

# 459th Wing Association

BRINGING THE LATEST NEWS TO ALUMNI AND MEMBERS

Winter 2019 Newsletter

P.O. Box 748, Clinton, Maryland 20735



## 459TH TANKERS BRING FUEL TO THE FIGHT

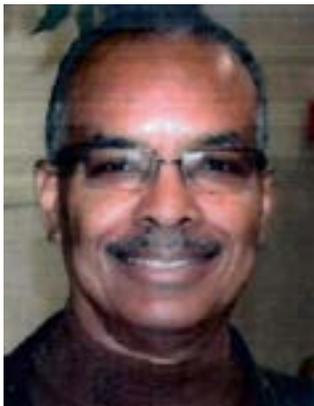
A 459th Air Refueling Wing KC-135 Stratotanker refuels a B-2 Spirit bomber near Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, Jan. 15, 2019. The aircraft flew in support of a U.S. Strategic Command Bomber Task Force mission. U.S. Strategic Command's bomber forces regularly conduct combined theater security cooperation engagements with allies and partners, demonstrating the U.S. capability to command, control and conduct bomber missions across the globe. (U.S. Air Force photo by Master Sgt. Russ Scalf)

## President's Message

By Harold Countee  
459th Wing Association President

Happy New Year! We are already in the second month of 2019, which is hard to believe how fast time is moving.

The 459th Wing Association will be celebrating



their 30th Reunion this year and plans are moving along to celebrate this milestone at the Sheraton Oceanfront Hotel in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The 2019 Reunion will take place October 3 - 6, 2019 so please mark your calendar and make your plans to celebrate with us.

More specific details and the timeline of events will be published in the upcoming spring and summer Newsletters along with the registration form.

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# 459TH WING ASSOCIATION

WINTER 2019 NEWSLETTER

## Staff and Board Members

Harold Countee - President

Tim McConnell - Vice President

Jim Lacey - Secretary

Charles Hawkins- Treasurer

Henry Hinnant - Assistant Treasurer

Patti Fitch- Membership

Charles Fitch

Nancy Oliver

Rodney Walker

Dr. Warren Johnson

Shirley Hawkins - Honorary Member

Kat Justen - Newsletter Editor

The 459th Wing Association consists of current and former members of 459th wings throughout history. The Association provides a means for members to maintain contact with those with whom they have served and to receive news about Wing events and member-news via annual reunions and quarterly newsletters.

Reunions are generally held in cities within a 300 mile radius of Washington DC. The 459th Wing Association began in 1989 and has consistently provided financial support for the 459th Annual awards program and the annual family day events. The Association also donates to the Fisher House.

Membership is continuously open to all wing personnel for an annual contribution of \$15. Look for the membership application included in this newsletter.

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Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 748

Clinton, MD 20735

## Pictures from the 459 ARW



### JBA PERSONNEL BID A FINAL FAREWELL TO GEORGE H.W. BUSH

Joint Base Andrews Airmen salute the remains of late President George H.W. Bush on Joint Base Andrews, Md., Dec. 5, 2018. Nearly 4,000 military and civilian personnel from across all branches of the U.S. armed forces, including Reserve and National Guard components, provided ceremonial support during George H.W. Bush's, the 41st President of the United States state funeral. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Michael S. Murphy)



### UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO CADETS SEE WHAT IT MEANS TO SERVE

70 Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets from Detachment 756, University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus, visited Joint Base Andrews, Maryland, and stopped by the flight line to check out the KC-135 Stratotankers! (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Cierra Presentado)

# Joint Base Andrews 2019 Air Show just around the corner!

The 2019 Joint Base Andrews Air Show featuring the Air Force Thunderbirds and the Navy Blue Angels is scheduled for May 10-12, 2019.

A variety of presentations from military services and other organizations will be present including the KC-135, the F-16 Fighting Falcon, and the UH-1N Iroquois.

The air show kicks off Friday, May 10, with a full program open to the Department of Defense cardholders and special invites only.

On Saturday and Sunday, May 11 to 12, JBA will open its gates to the public.

Free public parking will be available at FedEx Field with shuttles taking attendees to the base from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from the base to FedEx Field until 5 p.m. No public parking will be available on Joint Base Andrews.

No general admission tickets are required to see the show. Attendance is free and open to the public.

VIP tickets are available for May 11-12.

For more information visit:

[www.jba.af.mil/Home/Air-Show/](http://www.jba.af.mil/Home/Air-Show/)



## **Performers/Displays:**

Air Force Thunderbirds

Navy Blue Angels

Army Golden Knights Parachute Jump Team

Geico Skytypers

Patty Wagstaff

B-25 Panchito

Commemorative Air Force P-51 Redtail

Shockwave Jet Truck

Air Combat Command A-10 Demo

USAF Heritage Flight

Michael Goulian

Oracle Flight Team

Tora Bomb Group (Pyrotechnics)

Kent Pietsch

## **Hometown Fliers:**

UH-1N Iroquois

F-16 Fighting Falcon

KC-135 Stratotanker

Possible C-40

USAF Band

USAF Honor Guard / Drill Team

## **Static Displays:**

CAF Redtail P-51

UH-1N



# 30th Annual Reunion!

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Continued from President's page 1

Individual cost will be \$150 per person for the entire 4 days activities.

