

THE AIRSHIP



Navy Lakehurst Historical Society

P.O. Box 328 Lakehurst, NJ 08733

<http://www.nlhs.com>

Jan - Feb 2016

Meeting and Elections Wednesday Jan 13, 2016 at 7 PM

NLHS OFFICERS

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Ron Montgomery
Rick Zitarosa
Charles Bish

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Thomas Kunz

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Rick Zitarosa

NLHS Base Tours

Membership Director

Donald Adams

NLHC & Ready Room Director

Ron Montgomery

Asst NLHC & Ready Room Director

Pete Lovering

NLHC Curators

Kevin Pace
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Ron Stryshak

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Thomas Kunz

PAO

Elizabeth Rossell

Gift Shop Manager

Robert Hull & Diane Chierchie
Sharon Adams

NLHS Photographer

Max Frei

How True

When the President calls 911, the aircraft carriers answer!

When the aircraft carriers call 911, Lakehurst answers!

View from the Top Presidents Message

Happy New Year to all NLHS Officers, trustees, members, our Joint Base M-D-L Military personnel and our many supporters and friends of NLHS.

The year 2016 has arrived rather quickly and brings with it many challenges and expectations. Your President, Officers and Trustees look forward to continuing our many events, tours, speaking engagements and working and supporting our military leadership and personnel.

I'm very grateful for your support and contributions to NLHS during the past year of 2015.

Membership Meeting

Our next NLHS General Membership meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan 13th, 2016 at 7PM on Joint Base Lakehurst, Bldg. 484, Galley Conference Room.

This meeting agenda will include the election of officers and trustees. Election for 1st VP and 3 trustee positions will be on the ballot.

Our incumbent VP, Don Adams, has agreed to be on the ballot for a 2 year term. Trustees Tara Cunningham, Tom Kunz and Peter Larkin are also seeking re-election for 1 year terms. Any member in good standing is welcome to run for any of these positions. To enter your name on the ballot, call our Nomination Chairperson, Tom Kuchler at 609-567-4082.

Officers Meeting

Our next Officers & Trustees meeting will be Saturday, Feb 20, 2016 at our usual location Bldg. 150 at 9:30 AM. For various reasons, some of our board members have been absent from recent meetings.

- 1 President's Message
- 1 Membership Meeting
- 1 Officers Meeting
- 1 Volunteer Hours
- 1 Tours
- 1 How True
- 2 NLHS Website
- 2 Taps
- 2 Military Family Night
- 2 Cold War History Talk
- 2 Hindenburg 80th Anniv.
- 2 Dues Notice
- 2 Drop a Line
- 2 Outside Speaking Program
- 2 Family Support Group
- 2 Welcome Aboard
- 2 Congratulations
- 2-4 BRAC Updates
- 4 Calendar of Events
- 4 Jan 2016 Meeting Coupon
- 5 Brass Plate flyer
- 6 Gift Shop Order Form

Please make time to attend and show your support and give your input so NLHS can continue to move forward.

Volunteer Hours

Volunteer hours for October, November and December for the NLHC and Ready Room, tours, work projects and outside speaking engagements totaled over 565 hours. Many thanks to our volunteers for your support: Don Adams, Carl Larsen, Rick Zitarosa, Frank Dennis, Nick Rakoncza, Ron Montgomery, Charlie Bish, Ron Stryshak, Frank Smith, Kevin Mulligan, Pete Lovering, Pete Murphy, Kevin Pace, Howie Sjursen, Elizabeth Rossell, Peter Larkin, Susan K. Koller, Roger Jordan, Jim Morano, Robert Hull, Sharon Adams, Diane Chierchie and Carl Jablonski.

Tours

Our tours continue to be a very popular attraction. Starting now our winter tours will be given every

Wednesday and every 2nd Saturday of the month from 10am to 1 pm. Don Adams, Nick Rakoncza, Frank Dennis, Carl Larsen, Ron Montgomery, Carl Jablonski, Kevin Mulligan, Elizabeth Rossell, Susan K. Koller and Rick Zitarosa continue to serve as tour guides.

