

CALL THE BALL

The Newsletter of the 130th Composite Flight

Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence and Respect

<http://www.mnwg.cap.gov/farmington>

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Commanders Corner

I just finished reading the autobiography *To Hell and Back*. I wonder how many of you know of the author? Audie Leon Murphy, son of poor Texas sharecroppers, rose to national fame as the most decorated U.S. combat soldier of World War II. Among his 33 awards and decorations was the Medal of Honor, the highest military award for bravery that can be given to any individual in the United States of

America, for "conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty." He also received every decoration for valor that his country had to offer, some of them more than once, including 5 decorations by France and Belgium. Murphy was considered too young looking for the Marines or the Navy he enlisted at age 16 into the United States Army. While on a business trip on May 28, 1971, (Memorial Day Weekend) he was killed at the age of 46. A private plane flying in fog and rain crashed in the side of a mountain near Roanoke, Virginia. Audie owned and flew his own plane earlier in his career at Hollywood, he was among the passengers that tragic day. My impression of him as a young admirer was "Wow he looks younger than me!" He was the recipient of the rarely offered battlefield commission (As was my "Pop" who inexplicably turned it down). When he returned from WWII he was "recruited" by legendary actor Jimmy Cagney and made a number of very good movies. Mostly Westerns but he did a few WWII pieces including a film based on his autobiography.

In Audie Murphy's book "To Hell and Back" some of his infantry buddies serenaded the Army Air Corp with the song "Junior Birdmen"

Into the air, Junior Birdmen. Into the air, Boy Scouts too! Into the air, Junior Birdmen, And keep your nose up in the blue. And when they make a presentation and hand out those wings of tin, You too can be a Junior Birdman - If you'll send those box tops in

The rest of this version is not fit for nice company and besides which was broken up by a fist fight in the book. *Note the Boy Scouts no doubt being offended by their inclusion came up with a slightly different version of the same song but with no mention of any flying Boy Scouts.

Up in the air, Junior Birdmen. Up in the air, upside down. Up in the air, Junior Birdmen. Keep your noses off the ground. And when you hear the grand announcement, That their wings are made of tin. Then you will know the Junior Birdmen, Have sent their box tops in. For it takes: 5 box tops, 4 bottle bottoms, 3 coupons,

2 wrappers, and one tin dime! JUNIOR, BIRDMEN! Bottle bottoms are replaced with "Four labels" in the modern version of the song, no doubt because of the lack of these in modern times.

All kidding aside I was reading a copy of the Army Times that included a cartoon of a soldier who had just finished 3rd place in a race and was offered a first place trophy. He answered "I didn't earn it. I finished 3rd!" The lesson is that an award is meaningless if it represents nothing. As you look to win awards such as your Mitchell Earhart, Spatz awards, Eagle Scout, Collage Diplomas, A & P License, Ham Radio License, Votech Diploma, Pilots License etc Remind yourself that the paper means nothing if there is nothing behind it. We are besieged with Collage Diplomas from shady fly by night outfits that pass them out like coupons. Don't accept relaxed standards to increase the numbers of "graduates."

AWARDS

Stars, Props and other additions to ribbons often indicate the wearer has earned the award multiple times. There are some notable exceptions. Did you know that the Goddard Award can be fastooned with a silver star if the recipient has previously been awarded the model rocketry Badge? Cadets who rate the Mitchell award and have successfully completed the Cadet Officer School wear the Mitchell with a silver star. Seniors who have reached the Senior Level of their specialty track can wear the Leadership Ribbon with a Bronze Star. At Master Level they wear the Leadership ribbon with the Silver Star. Seniors who have been awarded the Garber Award and completed Squadron Officer School are awarded the Bronze Star for that award. Seniors who have been awarded the Wilson Award and complete Air Command and Staff College wear the Bronze star. A silver star represents completion of Air War College. Senior members who have earned the Yeager Award prior to completion of Level III can obtain that certificate with the coveted Yeager Seal Affixed. **MOST IMPORTANT! Per CAPR39-3 The individual member is responsible for preparing and submitting to the unit commander CAP Form 2a, Request for and Approval of Personal Actions, when the requirements for an activity or service ribbon has been completed.** Upon approval, activity and service ribbons are purchased by the awarding unit or by the individual recipient, as appropriate. Please keep that in mind if you are wondering what happened to your recruiter etc ribbon.