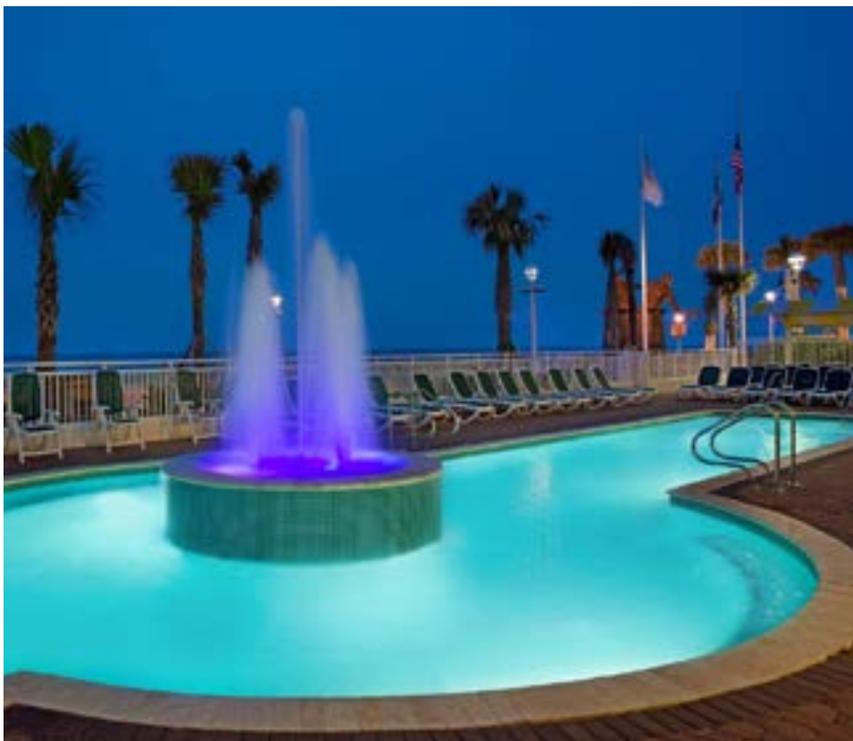
Plans include a Thursday evening meet and greet buffet, Friday luncheon cruise on the Spirit of Norfolk, Saturday museum trip and Saturday evening semi-formal banquet.

Bus transportation will be provided for group activities away from the hotel.

You will need to make your own hotel reservation directly with Marriott by calling 757-425-9000.

Hotel room rate is \$89 per night for a city view king room, \$99 per night for a partial view double queen and \$119 per night for a deluxe oceanfront king room.

Parking at the Sheraton is complimentary (self parking or valet). I am looking forward to seeing each of you again who joined us last year and I hope to see some new faces this year for our 30th so please sign up early.



# 459th, JBA partners host Pilot for a Day



The Pilot for a Day program started in the 1990s at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas and in 2005 at Joint Base Andrews. Known as P4D, the program is designed to give terminally ill children the opportunity to live out their dreams for a day. It is a joint effort between the 459th Air Refueling Wing and base organizations to provide an exciting and exceptional experience for young children.





**STAFF SGT. JORDAN WHITEHEAD**

459th Aerospace Medicine Squadron  
Aerospace Medical Technician

*"The support that I have received from my unit and the leadership here has allowed me to accomplish goals and expectations of myself, and set the bar as high as I see fit. The variety of exposure from just being in the military opens a lot of doors, which I think is distinctive to the Reserve experience."*

## *Final Fly-By*

**Senior Master Sgt.  
William Joseph  
Kennedy II**  
*April 13, 1922 -  
Jan. 21, 2019*



Kennedy passed away on January 21, 2019 in Ellicott City, MD. He served the 459th as first sergeant of the headquarters squadron later transferring to the 459th Civil Engineer Squadron, also serving as the first sergeant.

He was a loving father, grandfather, uncle, great grandfather and brother. His 459th family also mourns his passing. A private burial was held at Cheltenham Veterans Cemetery.

## Dues can be paid online!

We now have the ability to pay dues online through PayPal thanks to Tim McConnell, who spent countless hours updating our website. Our site is [www.459thwingassociation.com](http://www.459thwingassociation.com). Once on the home page, scroll to the bottom and click on "pay dues online."

As a reminder the annual dues are \$15.00 per year to be paid by March 31st. To save time and money you may also pay dues for multiple years. Your newsletter will have the year you are paid through printed in the upper right hand corner of the address label on the newsletter.

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND ANNUAL DUES

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Dear Fellow 459th Members and Former Members;

The general purpose of this association is to promote and encourage current and former members of the 459th Wing to remain in touch with those with whom they served, and to support morale programs for active 459th reservists and their families. Activities of the Association include:

- Publishing a quarterly newsletter containing articles regarding Association members, Association events, and 459th Air Refueling Wing activities.
- Providing financial support for the 459th ARW Annual Awards program.
- Providing financial support for the Family Day Picnic.
- Donating to the Fischer House.
- Holding annual reunions in cities within an approximate 300 mile radius from Washington, D.C.

**459th Troop Carrier Wing      459th Airlift Wing**

**459th Tactical Airlift Wing      459th Air Refueling Wing**

Please cut here and return completed form with check

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Membership Application and Renewal of Annual Dues, 2018.

Please complete this form and return with check for \$15.00 payable to:

**459th Wing Association  
P.O. Box 748  
Clinton, MD 20735**

I am/was assigned to 459th Wing or  
associate unit.

From \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone – home \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Current or last position in the 459th \_\_\_\_\_

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# 459th Wing Association

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P.O. BOX 748, clinton, maryland 20735-0748



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED