



The Straphanger Gazette



Volume 9 Issue 3

Find us on the web at <http://www.araassociation.com> Jan., Feb., March, 2017
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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.

A New Year!
Perhaps A Return to
the Old America.
The Future is Uncertain
but the Flag is still flying!
God bless the USA



President's Corner

Happy 2017,

Wishing everyone a happy New Year and a healthy 2017. It is a time to reflect back and look forward to new resolutions and our plans for the future. Speaking of plans, I have been working hard on our next reunion in Williamsburg, VA. The tentative dates for the reunion are September 13 to September 17. The location will be the Embassy Suites.

The Embassy Suites is a good choice for our Association because they have the breakfast included, a happy hour from 5:30 to 7:30 PM, reasonable rates, a hospitality suite where we can have liquid refreshments, a central location, and the hotel has 160 rooms so we will not be overwhelmed. The hotel will provide a special reservation code for the ARA rate

Colonial Williamsburg is the center piece of the historic triangle consisting in part of the restored capital of Colonial Virginia. The area includes 88 original buildings, 100 acres of gardens, and the active practice of more than 30 historical crafts. It is fun to stroll around and see people in their original costumes.

The remainder of the historic triangle includes the Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown. Jamestown was settled in 1607 (long before the Pilgrims) and Yorktown was the site of the last battle of the Revolutionary War. This is a must for history buffs.

For the ladies there is the notorious Pottery—a sprawling collection of shops and treats.

We are planning a guided bus trip to Jamestown on Friday morning, a no host lunch in Yorktown, and a tour of the Yorktown battlefield. It will be a great day.

There is so much to do in the Williamsburg area. I hope you will make your plans to attend our 2017 reunion. It is always so good to renew old friendships, meet new associates, and share some of those great stories. I hope to see you all in Williamsburg.

Dave Borgeson
ARA 6



ARA WILLIAMSBURG REUNION
20th ARA REUNION, Williamsburg, VA Sept 13 – 17, 2017
Reunion Registration Form

Information	
Name/Membership #	
Wife/Guest name(s)	
Additional Guest(s)	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Telephone/e-mail	
Any special assistance/ needs required	

Arriving on _____ Departing on _____ Flying _____ Yes or No

Please list name(s) as you would like for them to appear on NAME TAG(S)	Where From
Member	
Spouse/Guest	
Units(s)	
Dates	

REGISTRATION/EVENT FEES	Details	Price	# In party	Total
Registration Fee	per member in party over age 18	\$30.00		
Annual Membership Dues	If not already paid for 2017	\$25.00		
Wednesday Dinner	per plate charge	\$34.50		
Friday Bus Tour to Jamestown and Yorktown**	Per person charge is \$49; if 50 people sign up; the rate goes to \$41 if less	\$49.00		
Saturday – Farewell Dinner	Dinner at Fort Magruder	\$47.00		
Total for Reunion		185.50		

****Registration forms will be numbered in order received to insure seating on bus.**
Please complete out and return by August 1st so that we may finalize all plans and secure set prices for events. Please send a confirmation of attendance e-mail to reunion host for head counts. Thanks and hope to see you all in September in Williamsburg, VA.
E-mail address for host –David Borgeson is dborgeson41@gmail.com; Telephone # 310-773-1295

Please make checks payable to **ARA ASSOCIATION and mail to:**

**ARA ASSOCIATION
 c/o Herbert Hirst
 PO Box 220
 North Plains, OR 97133-0220**

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Reunion Registration Form is a prototype. We have yet to get the Special Reservation Number for the Embassy Suites. It will be published as soon as we get it. We are getting the form out early for information's sake and suggest you not reserve a room until the last word is spoken. On the other hand, the sooner you get it in, the better your chances of getting the room you want and a seat on the bus. Other than a possibly lower price on the dinner at Ft. McGruder, it is pretty solid. Our host has done a great job of scouting it out.

