



The Straphanger Gazette



Volume 11 No. 3

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January-March, 2019

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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

FT. BLISS WAS GREAT BUT HEAVEN WILL BE AN EVEN BETTER REUNION BECAUSE HE CAME. LOOK WHO IS HOSTING IT!!

President's Corner

Greetings my friends and fellow ARA's, their families and all for whom we made the effort so long ago.

I want to wish you all a wonderful and prosperous New Year, with the fond wish that we will all see each other again in 2019 at the San Diego Reunion. Dave and Pat Borgeson are working hard to make it even greater than 2018 or before.

It has been a great year but not all years were that good. However, as the saying goes, “Any landing you walk away from is a good landing.” Pictured here is one I walked away from which could have been very different. I was on short final, just a few feet up, when I knew something was very wrong. I had lost the tail rotor on my faithful steed but was able to put it down “in almost one piece.” I was not a happy camper but God does watch out for fools, drunks, children and aviators.



Clovis Jones Jr.

ARA 6

Minutes of the September 15, 2018 ARA ASSOCIATION Meeting

Ft. Bliss. OK

The meeting was called to order at 10:55 a.m. by President Dave Borgeson.

Secretary Huey O'Dell read the minutes from the past meeting which were accepted by the body.

Treasurer Herb Hirst reported the books are balanced as of 7/13/2018. Currently we have \$24,432.87 in checking and \$14,358.56 in Savings for a total of \$38,791.43 (as of today 538,759.53.) Herb talked about how well we are doing with our money and about different plans in which he keeps the money where it grows. A motion was made to accept and approve the Treasurer's Report and it passed.

Old Business:

Discussion was held about bricks to be displayed at various Army Museums. Larry Mobley was able to get a plaque placed at the Fort Rucker museum. The difficulty lies at Dept. of the Army.

Next Reunion will be in San Diego, CA. A lively discussion of different places for the following reunions followed. Portland, OR, Ft. Campbell, Ft. Bragg, Ft. Belvoir, Wright-Patterson AFB, Pensacola NAS, Ft. Lewis, Savannah, GA (Ft. Stewart & Hunter Army Airfield), Ft. Rucker, Branson, MO and Charleston, SC were mentioned. Savannah, Ga, (2020) Ft. Campbell (2021) and Ft. Belvoir (new U S Army Museum 2022) were selected.

New Business:

Elections:

Bruce Wilder for Chaplain- Passed

Rodger McAlister for Secretary - Passed

Herb Hirst for Treasurer- Passed

Election for helper to learn what Herb does was - Lynn McKinnie _ Passed

Vice President -.Jim Castillo - Passed

President - Clovis Jones and Dave Borgeson were nominated and Clovis Jones won. Dave Borgeson gave his farewell speech thanking the membership, as the past president. Clovis is now the new president.

Motion to change the Bylaws to create a 1st and 2nd V.P to become final in 2018 and rewriting the constitution to include 1st and 2nd V.P. was passed.

A motion to make a \$250 donation to The Friends of the Museum at Ft. Sill was carried.

Meeting was adjourned 1230 P.M. September 15, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Rodger McAlister

Secretary

More definitive information on the 2019 Reunion in San Diego will be published in ensuing issues but Dave Borgeson is working up a great one. In the meantime here are some memories of 2018.....



Billy Woods and his lovely bride



Allan and Kay Klinker



Bentley, Dave & Pat Borgeson—the former first family



Jim Castillo and his better half



Effervescent Marilyn McAlister, Happy Herb Hirst and Rodger missed who his nap



George and Shelia Govingnon



George Wachs



Jim and Marguerite Foreman



Jim Mitschke and Barbara Brokovich



Jule and Joan Szabo



Our fearless leader and El Presidente
Clovis Jones Jr.



Joe and Arlene Pullano



Johnny and Kathy Grice



The Jerry Hipps



Ed Miller and his pillar of support

Pictures by Joan and Jule Szabo



Lynn McKinnie



Bill and Carol Retterath



Huey and Kathy O'Dell



The Mike Russells



Larry and Regina Mobley



Dick and Barb Tokar



Dave and Roberta Cooper



Jim and Rose Giles



Sherod Mallow



Jack and Lucy Rose Weaver



Jim and Donna Dauley



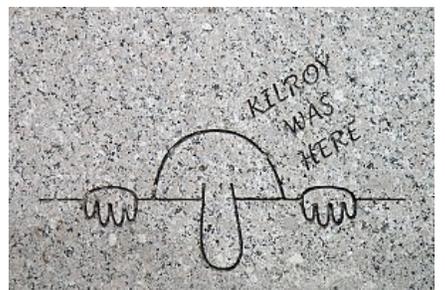
The Joe Lahnsteins



Ray and Lucy Godbee



The Dan Petroskys



As were many other great people. You would not want to miss the next one!

