



The Straphanger Gazette



Volume 16 No. 2

Find us on the web at <http://www.araassociation.com>

October - December, 2023

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“Aerial Rocket Artillery”

....when called on by those who were in danger, our units were there laying it on the line. We were proud of our Aerial Rocket Artillery Team then and still proud of it now.

The Straphanger Gazette is a quarterly publication of the Aerial Rocket Artillery Association. Issues will be published on or about the 1st of January, April, July and October. Members who have e-mail will receive a copy as an pdf attachment

GOING WEST, A NEW PATH PLANNED FOR THE ARA!

FLOATING WILL REPLACE FLYING BUT FUN AND FELLOWSHIP ARE STILL THE ORDER OF THE DAY!



President's Corner

Hope this newsletter finds you in good health and at a time in your life where you can enjoy your favorite past times. For Rachel and I, our Grandchildren bring us the greatest joy. Being able to see them and share time with them warms our hearts. I'm sure each of you have that special person or place you enjoy. Make an effort to do those things that give you pleasure and share them with others.

The 2023 reunion in St Louis was a success, it was good seeing you there. Good times for all that attended. Very accommodating hotel, and excellent guest speakers at the farewell banquet. For those of you who didn't attend, we missed seeing you and getting updates on your current family events.

As our group grows older and a little slower, we're attempting to provide other venues for the reunion that would enhance participation. If you didn't attend, we missed you and look forward to seeing you next year.

DANGER CLOSE!!!

An Artillery men's call that puts everyone in the Battery on edge. We are about to engage in a fire mission where friendlies might be injured. When I flew with Charlie Battery, 2 nd /20 th ARA it was a weekly occurrence. The friendlies were in close contact and needed our fire support within 100 meters of their position. Fast forward to the present and this term may not seem appropriate to our current civilian lifestyles, however it still applies. Just returned from my Oncologist scheduled visit and received a "Danger Close" message. His words to me brought back the cold sweat, clammy hands and increased heartbeat that "Danger Close" created fifty-three years ago. My current symptoms indicate the lymphoma has returned. To confirm his suspicions, this weekend I'll complete a body scan and biopsy. It will take another week for the results to be read, but the possibility is there that the cancer has returned and I must address the issue. As more information becomes available, I'll update you to my condition and proposed treatments.

Jim Castillo

ARA 6

The 2023 St. Louis Reunion is a memory -

But it is a gateway to the future

ARA 6 Jim Castillo shared much with us in his Presidents Corner, and there is much to comment on. It bears repeating that we, as an Association of aging veterans, find ourselves confronted by the irrefutable fact that things are not as they were short years ago. Serious medical issues are cropping up more frequently; a decrease in energy levels is evident among the members and wives. Attendance at reunions has continued to be lower, with or without COVID-19.

True Vietnam Veterans, those authorized the Vietnam Service medal, are estimated to be approximately 850,000 (out of 2.5—3.5 million back then.). The average age of a Vietnam vet is 68. We are dying at about the same rate as did our WWII fathers. The resultant effects of Agents Orange, Blue, White, etc. are showing up more regularly. Why are these numbers significant? Because time is running out, along with physical capabilities, for many of us to see our combat brothers and the friends we have made along the way, one more time.

We, the Board, feel it is necessary to do two major things. The first is to ascertain how the membership feels about trying to continue having reunions, each year or at a different interval. The second is shift our reunions to a more convenient and doable format. At the end of this article will be a link which will take you to a very short and specific questionnaire designed to give the opinions of the members of the Association (and their spouses) on whether to continue with reunions, go to another format, and to voice reasons for not coming in the past.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK ANSWER THE THREE QUESTIONS, HIT SUBMIT, AND YOUR REPLIES WILL BE ANONOMOUSLY RECORDED AND COLLATED. <https://forms.gle/3AXF6LoGEwB7ttSe8>

Switching hats to my Chaplain role, as you have learned from Jim Castillo's President's Corner on page one, he is possibly undergoing a recurrence of his lymphoma. This is a very serious development. Jim is good man and is dealing with it in the most appropriate manner. However, as we all noted when we were committed to a firefight, prayer is good thing to bring to bear in tough situations. I encourage you, as your personal faith allows, to keep Jim and Rachel in prayer before the Great Physician on a regular basis. With Jim's permission, we will try to keep you all informed as the situation develops.

MILITARY SERVICE REQUIREMENTS!!!

Shared by Rodger McAlister

Trey Gowdy, a former South Carolina Congressman, responded to a question from a CNN reporter about the ban of transgenders from joining the U.S. armed forces. As Trey typically does so very well, he nailed it rather succinctly.

Question: How can President Trump claim to represent all U.S citizens, regardless of sexual orientation, when he banned transgenders from joining the military? Isn't that discrimination?

Trey Gowdy's Response: "Nobody has a right to serve in the Military. Nobody! What makes you people think the Military is an equal opportunity employer? It is very far from it - and for good reasons - let me cite a few: The Military uses prejudice regularly and consistently to deny citizens from joining for being too old or too young, too fat or too skinny, too tall or too short. Citizens are denied for having flat feet, or for missing or additional fingers.," he went on to explain: "By the way, poor eyesight will disqualify you, as well as bad teeth. Malnourished? Drug addiction? Bad back? Criminal history? Low IQ? Anxiety? Phobias? Hearing damage? Six arms? Hear voices in your head? Self- identification as a Unicorn? Need a special access ramp for your wheelchair?" "Can't run the required course in the required time? Can't do the required number of push-ups? Not really a morning person? and refuse to get out of bed before noon? All can be legitimate reasons for denial"

"The Military has one job: Winning War. Anything else is a distraction and a liability. Did someone just scream? That isn't Fair? War is VERY unfair, there are no exceptions made for being special or challenged or socially wonderful." "YOU must change yourself to meet Military standards and not the other way around." "I say again: You don't change the Military - you must change yourself. The Military is not about being fair, it is about taking advantage of others and about winning. The Military doesn't need to accommodate anyone with special issues. The Military needs to Win Wars and keep our Country safe - PERIOD!"

"If any of your personal issues are a liability that detracts from readiness or lethality... Thank you for applying, and good luck in future endeavors."



The Gateway Arch—St. Louis' current main attraction



Gloria & Jesse Hobby, Rodger & Marilyn McAlister, Alan Klinker, Monroe Bolton & Tony Quesada



Joan Szabo, Margurite & Jim Foreman, George & Sheila Govignon and George Wachs



The Boeing Museum of Aviation



The hapless hosts pause to refresh.



Tony Quesada, Isabel Q. Marilyn McAlister, Alan Klinker and Jesse Hobby chat it up.



President Jim Castillo and Host Jule Szabo at the head table get the Farewell Dinner started.



Peg Hegenveld once more leads us in honoring our lost comrades in the Missing Man ceremony.



Cindy Mayo & Jerry Sommers Gloria Hobby and Asa & Jean Talbot renew old friendships.



The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

THE WORLD FAMOUS ST. LOUIS ZOO

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE BUT CENTERED ON CHILDREN



The Main Entry Hall



Halloween is coming and they are heading for the zoo



The really big kids enjoy the train ride around the zoo - especially rigged for the disabled



One of many amazing life-like statues



The real thing



The rhino seeks the shade—it's hot



Humboldt Penguins



Puffins



Polar Bear

Pity the arctic creatures in a temperate climate



The River Horse



Shira Khan

To be feared but becoming



Still the King of the Jungle

ARA Board Minutes – St. Louis, MO

September 23, 2023

9:00 am

Present: Jim Castillo, President
Jules Szabo, VP
Rodger McAlister, Secretary
Jesse Hobby, Treasurer, Keeper of the Data Base, Quartermaster
Asa Talbot, Chaplain and Editor/Publisher of the Straphanger

Secretary minutes approved via email.
Treasurers report approved as read.

Motion made:

Keep deposit of no shows
Refund \$ of those w/ill health

AMMENDMENT: It was later agreed (after the reunion) by telephone conference (as an act of brotherhood and noting that we did not need to keep any monies to remain solvent) that the Association would return all funds. All unused deposits were returned, one member insisted that we keep his and that brought our reunion accounting from \$21.16 overspent to \$192.84 in the black.

Rodger McAlister – Volunteers to write up for Asa – “Widows Corner” of contact “we need you - we want you.”

General Membership Meeting

September 23, 2023

10:00 am

In attendance = 15 Quorum

Financial – Jesse Hobby

\$26,000 Estimated cash on hand at end of Reunion

Vote to refund – Illnesses

Vote to retain – No shows

Passed (See above amendment)

2024 Reunion – Discussion

High transportation costs from East to West Coast travel

Consideration of 4 day cruise out of Texas or Florida

Est Cost \$350 - \$450 per person plus travel costs.

Flight to Galveston, Tx or Orlando, FL

Motion carried to investigate cruise options.

Jim Fleming and Cecil Hengeveld will make contact with cruise lines to button down location/cost.

Meeting adjourned

Respectfully,

Rodger McAlister

LET US NEVER FORGET

In September of 2005, on the first day of school, Martha Cothren, a History teacher at Robinson High School in Little Rock, did something not to be forgotten. On the first day of school, with the permission of the school superintendent, the principal and the building supervisor, she removed all of the desks in her classroom. When the first period kids entered the room they discovered that there were no desks.

'Ms. Cothren, where are our desks?'

She replied, 'You can't have a desk until you tell me how you earn the right to sit at a desk.'

They thought, 'Well, maybe it's our grades.' 'No,' she said.

'Maybe it's our behavior.' She told them, 'No, it's not even your behavior.'

And so, they came and went, the first period, second period, third period. Still no desks in the classroom. Kids called their parents to tell them what was happening and by early afternoon television news crews had started gathering at the school to report about this crazy teacher who had taken all the desks out of her room.

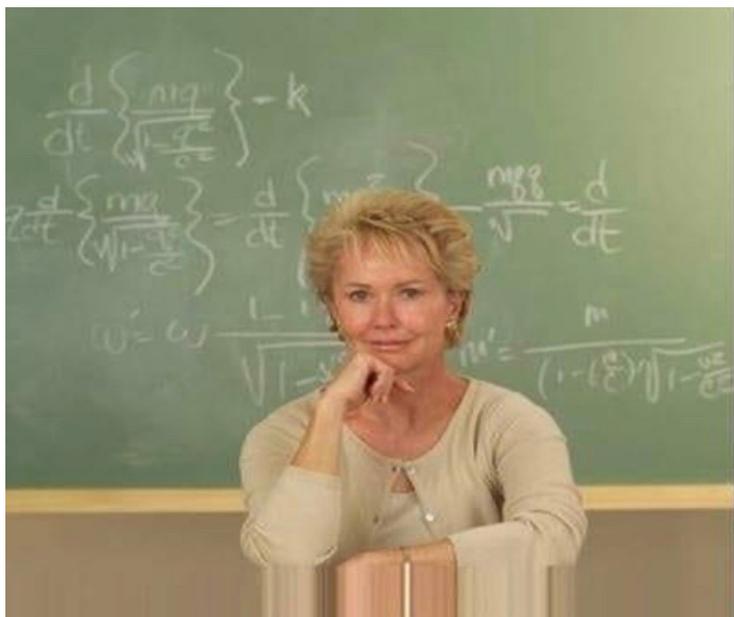
The final period of the day came and as the puzzled students found seats on the floor of the desk-less classroom. Martha Cothren said, 'Throughout the day no one has been able to tell me just what he or she has done to earn the right to sit at the desks that are ordinarily found in this classroom. Now I am going to tell you.'

At this point, Martha Cothren went over to the door of her classroom and opened it. Twenty-seven (27) U.S. Veterans, all in uniform, walked into that classroom, each one carrying a school desk. The Vets began placing the school desks in rows, and then they would walk over and stand alongside the wall. By the time the last soldier had set the final desk in place those kids started to understand, perhaps for the first time in their lives, just how the right to sit at those desks had been earned.