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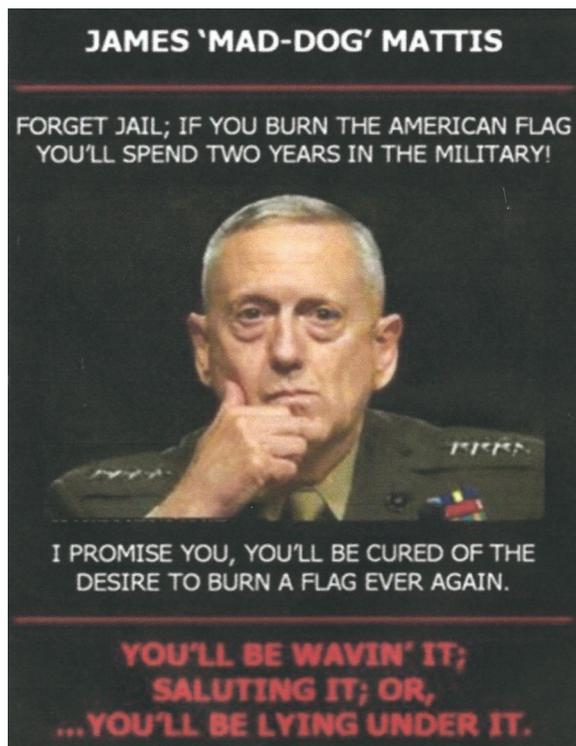
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The Best People Are Seen Around Colorado



Huey and Kathy O'Dell relaxing at the opening dinner



George Govignon in deep thought with Jim Fleming



Clovis Jones and his beautiful lady at their first reunion



Linda and Glen Brown keep Claude Gomez company and out of trouble



Gentleman Jim Foreman with a background of the ever lovely Regina Mobley and the colors..

...And They Are Seen in the Best Places

No reunion would be properly reported without paying credit to Jule Szabo and his fabulous Camera and insatiable taste for exploration. Here he braved the Royal Gorge, Bridge and cable car.



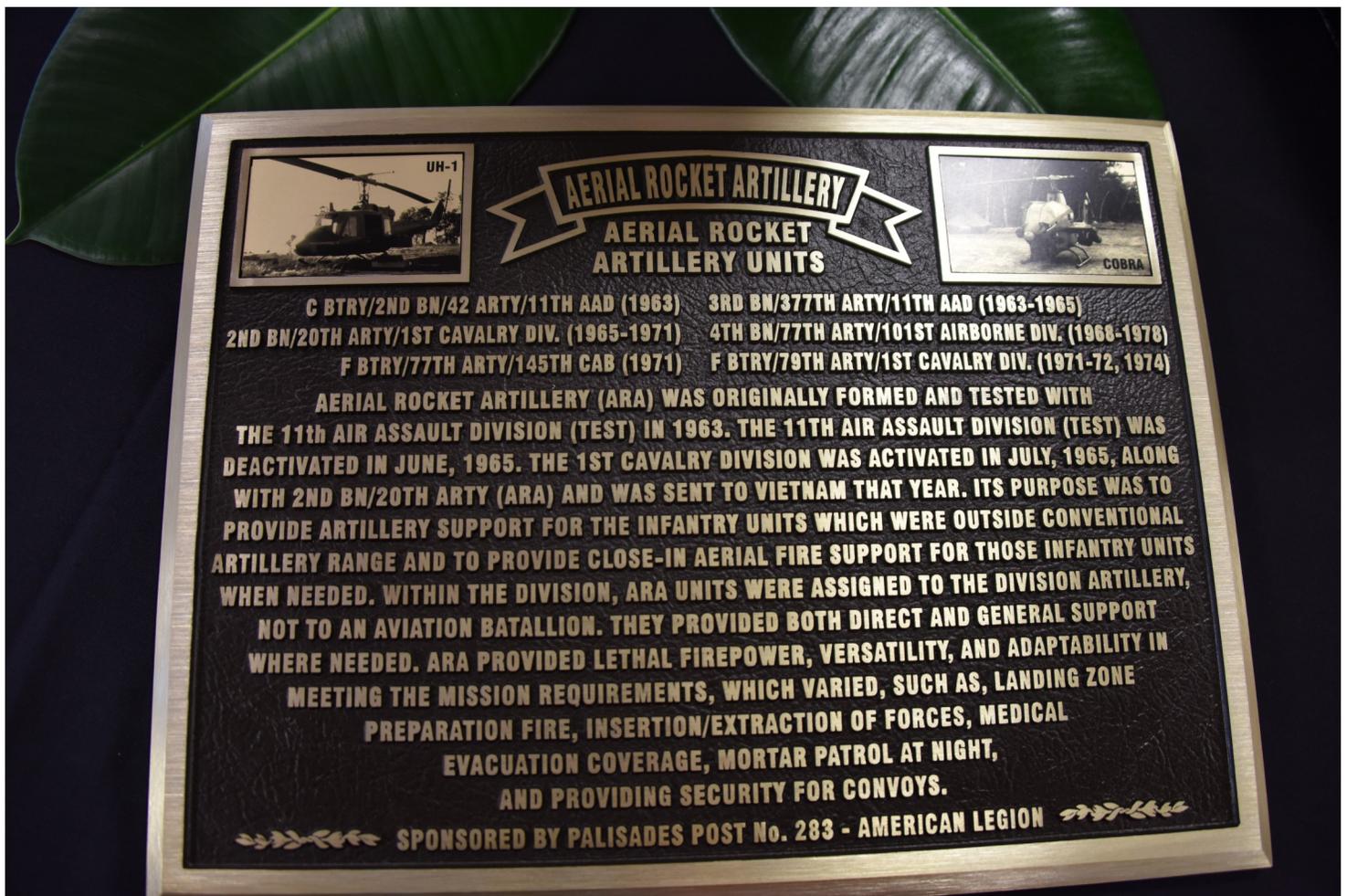
Much improved from the wood one we crossed in 1958.