Pictures courtesy of Joan and Juls Szabo

Editor's Note: Much controversy swirls about Donald Trump—and justifiably so. He is cut from a different cloth than any previous president. He is not a politician—he is a businessman. He also (a) was elected to the office he holds, (b) is striving to make good on his campaign promises, and (3) needs to be evaluate in the light of what the other candidate would have done had she been elected!

Recently, Henry Kissinger (now 94 and a respected statesman) did an interview and said some very amazing things regarding President Trump. Except for the last line of praise this is provably accurate.

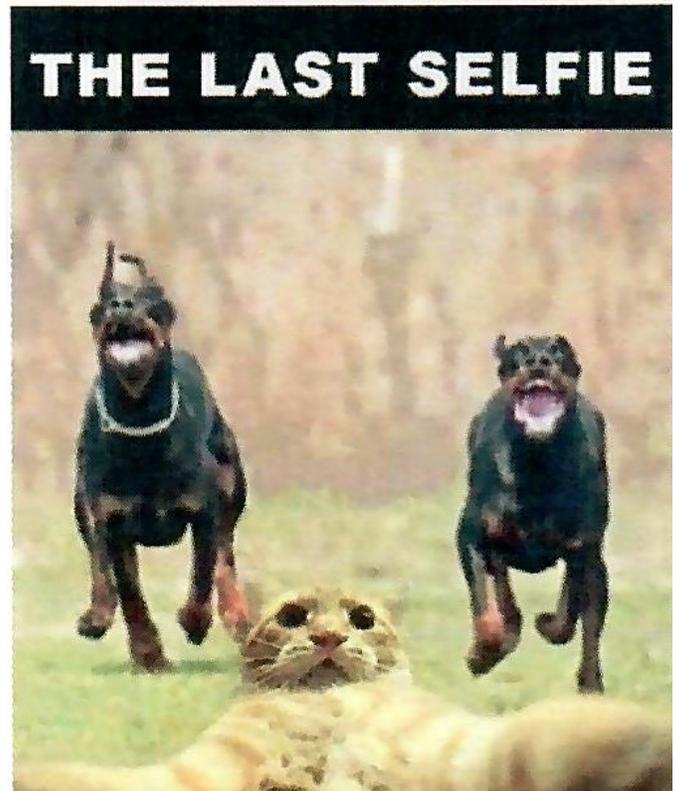
He starts with: "Donald Trump is a phenomenon that foreign countries haven't seen before"! The former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger gives us a new understanding of President Donald Trump's foreign policy and predicts its success: "Liberals and all those who favor (Hillary) Clinton will never admit it. They will never admit that he is the one true leader. The man is doing changes like never before and does all of it for the sake of this nation's people. After eight years of tyranny, we finally see a difference."

Kissinger knows it and he continues with: "Every country now has to consider two things: One, their perception that the previous president, or the outgoing president, basically withdrew America from international politics, so that they had to make their own assessments of their necessities. And secondly, that there is a new president who's asking a lot of unfamiliar questions. And because of the combination of the partial vacuum and the new questions, one could imagine that something remarkable and new emerges out of it."

Then Kissinger puts it bluntly: "Trump puts America and its people first. This is why people love him and this is why he will remain in charge for so long. There is not a single thing wrong with him and people need to open their eyes." When he boasts that he has a "bigger red button" than Kim Jung Un does, he so transcends the mealy-mouthed rhetoric of the past, thereby forcing a new recognition of American power.