Martha said, 'You didn't earn the right to sit at these desks. These heroes did it for you. They placed the desks here for you. They went halfway around the world, giving up their education and interrupting their careers and families so you could have the freedom you have. Now, it's up to you to sit in them. It is your responsibility to learn, to be good students, to be good citizens. They paid the price so that you could have the freedom to get an education. Don't ever forget it.'

By the way, this is a true story. And this teacher was awarded the Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year for the State of Arkansas in 2006. She is the daughter of a WWII POW.

Let us always remember the men and women of our military and the rights they have won for us.



[Ray Hatfield](#) Vietnam 1969. B Btry 2/20 ARA
He bought a desk for someone to sit at. Make him proud

The completion of our tribute to the crewmen who supported, smoothed and often made it possible for us to fly our missions

The Man in the Doorway

They came in low and hot

By Michael Ryerson



Michael Ryerson, a Marine from 1965-69 with a 25-month tour in Vietnam, wrote a poem for a friend, Bruce Hunter, who was a door gunner in Northern I Corps. It's called "The Man in the Doorway". The poem is a moving tribute to all the helicopter crews who served in Viet Nam. -Ed.

They came in low and hot, close to the trees and dropped their tail in a flare, rocked forward and we raced for the open doorways. This was always the worst for us, we couldn't hear anything, and our backs were turned to the tree line. The best you could hope for was a sign on the face of the man in the doorway, leaning out waiting to help with a tug or to lay down some lead. Sometimes you could glance quickly at his face and pick up a clue as to what was about to happen. We would pitch ourselves in headfirst and tumble against the scuffed riveted aluminum, grab for a handhold and will that son-of-a-bitch into the air. Sometimes the deck was

slick with blood or worse, sometimes something had been left in the shadows under the web seats, sometimes they landed in a shallow river to wash them out. Sometimes they were late, sometimes...they were parked in some other LZ with their rotors turning a lazy arc, a ghost crew strapped in once too often, motionless, waiting for their own lift, their own bags, once too often into the margins. The getting on and the getting off were the worst for us but this was all he knew, the man in the doorway, he was always standing there in the noise, watching, urging...swinging out with his gun, grabbing the black plastic and heaving, leaning out and spitting, spitting the taste away, as though it would go away...

They came in low and hot, close to the trees and dropped their tail in a flare, rocked forward and began to kick the boxes out, bouncing against the skids, piling up on each other, food and water, and bullets...a thousand pounds of C's, warm water and rounds, 7.62mm, half a ton of life and death. And when the deck was clear, we would pile the bags, swing them against their weight and throw them through the doorway, his doorway, onto his deck and nod and he'd speak into that little mic and they'd go nose down and lift into their last flight, their last extraction. Sometimes he'd raise a thumb or perhaps a fist or sometimes just a sly, knowing smile, knowing we were staying, and he was going but also knowing he'd be back, he'd be back in a blink, standing in the swirling noise and the rotor wash, back to let us rush through his door and skid across his deck and will that son-of-a-bitch into the air.

They came in low and hot, close to the trees and dropped their tail in a flare, rocked forward, kicked out the boxes and slipped the litter across the deck and sometimes he'd lean down and hold the IV and brush the dirt off of a bloodless face, or hold back the flailing arms and the tears, a thumbs-up to the right seat and you're only minutes away from the white sheets and the saws and the plasma.

They came in low and hot, close to the trees and dropped their tail in a flare, rocked forward and we'd never hear that sound again without feeling our stomachs go just a bit weightless, listen just a bit closer for the gunfire and look up for the man in the doorway.