It is a long way down to the river through the gorge.



Time marches on things change. In these cases for the better. Here's why. We think these only existed in the Dark Ages





This typical of the plaques which the Association will be placing at all the bases from which the ARA formed or finished its historic Contribution to the Army and the battle.

**NEVER BEFORE—PERHAPS NEVER AGAIN
BUT DAMN, WE WERE GOOD**

Col. Roger (McAlister) shared this with me.

A group of recent college graduates were applying to medical school and they were told that the initial evaluation would be one question.

They were all seated in a room and given a paper which asked the question, “These letters make up the name of a very important organ which is best used when it is erect—**enspi**. Identify!”

All those who wrote down **SPINE** are now doctors.

The rest went to flight school.

The Reincarnation of General George S. Patton?

Editors Note: These quotes are from Larry Mobley via the *The Washington Free Beacon Staff*.

I am old enough to remember WW II and “Old Blood and Guts. He had “Balls” and he put himself in harm’s way along with his men. You either loved him or hated his guts—but you followed him. The last sixty years have seen the slow disappearance of many great soldiers and statesmen to be replaced by politicians and sycophants. Two such were Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara, who sent men to war who did not have the IQ to know left from right, (please look at the video cited below) and our own General William Westmoreland, who I believe cost us the victory in Vietnam. The president-elect has tapped a bad ass Marine to be the next Secretary of Defense and Washington and the military may never be the same.

Gen. James Mattis, known to his troops as “Mad Dog Mattis,” is retiring after 41 years of military service. The *Marine Corps Times* is calling Mattis the “**most revered Marine in a generation.**” Mattis has been commander of the United States Central Command since 2010 and led the 1st Marine Division into Iraq in 2003. According to reports, **President Barack Obama decided to force the Marine Corps legend out** early because he rubbed civilian officials the wrong way, and forced them to answer tough questions regarding Iran. Mattis was an inspirational leader of men and his powerful words will go down in history.