Taps

The Officers, Trustees and Members of NLHS extend condolences and sympathy to Ann & Rick Zitarosa and their families. On Dec 15, 2015 Ann's brother, Robert Hofmann, passed away at age 79 in Florida. Services were held Dec 18, 2015.

Visit our New & Updated Web Site

Thanks to Tara Cunningham for your talents as Web Master and grant coordinator. Thanks to Margaret Burgess and her husband Dave who set up our previous website and who still do a great job in printing our newsletter.

Military Family Night

On Thursday, Nov 12, 2015, Joint Base M-D-L held the Annual Military Family Support nite at the Gym on Joint Base Lakehurst from 5 to 8 pm. Fun, games, exhibits, face painting, pizza, subs and more were enjoyed by all. Our NLHS info table was staffed by Don Adams, Tom & Marion Kuchler and Carl Jablonski.

Joint Base M-D-L Cold War History Talk

On Thursday, Jan 21, 2016, at 6 pm, at the Joint Base McGuire Library. The Cold War events that Joint Base M-D-L was involved in will be on the program. NLHS will participate with regard to Air Ship missions. All are invited. Carl Jablonski, Kevin Pace and Don Adams will represent NLHS.

Hindenburg 80th Anniversary

Yes, to answer your many calls, e-mails, etc...NLHS will be sponsoring an 80th Anniversary Hindenburg Memorial Dinner on Friday, May 5, 2017 at the Clarion Hotel, Rt. 37, Toms River, NJ. Time, tickets, etc ...to be announced. Of course on Saturday, May 6, 2017 we will conduct our annual Memorial Service at the Memorial at Joint Base Lakehurst.

Dues Notice

Don Adams has done an excellent job in the mailing of dues notices. Many thanks to all who have responded with their payments. If you haven't renewed yet, your prompt payment will be appreciated. Dues are \$25 (1yr) or \$45 (2yrs)

Drop A Line Send a Card

NLHS is asking our members to consider sending a get well card to:

**A Recovering American Soldier
c/o Walter Reed Army Medical Center
6900 Georgia Avenue
N.W. Washington, DC 20307-5001**

Outside Speaking Program

A presentation on the Hindenburg Disaster will be presented at 2 PM on Jan 29, 2016 at the Pines in Whiting, NJ and again on Feb 8, 2016 at 7 PM at the Beachwood Library. All are welcome to attend. Presenter is your President, Carl Jablonski.

Family Support Group

On Jan 20, 2016 at 10 AM, Joint Base M-D-L Family Support will meet at Family Support Center at Joint Base McGuire. Don Adams and Carl Jablonski will represent NLHS.

Welcome Aboard

NLHS welcomes aboard our newest gift shop volunteer, Sharon Adams,

who joins Bob & Diane on our volunteer Staff. Sharon joins her husband Don Adams as part of a dual volunteer team.

Congratulations

NLHS sends congrats and Best Wishes to Lt. Gen. Gina M. Grosso, USAF, upon her recent promotion to this rank. Lt. Gen. Grosso was the first CO of Joint Base M-D-L and a very strong supporter then and presently of NLHS. Best Wishes and continued Success.

BRAC Updates

Lots of newspaper coverage regarding Joint Base M-D-L. Please read the articles printed here to keep up on what's happening.

New law protects Join Base from Closure

President Obama signed into law Friday a revised defense policy bill that protects Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst from cuts and bans the Pentagon from paying sports teams to honor the Armed Forces.

Obama signed the legislation, who sets U.S. defense policy for the next 12 months, without fanfare. He had vetoed an earlier version after congressional Republicans tried to get around spending caps for the Defense Department but refused to do the same for domestic programs.