Kissinger once wrote: "The weak grow strong by effrontery – The strong grow weak through inhibition!" No sentence better captures the U.S.-North Korea relationship. Trump is discarding the inhibitions and calling the bluff on North Korea's effrontery: His point is that the contrast of American retreat under Obama and its new assertion of power under Trump creates a new dynamic that every one of our allies and of our enemies must consider. Our allies grew complacent with Obama's passivity and now are fearful due to Trump's activism. And they must balance the two in developing their policies: They realize that the old assumptions, catalyzed by Bush 43's preoccupation with Iraq and Obama's refusal to lead are obsolete. So, Trump is forcing a new calculus with a new power behind American interests. Those - here and abroad - who rode the old apple cart worry about its being toppled. But, as Kissinger so boldly stated: "Trump is the one true leader in world affairs and he is forcing policy changes that put America first!"

This is the most accurate statement of what the American Citizens who live outside of the swamp want and expect from their government.



If Donald Trump deleted all of his emails, wiped his server with Bleachbit and destroyed all of his phones with a hammer, would the Mainstream Media suddenly lose all interest in the story and declare him innocent?. – Larry Mobley

Be Sure And Cancel Your Credit Cards Before You Die!

This is so priceless, and so easy to see happening, customer service being what it is today.

A lady died this past January, and Citibank billed her for February and March for their annual service charges on her credit card and added late fees and interest on the monthly charge.

The balance had been \$0.00 when she died, but now somewhere around \$60.00. A family member placed a call to Citibank.

Here is the exchange :

Family Member: 'I am calling to tell you she died back in January.'

Citibank: 'The account was never closed and the late fees and charges still apply.'

Family Member: 'Maybe you should turn it over to collections.'

Citibank: 'Since it is two months past due, it already has been.'

Family Member: 'So, what will they do when they find out she is dead?'

Citibank: 'Either report her account to frauds division or report her to the credit bureau, maybe both!'

Family Member: 'Do you think God will be mad at her?'

Citibank: 'Excuse me?'

Family Member: 'Did you just get what I was telling you - the part about her being dead?'

Citibank: 'Sir, you'll have to speak to my supervisor.'

Supervisor gets on the phone:

Family Member: 'I'm calling to tell you, she died back in January with a \$0 balance.'

Citibank: 'The account was never closed and late fees and charges still apply.'

Family Member: 'You mean you want to collect from her estate?'

Citibank: (Stammer) 'Are you her lawyer?'

Family Member: 'No, I'm her great nephew.' (Lawyer info was given)

Citibank: 'Could you fax us a certificate of death?'

Family Member: 'Sure.' (Fax number was given)

After they get the fax:

Citibank: 'Our system just isn't setup for death. I don't know what more I can do to help.'

Family Member: 'Well, if you figure it out, great! If not, you could just keep billing her. She won't care.'

Citibank: 'Well, the late fees and charges will still apply.'

(What is wrong with these people!?)

Family Member: 'Would you like her new billing address?'

Citibank: 'That might help...'

Family Member: 'Odessa Memorial Cemetery, Highway 129, Plot Number 69.'

Citibank: 'Sir, that's a cemetery!'

Family Member: 'And what do you do with dead people on your planet???'

(Priceless!!)

And you wondered why Citibank needed help from the Feds?

If only 11 million people have Obama-Care, how will 24 million people die if it is repealed? Will an additional 13 million people be randomly shot? - Larry Mobley

OUR BRAVE NEW WORLD

It Snowed Last Night..

8:00 am I made a snowman

8:10—A feminist passed by and asked me why I didn't make a snow woman.

8:15—So I made a snow woman

8:17—My feminist neighbor complained about the snow woman's voluptuous chest saying it objectified snow women everywhere.

8:20— The gay couple living nearby threw a hissy fit and moaned it could have been two snow men instead.

8:22—The transgender man..women...person asked why I didn't just make one snow person with detachable parts.

8:25—The vegans at the end of the lane complained about the carrot nose, as veggies are food and not to decorate snow figures with.

8:28—I was being called a racist because the snow couple is white.

8:30—I used food coloring to make one of the snow couple a different color and be more racially inclusive

8:37—Accused of using black face on the snowman...snowpersons.

8:39— The middle eastern gent across the road demanded the snow woman be covered up

8:40— The police arrived saying someone had been offended.

8:42— The feminist neighbor complained again that the broomstick of the snow woman needed to be removed because it depicted women in a domestic role

8:43— The council equality officer arrived and threatened me with eviction.

8:45 — TV news crew from ABC showed up. I was asked if I know the difference between snowmen and snow-women? I replied "Snowballs" and am now called a sexist.