Here are some of the best words that the “Mad Dog” has had to offer:

1. “I don’t lose any sleep at night over the potential for failure. I cannot even spell the word.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

2. “The first time you blow someone away is not an insignificant event. That said, there are some assholes in the world that just need to be shot.”

(Business Insider)

3. “I come in peace. I didn’t bring artillery. But I’m pleading with you, with tears in my eyes: If you f**k with me, I’ll kill you all.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

4. “Find the enemy that wants to end this experiment (in American democracy) and kill every one of them until they’re so sick of the killing that they leave us and our freedoms intact.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

5. “Marines don’t know how to spell the word defeat.”

(Business Insider)

6. “Be polite, be professional, but have a plan to kill everybody you meet.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

7. “The most important six inches on the battlefield is between your ears.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

8. “You are part of the world’s most feared and trusted force. Engage your brain before you engage your weapon.”

(Mattis’ Letter To 1st Marine Division)

9. “There are hunters and there are victims. By your discipline, cunning, obedience and alertness, you will decide if you are a hunter or a victim.”

(Business Insider)

10. “No war is over until the enemy says it’s over. We may think it over, we may declare it over, but in fact, the enemy gets a vote.”

(Defense News)

11. “There is nothing better than getting shot at and missed. It’s really great.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

12. “You cannot allow any of your people to avoid the brutal facts. If they start living in a dream world, it’s going to be bad.”

13. “You go into Afghanistan, you got guys who slap women around for five years because they didn’t wear a veil. You know, guys like that ain’t got no manhood left anyway. So it’s a hell of a lot of fun to shoot them. Actually it’s quite fun to fight them, you know. It’s a hell of a hoot. It’s fun to shoot some people. I’ll be right up there with you. I like brawling.”

(CNN)

14. “I’m going to plead with you, do not cross us. Because if you do, the survivors will write about what we do here for 10,000 years.”

(San Diego Union Tribune)

15. “Demonstrate to the world there is ‘No Better Friend, No Worse Enemy’ than a U.S. Marine.”

(Mattis’ Letter To 1st Marine Division)

16. “Fight with a happy heart and strong spirit”

Watch this closely: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= J2VwFDV4-g> “McNamara’s Folly”

Ladies of the Association

Happy New Year ladies of the ARA!!

I am struggling to actually realize that 2016 is really behind us. Where did it go? Did we accomplish everything we had set out to do? No matter what we must look back and reflect on both the happy and sad times that we experienced and look forward to a healthy and prosperous 2017.

It seems that we were all just together in Colorado Springs and here I am sending you more good wishes. The 4th quarter was a busy and interesting time for our country and no matter what side we were on we all must move on and hope for the best for this great country!

In November, Dave, while travelling to meet us in Delaware for our annual U of D football game, stopped off in Williamsburg and met up with Jules to visit potential accommodations for the 2017 reunion. After many conversations and negotiations it looks like Williamsburg is a go!! I hope you are all as excited as I am to visit this historical area!

Winter is here!! For those who escape the cold to sunshine states, enjoy! For those of us who live in sunshine states, enjoy! For those who live in cold weather there is something pleasant about hunkering down ,taking naps, reading a good book and just waiting for the groundhog !

My e-mail is incorrect on the list . It should be: pborgeson@lalique.com

I would love to have all of your e-mails so please send to me at your leisure. Have a wonderful winter!

Cheers,

Pat

The power behind the Six

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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**

Final Flight



Robert "Bob" Furney, 84, pulled pitch for the last time on August 7, 2016 in his home in Pacific Grove, CA. A native of Detroit, he graduated from Highland High School and attended Albion College where he was a Sigma Chi and met his "sweetheart", Mary Evelyn Craft. On graduation they embarked on the first of their 22 moves in his career as a fixed and rotary aviator, which included two tours in Vietnam, notably A Battery, 2/20th ARA (66-67) and HHC, 17th CAG (68-69). His last post was Fort Ord, CA and he fell in love with the area and stayed. His marriage of 60 years ended with the passing of Mary in 2014.