The National Defense Authorization Act reflects higher defense and domestic spending in a two-year budget bill agreed to by Obama and Congress.

For New Jersey, the law means that the Pentagon cannot spend money to retire the KC-10 refueling tanker planes currently stationed at McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, nor begin a new round of military base closings.

N.J. lawmakers had been concerned that the facility would be scaled back or closed under any program to reduce the number or size of Pentagon bases.

The law also bans "pay for patriotism" promotions, in which taxpayer-funded troop salutes were held at sporting events as part of

military recruiting efforts.

NJ Advance Media first reported on the practice in May after U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.) cited it as one of his examples of wasteful government spending. Flake co-authored a ban included in the Senate version of the defense bill and U.S. Rep. Frank LoBiondo (R-2nd Dist.) added an amendment to the House version as well.

Flake and U.S. Sen. John McCain reported in November that 50 professional sports teams, including the New York Mets and New York Jets, saluted U.S. troops with the help of American taxpayers as part of the Pentagon's recruitment efforts. The list also included NASCAR, Indiana University and the University of Wisconsin. The cost to taxpayers was more than \$10 million.

Bill saves planes at Joint Base

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry tours KC-10s at Joint Base

The U.S. military's largest and most efficient aerial refueling aircraft – more than half of which are housed at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst – were taken off the chopping block last week when President Barack Obama signed the nation's defense policy bill into law.

Eliminating the use of the KC-10 Extenders, which have been in use by the U.S. Air Force since 1981, would have put the Joint Base at risk for closure, said Rep. Tom MacArthur, R-New Jersey, who represents the Third Congressional District where the base is located.

"This is one of the linchpins of this base," MacArthur said. "And if you take away one of the linchpins, it's like taking the anchor out of a shopping mall. It kind of cuts the heart out of everything."

MacArthur and House Armed Services Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry, R-Texas, toured the Joint Base and the KC-10s on Friday, just one week after the bill that ensures the use of the aircraft until 2025 was signed into law.

MacArthur said having Thornberry

— chairman of one of the largest and most powerful committees in Congress — tour the Joint Base is meaningful. The committee drives defense policy for the nation.

The original version of the defense bill included plans to retire the planes, but MacArthur said he introduced the language that ultimately passed in both the House and the Senate, and survived presidential veto.

"We could have had a situation here where it got easy to pick off other pieces of the base until you're left with the question of why have the Joint Base at all," MacArthur said.

Thirty-two of the nation's 59 KC-10s are at the Joint Base, and the other 27 are at the Travis Air Force Base in California.

Impact

The Joint Base is responsible for about \$3.4 million of New Jersey's gross domestic product and has a \$6.9 million economic impact annually, according to Col. Frederick Thaden, commander of the Joint Base.

The base is the second largest employer next to state government, and employs about 65,500 people. Losing the KC-10s would have meant the loss of about 1,000 jobs, MacArthur said.

Saving the KC-10s isn't only a local victory for South Jersey's economy, but for national security, MacArthur said.

"Our fighters and bombers and cargo planes all stay in the air longer and go farther," MacArthur said. "It means we can keep these planes closer to home and out of harm's way when they're not being deployed. In my view, that's essential for carrying out our missions around the world."

Thornberry, who said most of the House Armed Services Committee agreed that the KC-10s were needed, said air refueling is an "absolute essential" part of everyday operations for the military. There aren't many other viable options for replacements right now, he said.

KC-46s, which were originally supposed to replace the KC-10s, had a lot of problems and needed to be redesigned several times, Thornberry said. They hold about 212,000 pounds of fuel, compared to 350,000 that the KC-10s can hold.

"Even the best airplane can't fly

forever," Thornberry said. "2025 will not be that far away."

In addition to the fuel, KC-10s can hold up to 170,000 pounds of cargo, said Capt. Dan DeRusha, a KC-10 instructor pilot with the 305th Air Mobility Wing. The planes can travel more than 11,000 miles without cargo, and about 4,000 at maximum capacity.