9:00— - I was on the news as a suspected terrorist, racist, homophobe, and sensibility offender, bent on stirring up trouble during difficult weather.

9:10— I was asked if I have any accomplices. My children were taken by social services.

9:29— Far left protesters offended by everything marched down the street demanding for me to be arrested.

9:45— The boss called and fired me because of the negative association with work that had been all over social media.

10:00- I cry into my drink because all I wanted to do was build a snowman...

Moral: There is no moral to this story. It is what this world has become because of a bunch of snowflakes.

MORE MOBLEY MEDITATIONS

If women do the same job for less money, why do companies hire men to do the same job for more money?

If you rob a bank in a Sanctuary City, is it illegal or is it just an Undocumented Withdrawal?

We should stop calling them all 'Entitlements'. Welfare, Food Stamps, WIC, ad nausea are not entitlements. They are taxpayer-funded handouts, and shouldn't be called entitlements at all. Social Security and Veterans Benefits are Entitlements because the people receiving them are entitled to them. They were earned and paid for by the recipients.

If Muslims want to run away from a Muslim country, does that mean they're Islamophobic?

If Liberals don't believe in biological gender then why did they march for women's rights?

This was one of heroes of WWII who inspired the courage that took Hitler down and blocked what might have been decisive advantage for the Nazis.



Joachim Rønneberg obituary

Norwegian war hero who sabotaged a Nazi 'heavy water' plant in Telemark which was vital to Germany's nuclear weapons project

Nigel Fountain

Mon 29 Oct 2018 09:19 EDT

In the early 1950s my childhood cultural diet was largely made up of westerns and British war films, complete with the obligatory American and British heroes. Then, one week, a curiosity showed up at a local cinema as the second feature.

It was a 1948 Franco-Norwegian docudrama, *Operation Swallow: The Battle for Heavy Water* (Kampen om Tungtvannet). This time the good guys were Norwegians, and mostly they played themselves. One notable exception was the leader of that epic mission, Joachim Rønneberg, but he had featured prominently at the film's premiere in Oslo, alongside King Haakon VII.

Rønneberg, who has died aged 99, led an operation that demanded extraordinary courage and dedication from its all-Norwegian team, and which later formed the basis of

another, more widely known but less accurate film, *The Heroes of Telemark* (1965), starring Kirk Douglas and Richard Harris.

In the winter of 1942 Lieutenant General Leslie Groves, the newly appointed boss of the ultra-secret Manhattan Project to develop an atomic bomb, asked the British to move on their plans to destroy the German-controlled deuterium oxide “heavy water” plant at Vemork in Telemark, Norway, which was considered vital to the Nazi nuclear programme.

Four Norwegian commandos had been sent in as an advance party on 18 October 1942, as part of Operation Grouse. The British followed this on 19 November with 34 glider-borne demolition experts. In appalling conditions the gliders crashed, and the 14 survivors were promptly executed by the Germans.



The Heroes of Telemark, 1965, was based on Joachim Rønneberg's daring raid. Photograph: Ronald Grant

It was then that RV Jones, director of intelligence for the British Air Staff, had to decide whether to launch another attack. It was “one of the most painful decisions that I had to make,” he said, but the decision was to try again.

So on 16 February 1943, the 21-year-old First Lieutenant Rønneberg and the rest of his six-strong party were parachuted, in total darkness, from a Stirling heavy bomber, flying at

1,000ft, on to the icy wilderness that was the Hardanger plateau. They were 35 miles from Vemork. Operation Gunnerside had been activated.

Four days of Arctic blizzard followed, but by pure luck the men blundered into a hut where they could shelter. On 22 February the sky cleared - and they then encountered a skier who turned out to be a Nazi-supporting Norwegian. Later that day, having encountered the four-strong Grouse group, who had been lying low in the field since the first failed mission in November, Rønneberg persuaded his men that the lone skier should not be killed, and, swearing him to secrecy, released him.

What followed was described by General Nikolaus von Falkenhorst, the commander of the German occupying forces in Norway, as “the best coup I have ever seen”. The hydroelectric plant was located on the side of a precipitous gorge above the River Maan. Since the failed attack the previous November “guards were now posted around the factory, and the garrison had been increased to 200 troops,” wrote Giles Milton in *The Ministry of Ungentlemanly Warfare* (2016). “Four anti-aircraft guns had been installed, along with banks of machine guns, and a network of searchlights around the place.”