Bob was an active member and past Commodore of the Monterey Peninsula Yacht Club who recently feted him for his 40 years at the helm of his beloved sailboat "Yankee". He will certainly be watching the Shields National from above and cheering on his club's team.

He remained active in Sigma Chi, enjoyed the company of his fellow aviation compatriots of the Quiet Birdmen and the old soldiers of the Fort Ord Alumni Association, and could be seen at the annual reunions of the ARA Association. Bob's favorite destination was the VHPA gatherings and he was a talented vocalist in the choirs of the Fort Ord Main Post Chapel and the United Methodist Church.

A devoted father and grandfather, Bob will be missed by his many descendants of whom he very proudly pointed out were all employed. He loved meeting people, helping strangers, giving directions and cooking breakfast for his many house guests.

One of the highlights of his year was to aid in the selection and awarding of the Fort Ord Alumni Association Scholarship. Donations in his memory to this fund can be sent to c/o CSUMB, 100 Campus Corner Drive, Seaside, CA 93955 (denote FOAA Scholarship in the comments line) or online at csumb.edu/give.



Keith Sherman Broeme of Enterprise, AL passed away on Tuesday, March 29, 2016 at Flowers Hospital. He was 67.

Keith was born January 1, 1949, in Norfolk, Virginia. He retired as a CW4 from the U.S. Army after 25 years, during which time he served two tours in Vietnam. He then continued to serve his country through the private sector until he retired from CSC as a Senior Battle Master in 2009. He was a founding lifetime member of the Army Aviation Museum in Fort Rucker, AL.

Survivors include his son, Jeremy K. Broeme of Reno, NV; his daughter, Morgan F. Broeme of Enterprise, AL; his sister, Cherie Broeme Stephenson (Wayne) of Panama, NY; four grandchildren: Sonya, Jared, Maggie, and Sophia; and a nephew, Tucker.

Memorial services were held at Arlington National Cemetery

We were saddened to learn of the passing of Patricia Mullen, wife of ARA Life Member Warren E. Mullen, on November 16. Our thoughts and prayers are with Warren and family.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:

Assailant Suffers Injuries from Fall!

Charles Smith, a store manager for Best Buy in Augusta GA, told police he observed a male customer, later identified as Tyrone Jackson of Augusta, on surveillance cameras putting a laptop computer under his jacket. When confronted the man became irate, knocked down an employee, drew a knife and ran for the door.

Outside were four Marines collecting toys for the Toys for Tots program. Smith said the Marines stopped the man but he stabbed one of the Marines, Cpl. Phillip Duggan in the back; the wound did not appear to be severe.

After Police and an ambulance arrived Cpl. Duggan was transported to the hospital for treatment.

"The subject was also transported to the local hospital with two broken arms, a broken ankle, a broken leg, several missing teeth, possible broken ribs, multiple contusions, assorted lacerations and a broken nose....injuries he sustained when fell off the curb after stabbing the Marine.", according to a Police report.

THAT MUST HAVE BEEN SOME CURB.



The Meaning of Advent”

Once again Christmas is very near – one week from this writing! As I sit here tonight, I am wondering how many of you have ever thought of the real meaning of Advent as a Season of the Church.

For the liturgical churches, we are in the Season of Advent. Advent is the beginning of a new church year and the season in which we look and prepare for the return, or the SECOND coming of Christ. Strange that Advent is just before Christmas and gets mixed up in the time of Christmas Carols and the preparation for the Celebration of the birth (FIRST coming) of the Baby Jesus. How is it that Advent is not the Season of preparation for Christmas? Well, in a way, it is. It is a time when we as Christians look toward both Bethlehem and the consummation of God’s plan.

To allow Advent to have its fullest dramatic impact, some churches are encouraged to defer Christmas music, decorations, and parties until the 12 days of Christmas (December 24-January 5). The richness of the symbols and themes of Advent must not be obscured by the Christmas preparations. I knew many friends in my youth whose family never sang Christmas Carols or buy and decorate their Christmas tree until Christmas Eve, thereby, giving both Seasons their full benefit.