They can fly directly to the Middle East without stopping, DeRusha said.

"This is the premier tanker in the world," said Col. Dennis Duffy, vice commander of the 514th Air Mobility Wing, which is an Air Force Reserve wing at the Joint Base. "It can carry more cargo — no less passengers and all the fuel — than any other by far."

The planes have been in constant operation since the Gulf War started in 1991, and have been part of missions all over the world, including the Middle East, said Col. John F. Price, commander of the 305th Air Mobility Wing.

Aging beauties

"It's never been, 'let's bring them home and give them a rest,'" Price said. "Over time, the cumulative fatigue that comes starts to show itself, especially on an aging beauty, which it is."

The planes are also crucial for the East Coast, Price said. If you take the Air National Guard and Reserve refueling planes out of the picture, there's one squadron of KC-135 refueling aircraft in Florida, but nothing else until Kansas.

The most demand for these planes is on the East Coast, especially because the shortest route to Europe is over the North Pole.

"You need credible, substantial air refueling capability in the Northeast," Price said. "That's why we feel McGuire needs to be a strategic refueling hub for the long term."

Thornberry said Congress, the Pentagon and the Air Force will have to find a viable solution for replacing the planes in the future.

At any given time, about 15 percent of the aircraft are undergoing repairs, Price said. The biggest problem is finding spare parts. The KC-10s are at about 150 percent of the projected operating hours they were originally designed for, he said.

"We don't have a singular trending

item that doesn't allow it to fly on a day-to-day basis," Price said. "It's just an aging plane."

For the 514th, eliminating the KC-10s, or phasing in a new aircraft would be catastrophic for the training and retention of the Reserve wing.

"Guys don't always want to go to school again," said Col. Robert Dunham, commander of the 514th. "What we're scared of is the interim solution. To go through (a transition) twice would mean we'd end up losing a lot of experience and capability."

Congress made an important statement by not retiring the planes, Thornberry said.

"We cannot prematurely retire aircraft. We've seen the Pentagon make some poor recommendations before on retiring aircraft and Congress has stopped it," he said. "Everybody's been glad when we did."

N.J.'s joint military base getting new protections

Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, saved from reductions in the defense policy bill signed into law last month, will receive additional protection in the \$1.1 trillion government spending bill to be enacted by Congress this week.

Legislation funding the government through Sept. 30 contains the same provisions as the National Defense Authorization Act, which established defense policy for the current fiscal year.

Those provisions prevent the Pentagon from both transferring or retiring the KC-10 refueling tanker planes now stationed at the base, and from creating a new Base Realignment and Closure Commission to look at shutting down military facilities.

"We now have double protection," said U.S. Rep. Tom MacArthur (R-3rd Dist.), whose district includes the joint base. "There's no authority to retire the KC-10s or do a (Base Realignment and Closure Commission) and there's no funding to do either."

New Members

NLHS Welcomes the following new member:

Patricia Washburn LaPlace, LA

2016 Calendar of Events

Jan 1, 2016 – Happy New Year

Jan 13 – Members Meeting & Elections
7 PM Galley Conf. Room Bldg. 484

Jan 18 – Martin Luther King Day

Feb 12 – Lincoln's Birthday

Feb 14 – Valentine's Day

Feb 14 – Happy Birthday DonAdams

Feb 15 - President's Day

Feb 20 – Officer & Trustee Meeting

Feb 29 – Leap Year – extra day

Mar 8 – Membership Meeting

Mar 17 – St. Patrick's Day

Mar 20 – Palm Sunday

Mar 27 – Easter Sunday

Apr 1 – Beware! April Fools Day

Apr 15 – Officers Meeting

Apr 15 – IRS Tax Day

Apr 22 - Passover

**NLHS January Meeting Attendance Coupon Wednesday, Jan 13, 2016 7PM
Meeting Location: The Galley Conference meeting room located in Bldg. #484**

