

CALL THE BALL

August 1999

Commanders Corner.

Summer struck with a meeting attended by more seniors than cadets? Units do tend to fluxuate during the summer months what with summer activities but this is the second time in just a few months. I want to remind you how important it is to attend meetings. Remember your Cadet oath. Lack of participation often steamrolls into low unit moral. Reverse the trend and ATTEND! Maj. Ovens has given us a date of Sept 11th for a combination activity. We will be working the flight line for the RV flying. Once the aircraft have been tucked away the 4th (or is it the 3rd) annual Rocketry invitational will occur. This will be a terrific chance to get your flight line checked off on your 101s AND check out the very nifty homebrew airplanes. Pilots from all over the state will arrive and since this will be very busy we will need to be alert and ready for any emergency. FREE FOOD! Sept 11th starting at 0-dark thirty. I have not given up on the Glider flights or the Blue Cap. Glider flights must go through a gammet of forms and authorizations plus a special appearance by a USAF officer. We have the ok but not locked in dates yet. I missed an ELT mission right here in Jordan. Those phones ringing at 2AM can only mean one thing. Have the phone nearby have your gear ready to go and stay on the bounce!

Promotions.

Congrats to Sgt. Mary Long on passing the Level I exam and to C/Capt Mitch Ehresman on passing the Earhart, SM Travis D. Howard on passing the Level I exam.

Leadership.

Say what you do and do what you say. Lead follow or get the BLANK out of the way.

Jody Contest.

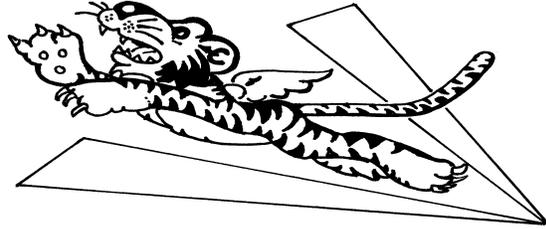
\$15 Cash prize for the best 130th Jody! Payable by fearless leader.

Aerospace.

Lunar prospector searches for lunar water. Why is water important to establishing a base on the moon? Water by itself can be used to drink or wash with. Of more direct importance it can be broken down with an electrical current into Oxygen (for breathing / Oxidizer) and Hydrogen (Rocket Fuel) Did you know that the Shuttle's main engine runs on this fuel mix? The moon provides (via sunlight) electrical energy and heat. Minerals on the surface can be used to construct housing and metals can be smelted. But air, water and fuel? Having a source on the surface would put us ahead an amazing amount. And remember that a MARS mission launched from the Moon has far less gravity to overcome. Will a base happen anytime soon? We can hope so but you are the future movers and shakers and only you can really make it happen.

Some History "facts" revisited by Capt. Craswell.

As mentioned before these are personal opinions. Form your own! Read and study history! General Patton and the "Slapping" incident. I guess a lot of you have seen the Movie Patton and know that our General was a mental patient who spent most of his time mumbling to himself about the wars he fought in past lives. That he "Loved War" and went out of his mind when he saw soldiers with Battle Fatigue. That his soldiers called him "Blood n Guts" and on mass muttered "Yeah his guts and OUR blood!" Sadly you have been sold a bill of goods. "Blood n Guts" was an invention of the press. His men called him "Georgie." Of his news paper inspired



130th Farmington Composite Squadron

name General Patton only commented on it once. "The newspapers call me Old Blood and Guts, that' s all right. It serves its purpose. It makes good reading. But it takes more than blood and guts to win battles. It takes *brains* and guts!" The movie served it's purpose too! This was filmed in the peak of the Antiwar years of the 1960s. To the point of this short incite into history you have to remember that WW2 was a time of open brutal warfare. American GIs were facing a well trained and equipped Axis Army that was capable of many horrors. In short men found out that they were not up to the task of being a infantryman. Who of us can say what we would do? In any event in these terrible times cowardice in the face of the enemy was punishable by death. Unlike the Germans to our credit only one soldier was ever given this full measure of punishment. At the same time the General felt a special sympathy for the men who had been injured. Mixing those that would not fight with those who could not was abhorrent to him. His statement after the first incident "One sometimes slaps a baby to bring it to." clearly shows that he meant to snap this GI back to his senses so he could complete his duty. Clearly it was within his power to have the man court marshaled and perhaps eventually shot! It is helpful to consider that DIs of this period were quite capable of putting the boot to a mans aft end who did not snap to quickly enough. Or taking him on in a boxing match and knocking him down a few dozen times to remind him of his place in the food chain. Rapists, murderers etc were court marshaled and quickly hung until dead in the Army of the 40s. As to the crazed mumblings about past lives and so on the Generals own diary provides an incite into his love of History. He knew the paths that ancient armies took not because of past lives but because he had researched them! No where did he mention this rubbish. But in the Movie biz of the 60s (as in the newspaper biz of the 1940s) It serves its purpose. Too bad it was just made up rubbish!