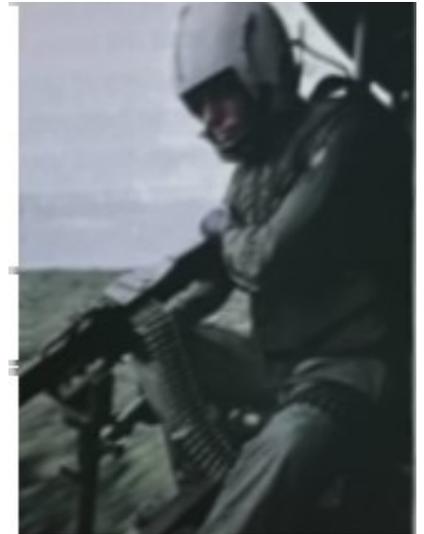
Everything I Needed To Know In life

I Learned as a Helicopter Door Gunner

By Frank Reilly (Doc) RIP

Submitted by Ernie Garas

- 1) Once you are in the firefight, it is way too late to wonder if this is a good idea.
- 2) NEVER get into a firefight without more ammunition than the other guy.
- 3) The engine RPM and the rotor RPM must both be kept in the **GREEN** Failure to heed this commandment can affect the morale of the crew.
- 4) Cover your Buddy, so he can be around to cover for you
- 5) Decisions made by some above you in the chain of command will seldom be in your best interest.
- 6) The terms Protective Body Armor and Helicopter are mutually exclusive.
- 7) “Chicken Plates” are not something you order in a restaurant.
- 8) If everything is clear as a bell, and everything is going exactly as planned, you about to be surprised.
- 9) No matter what you do, the bullet with your name on it will get you. So too can the ones addressed “To Whom It may Concern”.
- 8) If the rear echelon troops are really happy, the front line troops probably don't have what they need.
- 9) If you are wearing body armor, they will probably miss that part.
- 10) Happiness is a belt-fed weapon.
- 11) If you are allergic to lead, it is best to avoid a war zone.
- 12) It is a bad thing to run out of airspeed, altitude and ideas, all at the same time.
- 13) 15) Everybody's a hero –on the ground—in the club– after the fourth drink.
- 14) A free fire zone has nothing to do with economics.
- 15) Medals are OK, but having your body and all your friends in one piece at the end of the day is better.
- 16) Being shot hurts!
- 17) There is only one rule in war: when you win you get to make the rules.
- 18) There is no such thing as a fair fight, only ones where you win or lose.
- 19) If you win the battle you are entitled to the spoils, if you lose you don't care.
- 20) Nobody cares what you did yesterday or what you are going to do tomorrow. What is important is what you are doing -NOW-to solve our problem.
- 21) Always make sure someone has a P-38. Uh, that's a can opener for those who aren't military.
- 22) C-4 can make a dull day fun.
- 23) Prayer may not help....but it sure can't hurt.
- 24) Flying is better than walking. Walking is better than running . Running is better than crawling. All of these, however, are better than extraction by a Med-Evac, even if it is, technically, a form of flying.
- 25) If everyone does not come home, none of the rest of us can fully come home either.





Chaplain's Corner

The Secret of Life



A father used to say to his children when they were young: —When you all reach the age of 12 I will tell you the secret of life. One day when the oldest turned 12, he anxiously asked his father what was the secret of life. The father replied that he was going to tell him, but that he should not reveal it to his brothers.

—The secret of life is this: The cow does not give milk. "What are you saying?" Asked the boy incredulously. —As you hear it, son: The cow does not give milk, you have to milk it. You have to get up at 4 in the morning, go to the field, walk through the corral full of manure, tie the tail, hobble the legs of the cow, sit on the stool, place the bucket and do the work yourself.

That is the secret of life, the cow does not give milk. You milk her or you don't get milk. There is this generation that thinks that cows GIVE milk. That things are automatic and free: their mentality is that if "I wish, I ask..... I obtain."

"They have been accustomed to get whatever they want the easy way...But no, life is not a matter of wishing, asking and obtaining. The things that one receives are the effort of what one does. Happiness is the result of effort. Lack of effort creates frustration."

So, share with your children from a young age the secret of life, so they don't grow up with the mentality that the government, their parents, or their cute little faces is going to give them everything they need in life.

Remember: "Cows don't give milk; you have to work for it."