By 27 February the 10 men were within three miles of their target. There was, they had discovered, a disused railway along the side of the gorge, providing a way into the factory. Claus Helberg, from the Grouse team, was sent by Rønneberg to reconnoitre the site. He announced that there was an ice bridge above the river, which, if it held, would provide them with access - and exit.

In mid-evening the commandos set out, carrying five tommy guns, grenades, compasses, shears, explosives, fuses - and cyanide pills. When they were halfway down they first glimpsed the seven-floor Norsk Hydro. They crossed the river and by 11.30pm, having scaled the heights, they were awaiting the change of guards.



Operation Gunnerside was not the end of Joachim Rønneberg's wartime exploits. He went on to blow up a railway bridge with plastic explosives and disrupt supply lines.
Photograph: Scanpix/PA

They divided themselves into two groups, with Rønneberg and Fredrik Kayser heading down to a lower platform and then on via a cable shaft into the outer plant room. Arriving in the electrolysis room, they took a terrified Norwegian guard prisoner, and

soon after were joined by two other commandos. The charges were set, their timings reduced from two minutes to 30 seconds, and the party departed, doors locked behind them, while the Germans remained oblivious to the muffled explosions that ensued.

It was only when the saboteurs had passed the ice bridge that the Germans raised the alarm, and soon Rønneberg and most of his comrades, back on skis, were making an arduous but successful journey to neutral Sweden. It had been one of the most important and successful missions of the second world war, and their actions had effectively destroyed the heavy water production facility. Following subsequent allied bombing raids on the plant, the Germans ceased operations there.

Operation Gunnerside was not the end of Rønneberg's wartime exploits. He destroyed a railway bridge using plastic explosives, disrupted communications and supply lines, and remained in action until close to the end of the second world war.

Born in Ålesund, a town on the west coast of Norway, Joachim and his brother, Erling, were the sons of Alf Rønneberg and his wife, Anna (nee Krag Sandberg), and both young men would become prominent in the resistance. After being educated at Ålesund secondary school and, from 1935 to 1938, at the Latiner high school, Joachim moved to Oslo, spending a year studying economics on the assumption he might go to Oslo University before taking over the family's long established merchant and freight business.

He had not long begun his national service, working as a military surveyor, when the German occupiers arrived in April 1940, and within a few months he had escaped by boat to Scotland and enlisted in the Norwegian Independent Company, a British Special Operations Executive group formed to launch commando raids in occupied Norway. At that stage Rønneberg had no military knowledge, but he quickly impressed his instructors with his aptitude and complete calmness under pressure.

After the war Rønneberg joined NRK, Norway's state broadcaster, in 1948, and remained there as a journalist and director until his retirement in 1988. He received many decorations, including Norway's highest gallantry award, the War Cross with Sword, the British Distinguished Service Order, the French Croix de Guerre, and the American Medal of Freedom with Silver Palm.

He married Liv Foldal, who taught arts and crafts, in 1949; she died in 2015. He is survived by their three children, Jostein, Asa and Birte.

Joachim Holmboe Rønneberg, soldier and journalist, born 30 August 1919; died 21 October 2018

This article was amended on 14 November 2018. The original stated that the 34 demolition experts were glider-born, rather than glider-borne.



Chaplain's Corner

“The End of Time”

When I hear people talk about the end of time I think of wars, rumors of war, floods, plagues, and famine. When I preached sermons on the “end-of-time” I stressed the promise of the return of the Son of God or the Parousia (a Greek term meaning arrival, coming, or being present), or the second coming of Christ! Strange as it may be this time of the year, but the season of Advent, the period just before Christmas, has taken on a whole new meaning and is spent, not in preparing for Christ’s return, but his birth. Many churches don’t bother with Advent and succumb to the world of the hustle and bustle, of extravagant buying, and partying for the Christmas Holidays Celebrations!

What are we to think and believe? Are these the last days? To many it is going to happen now! Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked Jesus for the answer almost 2000 years ago. “Tell us, when this will be, and what will be the sign that all these things will be accomplished?” Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise up against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.” (Mark 13:3-8)

The Evangelist Billy Graham said at one of his early crusades in California, “When we breathe our last breath, time will end for us!” Time is for the living; so while we are alive, let us not be alarmed, let us not worry. The world is still here – it is alive! When it ends, let us trust that God will be there with and for us. Let us love one another and do good deeds!