PROMOTIONS & AWARDS.

Congratulations to C/AIC Brett Johnson for his successful graduation of Basic Encampment at the Grand Forks Air Force Base! Kudos to Major Ronald Owens, SM Steven Jazwinski, Captain James Craswell and LtCol Nick Modders for successfully passing the Yeager Aerospace Examination. A round of applause to SM Jill Lawrence, Capt Mike Wiley, SM Steven Jazwinski, on passing the Level 0 and Cadet Protection examination training. And congrats to Capt James Craswell on completing his Master Level achievement

Pvt. Murphy's Law

By Mark Baker



for the Communications specialty track.

Memorable Q quotes:

From Flight Instructors "Adapt, overcome, do SOMETHING ...even if it's wrong!"

"When all else fails push everything forward!"

If the situation warrants I will comm and "EJECT EJECT EJECT".
If you say "what", you'll be talking to yourself.

"You lead from the front." ...Audie Murphy

The most dangerous thing in the world is a 2nd Lieutenant, with a compass, and a map.

"Nuts!" -Brig.Gen. Anthony C. McAuliffe

"To hell with you 'all, I'm going to Texas!" -D Crockett to the Tennessee Legislature

General George S. Patton after "touring" Dachau:
Patton: "Major, I want you to assemble the garrison of this installation on the parade ground. Then I want you to assemble the population of the nearby towns and villages and have them clean up this mess." Major: "Yes, sir. Sir, what shall we do with the garrison, Sir?" Patton: "Shoot them." Major: "Yes, Sir!"

They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety. - Benjamin Franklin.

When we assumed the Soldier, we did not lay aside the Citizen. - George Washington

The Cadet Honor Code

The Honor Code states, "I WILL NOT LIE, CHEAT, STEAL, NOR TOLERATE AMONG US ANYONE WHO DOES." Our Code was adopted from the United States Air Force Academy's very first class and has been administered, taught, supported and been

a part of our own Squadron for over 7 years. Even though not all of us may aspire to a career in the military, "The Code" belongs to all of us because every Cadet has a stake in it. Each of us must support the Honor Code to achieve its purpose — to build honorable individuals.

What are the three standard answers?

Sir/Ma'am; Yes Sir/Ma'am, No Sir/Ma'am, No Excuse Sir/

Ma'am. What are the five (5) 'P's'?

Sir/Ma'am, Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance. Sir/Ma'am!

Where do you look when you are at attention?

Sir/Ma'am, Infinity. Sir/Ma'am!

What color is infinity?

Sir/Ma'am, Infinity is sky blue pink with a purple hue. Sir/Ma'am!

From Issue number "1" of Call the ball:

Our baptism of fire at Palisade is over and now we must turn inward and find ways to do a better job. Preparation and training are the key. Your comments about what makes Civil Air Patrol interesting and what you dislike were very enlightening. These comments show me that you are for the most part, a group of very mature people. I'm glad that you do not see CAP as a game. It can be a very serious business and we must apply ourselves as best as we can. More important, you wish to be treated like adults. You are interested in learning new things, in presenting yourselves in a military manner, improving yourself and to dedicate yourselves to helping others. Not all CAP units are fortunate enough to have cadets with such motivations. That is why not all CAP units have a cadet program that allows Cadet to go into the field in actual Search and Rescue missions. I've been told that many of you have an interest in radio communications. Like so many of our subjects First Aid, Emergency Services, etc there is not enough time at our meetings to cover this thoroughly enough. For those of you who received the Ham Radio License manuals I urge you to study on your own. Many of you have shown a possible aptitude for Morse Code. Outstanding! Study it at home if you can. As with most things, this requires regular practice. As you know with our time limits, your senior members can only provide small parts of your



That damn Blue Book Grand Forks AFB 2001