Not all of us believe in an all-knowing, all seeing God, Divine Creator and Omnipotent Being, but almost all societies look to a set of writings which give sage advice on behavior and conduct., and are the basis of their laws and regulations. While James, an apostle, in the Christian Bible, attributes true and worthwhile knowledge to a spiritual source ("Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, un-spiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.—*James 3:13-18*),

The Apostle Paul, in the same text, instructs us that, "**All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:** That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works". No matter the accepted source, it is good advice for life and government, and he writes to the Thessalonians, "For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.— 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

We, as a nation, are moving perilously close to the same precipice over which the Roman Empire fell to oblivion. In that day, the government sought to keep the masses quiet by giving them entertainment and free bread—referred to as "bread and circuses". The result was an indolent society whose driving force was, not the betterment of the nation, but the idea of, "what's coming to me next". There were other factors in the Fall of Rome, mostly involving the decay of the personal pride and quality of character, but that is another dissertation.

The qualities that made us a free people, in a democratic republic, led us to being the premier nation in the world and sustained us through good and bad times, have now become, in the eyes of many, irrelevant, arcane, even despicable. We are told we are not a Christian nation (naturally by a Muslim) and have banished the Scriptures (along with science) from our schools. Debates are being held about who determines what our children are taught and whether genetically determined gender is malleable. Is this not a world gone mad?

My task as a Chaplain, is to keep before my readers, the laws, precepts, even commandments , of the God who made us all. I give no apologies and pray that America will see the pitfalls of our course.

Be blessed and go in peace.

Asa (Doc) Talbot
Chaplain and Editor

Ladies of the Association

There Ought to be a Law

EDITORS NOTE: The latest reunions have made it evident that time, wear and tear, COVID—19, and a multitude of medical issues are taking their toll on our members and the wives who love and care for them. This is directed to all the ladies (and a few of the men) who are, for whatever reason, now alone. IF YOU ARE IN CONTACT WITH ONE OF THESE—PLEASE SHARE THIS WITH THEM !!

Over the millennia of mankind's existence on earth there have been many inequities between the genders. By warping the intent The Creator expressed in His equipping of male and female, humanity has minimized the essentiality of women in the pathways of male endeavor. Two cases in point:

1. The male pursues higher education (advanced degrees and training) to further their careers. These endeavors often involve extremely low or non-existent income for a variable time. More often than not, these same men have married and may or may not have sired offspring. It falls to the distaff member to make up the loss of income by working a job, balancing childcare, caregiving and domestic tasks, while hubby devotes all his time and energy to his studies. *Who said slavery was abolished?* At the end of this quest to ensure a better life (actually the beginning of total dedication in a chosen field with virtual absence from the home; but that is another story), he is awarded a PhD, MD DDS, or other title, and she gets only the scars of wear and tear. At the least she should be awarded a PHT (Putting Hubby Through).

2. The male chooses to serve his society as a defender of the shores, ie the military, thus commencing a lifetime of assignments, deployments, schools and courses while struggling to keep his superiors happy, accomplish his missions, and advance in status. In the shadows, making all this possible and livable is a devoted spouse who endures all the burdens cited above, plus endless hours of worry for the safety of said male, endless moves and relocations, expected participation in the social life of the soldier, and a progressive (hopefully) financial picture. He receives citations, commendations, shiny emblems of rank and a chest full of medals. She gets children to feed, dress, nurture, corral, and clean up after, and the invisible but priceless title of "The Army Wife." Joan of Arc was not the only heroine, but she had better press coverage.

Mortality has claimed too many of our friends, but, "as Mitch Albom has said, "Sharing tales of those we've lost is how we keep from really losing them." Our annual reunions are places to do just that. There is no replacing those who have gone on, yet they were not the only cord that bound us all together over the years. Two very powerful facts exist. (1) Every spouse is, by our bylaws, a member of the ARA, (2) We love you all and miss you when we do not have the chance to be with you.

It is, indeed, a reality that sometimes we neglect to include widows and widowers in our current social whirl, and that is to our shame. These are friends, not "fifth wheels." We love them and miss them. God moves in mysterious ways, and He has emphasized to our group that time and youth are running out. The Association is embarking on a new approach to gathering. A cruise will save money, create a close-knit venue, allow for greater ease for friends to mingle, avoid the hubbub of hurrying to see unfamiliar places, and just be a calmer, more congenial experience.