FULL NAME in following format: (please print) Make copies for each person attending

Last Name _____ **First name** _____

Full Middle Name (not maiden name) _____

Drivers License #: _____ **State:** _____

PHONE (with area code): _____

MAIL TO: Navy Lakehurst Historical Society P.O. Box 328 Lakehurst, NJ 08733
Or e-mail information to : NAVLAKE@PRODIGY.net

ATTN: January Meeting

DEADLINE: Jan 10, 2016 by 12 noon

**You must fill out this coupon if you plan on attending the meeting
and don't have a pass for the base.**

NOTE: Your NLHS Membership card IS NOT a base pass.

NLHS STORE ITEMS – See Website for pictures of items www.nlhs.com

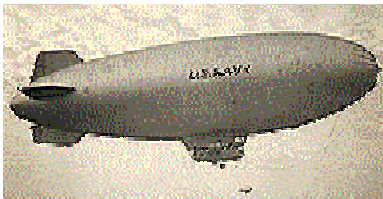
Item #	Category	Description	Price	Notes
511	Patches	Lakehurst Decal	\$2.50	Ship incl
706	Patches	NAS Lakehurst Patch or Naval Support Activity Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
708	Patches	ZP-1 Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
701	Patches	Airship Squadron Two Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
703	Patches	Blimp Squadron 12 Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
709	Patches	ZP-14 Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
702	Patches	Bayou Bomber Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
704	Patches	Lambda Tau Alpha Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
711	Patches	ZW-1 Patch: Early Warning Squadron Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
710	Patches	ZP-3 Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
801	Patches	Navy Lakehurst 90th Anniversary Patch	\$7.50	Ship incl
96	Ballcaps	NAS Lakehurst ballcap	\$23.00	Ship incl
97	Ballcaps	USS Macon (ZRS-5) ballcap	\$23.00	Ship incl
98	Ballcaps	Hindenburg (D-LZ129) ballcap	\$23.00	Ship incl
99	Ballcaps	USS Shenandoah (ZR-1) ballcap	\$23.00	Ship incl
100	Ballcaps	USS Akron (ZRS-4) ballcap	\$23.00	Ship incl
101	Ballcaps	USS Los Angeles (ZR-3) ballcap	\$23.00	Ship incl
11	Books	Fleet Angels of Lakehurst	\$15.00	\$5 shipping
95	Books	Guide to over 900 Aircraft Museums – USA and Canada	\$20.00	Ship incl
205	Books	Images of America: Naval Air Station Lakehurst	\$22.00	\$5 shipping
209	Books	The Airship Experience	\$23.00	\$5 shipping
213	Books	US Navy Airships 1915-1962	\$23.00	\$5 shipping
212	Books	US Army Airships 1908-1942	\$23.00	\$5 shipping
208	Books	Snafu	\$20.00	\$5 shipping
201	Books	American Airship Bases and Facilities	\$25.00	\$5 shipping
216	Books	Aweigh and Up	\$25.00	\$5 shipping
217	Books	The Van Dyk Collection of LTA Plans & Drawings	\$25.00	\$5 shipping
218	Books	Airships vs Submarines	\$28.00	\$5 shipping
404	Lithographs	USS Shenandoah ZR-1 (Daughter of the Stars)	\$30.00	\$5 shipping
406	Lithographs	Hindenburg Final Moments (color)	\$30.00	\$5 shipping
510	Mugs	Hindenburg Coffee Mug	\$10.00	Ship incl
85	Mugs	Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst Mug	\$10.00	Ship incl
106	Shirts	Navy Lakehurst T-shirt (Blue) Sm – XL (2XL -3XL-\$22)	\$20.00	Ship incl
102	Shirts	Navy Lakehurst Golf Shirt (Dk Blue) Med – XL (2XL -3XL-\$31)	\$26.00	Ship incl
103	Shirts	Navy Lakehurst Crew Neck Sweatshirt (Navy Blue) M – XL (2XL-3XL-\$32)	\$29.00	Ship incl
104	Shirts	Navy Lakehurst Hooded Sweatshirt (Navy Blue) M – XL (2XL - 3XL-\$38)	\$35.00	Ship incl
105	Shirts	Blimp T-shirt (grey) specify K, L or G Blimp image - M-XL (2XL - 3XL-\$22)	\$20.00	Ship incl
301	DVD	The Blimp Goes to War Again (color)	\$35.00	Ship incl
308	DVD	Airships Fight a Cold War (color)	\$35.00	Ship incl
302	DVD	Airship Handling (B&W)	\$25.00	Ship incl
303	DVD	LS-129 Hindenburg (B&W)	\$25.00	Ship incl
699	Special Order	Hindenburg Display Model (44 1/4 inches long and 9inch diameter)	\$349.00	plus ship
698	Special Order	Hindenburg Display Model (65 inches long and 14 1/4 inch diameter)	\$599.00	plus ship
697	Special Order	Graf Zeppelin Kit	\$99.95	plus ship
696	Special Order	USS Macon Display Model	\$199.00	plus ship
800	Military Posters	6 different choices see website for information	\$12.00	\$5 shipping
307	Sculpture	Hangar One Wood Sculpture	\$17.00	\$5 shipping
306	Sculpture	Hindenburg Wood Sculpture	\$24.00	\$5 shipping