How does one manage to get through all this with Christmas Carols being played 24/7 from Thanksgiving Day in the shopping malls and on the TV and radio? There has to be a way to honor both and acknowledge that Christ was born in Bethlehem and will come again as we believe.

The first two Sundays in Advent center on the Parousia (the second coming of Jesus), or as the New Testament prefers to call it, his appearing. The Third Sunday in Advent centers on John the Baptist as the herald of Christ, and the Fourth Sunday on the Virgin Mary as the obedient servant chosen to bear God’s anointed one. The alternate Gospels for the First Sunday retain the theme of the entry into Jerusalem by Jesus, which was the traditional reading for the beginning of Advent and which understood the entrance on Palm Sunday as a foreshadowing of the second coming. Many Advent hymns employ that imagery.

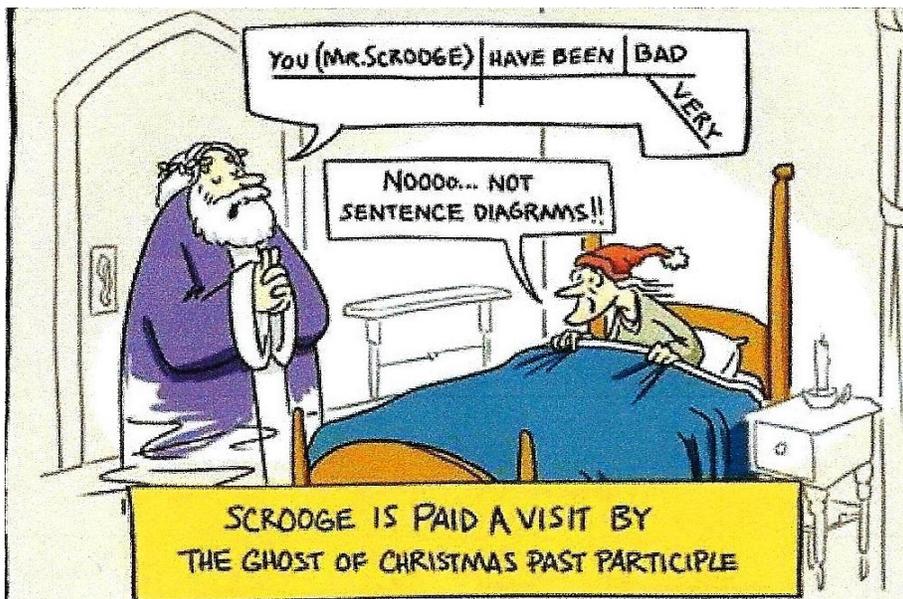
I find resolve in a song “The First Light,” by the a cappella group GLAD: “Hear the angels as they are singing on the morning of His birth, but how much greater will our song be, when comes again to earth!”

So the bottom line for this retired liturgical pastor, let the Advent Season be filled with the Christmas music with all its glory of a Savior born in a stable in Bethlehem, but let it also be a time of preparation for that great second coming as we sing of a Savior returning to rule the earth in PEACE!

After all is said and done, isn’t it our desire to have a life of HOPE (1st candle -purple), PREPARATION (2nd candle-purple), JOY (3rd candle-pink), and LOVE (4th candle-purple) which is depicted on the Advent wreath and then the 5th candle of white is lit on Christmas Day which reminds us that Christ is the Lamb of God, who will come again to earth.

Peace,

Bruce Wilder
Chaplain



About a Nurse



“I’m sorry, but I can’t give you holidays off, or a social life. Would you settle for a candy cane?”



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 #.

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C/O Herbert L. Hirst
P.O. Box 220
North Plains, OR 97133-0220

For Office Use Only
Check # _____
Check Date _____
Amount _____
Date Rcvd _____

Web address – www.araassociation.com