The leadership feels strongly that we need to "keep the group together and accomplish the mission". They are pledging themselves, and all the members and spouses, to being more oriented to inclusion of all in the daily activities. It will not be as good as having the departed with us, but it will preserve the pleasure and solidarity we have had in the past.

John Donne (English poet 1572-1631) said it perfectly. "No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well any manner of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee" —*Meditations XVII*

Let's make the next reunion a reunion of ALL of the component parts of the ARA. We are a team and each stands ready to assist the other. If there are questions, difficulties, needs, contact any of the Board members or your fellow ARA members and let's make it work.

Doc Talbot

The Friendly Flight Surgeon

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ORDER FORM FOR APPAREL, CAPS, PATCHES, STICK-ONS

Name: _____

Address: _____

CAPS, Men's, come in one size (has adjustable headband) and will have the ARA Logo embroidered on the front and can have your name on the right side and call sign on the left side, if desired. Cost will be \$10.00

Print name as you want it to appear: _____

Print call sign as you want it to appear: _____

CAPS, Women's, come in one size and in two (2) styles – Short brim and low profile or as a Headband (both have adjustable headband) and will have the ARA Logo embroidered on the front and can have your name on the right side, if desired. If you would like to give yourself a call sign such as DRAGON LADY, LADY TORO, GRIFFIN MISTRESS, BLUE MAX MISTRESS, FALCONESS that can be put on the left sign. Cost will be \$10.00

Print name as you want it to appear: _____

Print call sign as you want it to appear: _____

Shirts for men and women are available in sizes Small, Medium, Large, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL, and 5XL and will have the ARA Logo embroidered on the left side.

Men's Polo Shirt(s) - _____ X \$20.00 = _____ Size _____

ordered

Women's Polo Shirt(s) - _____ X \$20.00 = _____ Size _____

ordered

Women's Long or 3/4 Sleeve Button Shirt(s) - _____ X \$25.00 = _____ Size _____

ordered

Patches, Cloth – _____ X \$5.00 = _____

Specify Unit

Bumper Stickers - _____ X \$2.00 = _____

Specify Unit

Patches, Stickers - _____ X \$1.00 = _____

Specify Unit

Please add 7% GA ST and \$14.35 shipping charge to your order:

TOTAL = _____

Send form and check(s) made payable to **ARA ASSOCIATION** to:

ARA ASSOCIATION

c/o Jesse Hobby

145 Oakdale Rd.

Cairo, GA 39828

"Note from the Quartermaster - Apparel orders are taking longer to fill due to the supply chain crisis. Please be patient."



AERIAL ROCKET ARTILLERY ASSOCIATION

Membership Application/Renewal Form

This form may be used for Applying for New Membership or for Renewing Existing Membership. Please circle that which is appropriate.

Name _____ Wife's Name _____

Rank _____ Membership Number _____

(At time of service in ARA)

(If known)

Retired Rank (if applicable) _____ Service Number _____

List all ARA Units that you served in. _____

<u>Battery/Battalion</u>	<u>Dates of Service</u>	<u>Call Sign</u>
_____	From mo./yr. to mo./yr.	_____
_____	From mo./yr. to mo./yr.	_____

Current Address: _____

Street or PO Box

City	State	Zip Code
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Phone: _____

Home

Work (if okay)

Cell

E-Mail Address: _____

Association membership is on an annual basis (unless member opts for life membership) running from January 1 to December 31 and is past due on January 31.

Annual dues are **\$25.00** regardless of when submitting.

Life membership (if paid in full) is **\$250.00**. Life membership may also be paid in **\$50.00** installments on a quarterly basis until paid in full.

Total amount enclosed _____ (Please indicate in remarks section of check whether this is Initial Membership, Membership Renewal, Life Membership in full, Life Membership payment #.

Mail completed application to: Aerial Rocket Artillery Association

C/O Jesse Hobby

For Office Use Only

145 Oakdale Rd.

Cairo, GA 39828

Check # _____

Check Date _____