Hazing.

What is it? The dictionary provides the following to irritate, annoy 1. Naut. to oppress, punish, or harass by forcing to do hard and unnecessary work 2. to initiate or discipline by forcing to do ridiculous, humiliating, or painful things. Not what you thought eh? We know that discipline is good. CAP needs discipline to work. Being told to do hard work is often a fact of life in CAP. Ridiculous? That of course is subjective. The primary points that make hazing improper are humiliating and painful things. Collage hazings that cause deaths are a perfect example of what we will not tolerate. Beating or kicking a plebe down is another. Using a position of authority to humiliate or injure a fellow member is not only wrong it is stupid. That member may well be in a position to harm or injure you in the field by his or her actions or even lack of action. Some examples of what Hazing is not: Being made to hold a rock in your "right" hand to remind you which way to turn when ordered to Right Face. You may think it ridiculous. However not knowing left from right is more so. Joining all of your flight doing major league PT after someone forgets to police up their area. Singling out an individual for PT can be humiliating and if taken to extremes possibly painful or worse. Being the cause of the flight having to do extra work is "educational."

You KNOW what Hazing is and why it's wrong.

FROM THE WING COMMANDER

This note is in response to an inquiry from Lt. Col. Pat Slice about what the membership can do about the recent search of National Headquarters and some Wing Headquarters. She is concerned with the lack of direction we are receiving in this situation. I will attempt to express my feelings on the situation.

1. I am not knowledgeable of the affidavit(s) that supported the search warrant, therefore any speculation by me would not be proper.
2. This is an active investigation, therefore we cannot interfere with the court action, only comply with it. If anyone is served a search warrant, ensure that it is valid and then comply with it. Advise me of the situation and I will advise National HQ.
3. At this time, Minnesota Wing has not been served a search warrant. Nor has anyone been officially questioned about the situation.
4. Often investigations like this do not result in criminal action, that is for the agents of the court to decide. To speculate at this time would be inappropriate and the fewer rumors the better.
5. We have had the support of many members of Congress for CAP, however, I feel it would be inappropriate at this time for our members to contact their representatives about an open court investigation, knowing what we know.
6. We must continue to accomplish our mission. I am confident that we will get reimbursed as in the past, it may just take a bit longer. I have directed Emergency Services and Operations to continue as normal, in accordance with CAP Regulations, with operations in Minnesota. Reimbursement direct to members from Minnesota Wing will continue as normal.
7. I will be attending the National Board on August 12th to 14th in Denver. I am sure that more information will be available by then. I will continue to keep Minnesota and the Civil Air Patrol's interest first as I vote on the issues at the Board.
8. We must continue to maintain and improve our day to day relations with the USAF. What is taking place is at the Headquarters level and members of the USAF have even less information than we do. We will continue to work with these members after this situation is over. They have been supportive and appreciate our efforts.

I am confident that Civil Air Patrol will continue to perform our Missions for America. I ask for your confidence and support during this time.

Kevin F. Sliwinski, Colonel, CAP

A couple of details have been left out of messages about the 21 August CAC meeting at Wing Headquarters. (Sorry, we're still new at this).

Uniform - Summer blues - no ties
Time - 0900-1200 (end twas omitted in previous messages)

Alternative representatives are encouraged to attend even if the primary representative will attend. Alternates can submit proposals, participate in discussions, etc. - they just can't vote if the primary representative is there.

Again, all units must submit a CAPF 2a to the Director of Cadet Programs appointing a new primary and alternate representative. Thanks to the squadrons that have got this done.

James Agan
C/Lt. Col, CAP
MNWG CAC Chair-Elect

Please keep our group 4 commander in your prayers. Recovering from major heart surgery Aug 1999

STAY SAFE AND USE YOUR HEAD!