German Martin Luther, The Reformer, was asked what he would do if he knew the Lord was coming again tomorrow. He replied, “I’d plant a tree!” The end of all things is not a rupture with the present age. It is its fulfillment. That sapling will have time to grow in the eschaton -- indeed, all the time in the world. Deeds of hope begun now will flower in eternity.

We should act on Luther’s advice: If you knew the world would end tomorrow, you should start an institution, plant a church, build a hospital, or start a university. Create something that will help millions. Spin off an act of creativity that would do proud the God who flung stars into space. Reasonable apocalypticism means God will gather up all things and make them not only good, as they have been since creation, but perfect.

A theologian whom I respect, The Rev Dr Thomas Long, Brandy Professor of Preaching at the Candler School of Theology, Emory University, speaks of eschatology as living in the “future perfect tense.” For God in Christ *will have made* all things well one day. Amen!

Peace, Bruce Wilder,
Chaplain for ARA Association



Ladies of the Association

Our Editor has asked me to head up this section of the “Straphanger” and I have a collection of short articles that I have gathered from my own sources and others that I have collected from members. These words of wisdom came from Patti Wilder a few years ago. Use them just to start your day on a fun note!

Gloria Hobby

“APHORISMS”

An “Aphorism” is a short, pointed sentence that expresses a wise or clever observation or a general truth.

It has been my experience that the majority of these observations have proven to be correct!.

The nicest thing about the future is...that it always starts tomorrow.

Money will buy a fine dog, but only kindness will make him wag his tail.

If you don't have a sense of humor, you probably don't have any sense at all.

Seat belts are not as confining as wheelchairs.

A good time to keep your mouth shut is when you are in deep water.

How come it takes so little time for a child who is afraid of the dark to become a teenager who wants to stay out all night?

Business conventions are important...because they demonstrate how many people a company can operate without.

Why is it that at class reunions you feel younger than everyone else looks?

Scratch a cat...and you will have a permanent job.

No one has more driving ambition than the teenage boy who wants to buy a car.

There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.

There are worse things than getting a call for a wrong number at 4 a.m. – like, it could be the right number.

No one ever says “It's only a game” when their team is winning.

I've reached the age where “happy hour” is a nap.

Be careful about reading the fine print... there's no way you're going to like it.

The trouble with bucket seats is that not everyone has the same size bucket.

Do you realize that, in about 40 years, we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with tattoos? (And rap music will be the golden oldies!)

Money can't buy happiness – but somehow it's more comfortable to cry in a Cadillac than in a Yugo.

After 60, if you don't wake up aching in every joint, you're probably dead.

Always be yourself because the people that matter don't mind...and the ones that do mind don't matter.

Life isn't tied with a bow...but it's still a gift.

And when there is an election year please remember this – Politicians and babies should be changed often and for same reason!

Thanks, Gloria..... The Editor

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ATTENTION ALL ARA MEN:

DO NOT DELETE THIS PUBLICATION UNTIL ALL SPOUSES, SIGNIFICANT OTHERS AND COMPANIONS HAVE READ IT. THE INFORMATION IS FOR ALL IN THE FAMILY.

STILL MORE MEDITATIOS FROM MOBLEY

How did the Russians get Debbie Wasserman Schultz and the DNC to steal the Primary from Bernie Sanders? How did Russia get Donna Brazile to leak debate questions to Hillary Clinton in advance of the debates?

Why is it that Democrats think Super delegates are fine, but they have a problem with the Electoral College?

If you don't want the FBI involved in elections, don't nominate someone who's being investigated by the FBI.

If Hillary's speeches cost \$250,000 an hour, how come no one shows up to her free ones?

The DNC is mad at Russia because they 'think' they are trying to manipulate our election by exposing that the DNC is manipulating our election.

If Democrats don't want foreigners involved in our elections, why do they think it's all right for illegals to vote?



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

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

For Office Use Only

C/O Herbert L. Hirst

Check # _____

P.O. Box 220

Check Date _____

North Plains, OR 97133-0220

Amount _____

Web address – www.araassociation.com

Date Rcvd _____