro

The luncheon will be at the Castro Valley Loyal Order of Moose Hall, 20835 Rutledge Road, Castro Valley. Tickets for the luncheon can be purchased by contacting the 129th AHA website, www.129aha.org, or

Lynda Fawcett at <u>ltfawcett@</u> hotmail.com.

Airmen's Call from page 5

accomplishments of individuals and units within an organization, to higherlevel Air Force awards that recognize acts of valor, heroism, exceptional service and outstanding achievement

- Most Air Force awards programs require the completion of an Air Force Form 1206 in bullet format for nominations; depending on the breadth of the award, the form may be anywhere from a quarter of a page to several pages in length

- Airmen can help their supervisors meet award deadlines by keeping track of their accomplishments throughout the year - this not only helps with awards, but will come in handy when it's time for performance reports as well

- If someone from another unit does something that helps out your organization, don't hesitate to draft a letter of appreciation for your commander to sign

More information about Air Force awards can be found in AFI 36-2803, The Air Force Awards and Decorations Program. For information on quarterly and annual award programs, contact your unit awards representative or your local military personnel flight.

Rescuegram Deadline

We want to hear from you! Please submit your articles, notices, photographs or story ideas to us.

Please send them to andrew.hughan@camoff. ang.af.mil and jill. jamgochian@camoff.ang. af.mil by 1000 Sunday of drill. The Rescuegram is edited during drill one month in advance of the print date.



Earn up to \$2,000 for each new recruit who enlists and reports to Basic Training. For eligibility information please visit http://www.guardrecruitingassistant.com/.

129th Alumni and Heritage

Do you belong to the 129th Alumni and Heritage Association? You don't need to be an alumni to be a member, currently we have about 300 members, total! Our goal is to continue the ongoing heritage of the 129th through current and past members. We support the wing during deployments and homecoming and have an annual scholarship for wing personnel or their families attending college. Please see your Chief for details. Continue your legacy....please support the AHA.

2008 UTA Schedule

1-2 March 5-6 April 3-4 May 7-8 June 12-13 July 2-3 August 6-7 September 4-5 October 1-2 November 6-7 December

129th RQW/PA MOFFETT FAF, CA 94035

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE OFFICIAL BUSINESS

These Things We Do, That Others May Live...