NLHS MAIL ORDER FORM
(see www.nlhs.com for pictures of items)

Item #	Description	Color	Size	Price	Quantity	Shipping	Total
TOTAL Remitted							

Name _____
 Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____
 Phone Number (in case of problem with order) _____

Please send this form with check or money order payable to Navy Lakehurst Historical Society to:
Navy Lakehurst Historical Society
PO Box 328 Lakehurst, NJ 08733



Navy Lakehurst Historical Society, INC

Preserving the Heritage of Naval Air Station Lakehurst

A New Jersey Non-Profit Corp.

The Navy Lakehurst Historical Society would like to offer our members and the general public, the opportunity to memorialize a loved ones service to our county with a permanent brass nameplate. These plates will be mounted on the wall of the museum, midway between the floor and the ceiling. Each nameplate will be seen by visitors who come to the museum each year. It is a wonderful, yet inexpensive way, to insure your family member will be remembered in a setting befitting their service to our state and to the nation.

The donation cost of each brass plate is only \$50.00. Even this minimal cost is offset by the fact the museum is a 501-C(3) non-profit, enabling you to deduct the full cost when you file your income taxes.

Your donation serves two purposes. First, and most important, it serves to memorialize a family member who served this country in peacetime or in war. It also allows the museum to continue to grow and expand, insuring tomorrow's youth learn what the price of freedom is and WHO paid it.

Below are some samples of what can be put on the memorial plate:

Sgt. John Smith US Army Co. A 12 th Inf Rgt 5 th Inf Div European Theater - WWII	Maj. John Smith USAF – USAF Res 30 th Tac Ftr Sq 354 th Tac Ftr Wg Cold War	Capt. John Smith USAAF 705 th BMS 384 th BMB GRP Pacific Theatre – WWII
Cpl John Smith USMC 5 th Bn 7 th Marines Korean War	S/Sgt. John Smith USAF Air Nat Guard 132 nd FIS 101 st FIW Vietnam War	CPO Mary Smith US Navy USS IOWA Cold War

Please fill out the exact wording you'd like on the memorial plate. (Please PRINT)

Name, rank & branch of service:

Unit Identification:

Time or area of service

To place an order, please call 732-244-8861 or mail your completed order from to:

NLHS PO Box 328 Lakehurst, NJ 08733

ATTN: Memorial