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AIRWAVES

Memorial Day: A Day to “Pledge Our Lives, Our Fortunes, and Our Sacred Honor”

by Capt P.D. Sargent.



On Memorial Day Sunday, American citizens “across the Fruited Plain” paused to reflect upon the ultimate sacrifice made by so many of our uniformed patriots in honor of their “sacred oaths,” taken from the last line of our Declaration of Independence. It reads, "For the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor."

My husband, Dick, a retired Marine Colonel, and I attended the service at Marine’s Memorial Park in Golden, where scores of patriots came to answer the question whose author is unknown: "Somewhere out there a man died for me today, that I might live free. And I must ask and answer, 'Am I worth dying for?'" Gratefully valuing their freedom and treasuring the traditional values of God and Country, this crowd, I believe, could answer, “Yes.”

Young Marines, aged twelve to eighteen, carried the colors. Their sponsor, Loren Funk, serves on the Board of Directors of Young Marines of the Marine Corps League. Present Marines came in "cammy" uniforms. WWII, Korean Conflict, and Vietnam Vets attended with their families. Many veterans came in a motorcycle entourages wearing leather vests decorated with USMC gold embroidered logos on the back. Former Marines, and Marines just back from the Middle East all gathered around the central platform to be part of the moving ceremony that celebrated our freedom and the people who fought and died that we Americans might be free.

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CELEBRATING THOSE WHO GAVE US FREEDOM

The ceremony rippled with waves of red, white, and blue. Riflemen--in their 60s to 70s, veterans all, dressed in grey slacks, navy blazers, white shirts and red caps, stood at attention in the blazing heat until time to round off three volleys. They had endured worse days and worse heat wearing helmets and bearing heavy equipment in other times in hostile lands. Also attired in similar apparel and standing tall in an attitude of rapt attention, the solitary trumpeter waited his moment to play a Cohen rendition of "Over There and Taps," softly and reverently. He was the essence of decorum.



Young Marines Color Guard at the Ready USMC Veterans Ready to Serve Again Two Gold Stars Moms and a WWII Vet

Most touching were the "Gold Star Mothers," who gave their sons and daughters that we might live to spend the day at peace. All paid homage to those who died for the flag and what it represents. One woman, Paula Sarlls, the president of the Women Marines Association, never mentioned her loss but stood with other Gold Star Mothers who participated in the solemn ceremony. When I introduced myself, she told me of her friend, Patty Sampers, former governmental liaison for Civil Air Patrol. Other participants had known CAP members or had been cadets themselves. Steve Hosie, who was the official photographer for the Marines, and ran a disabled veteran business, told me proudly that he had been in CAP before he joined the Marines.



Some Of The Proud Vietnam Veterans--Front and Back View--Who Roared In On Their "Hogs"

Memorial Day began as Decoration Day, May 30, 1868, to honor Union soldiers of the American Civil War and is celebrated near the day of reunification after the Civil War. But by the end of the 1870s, the acrimony was gone and the brave men of both North and South, the Blue and the Gray, were commemorated. After World War I, the day of remembrance was extended to honor Americans who have died in all wars.



Tee shirts, vests, caps, banners, and the ever-present red, white, and blue spoke of patriots' love for this country. Always mindful of the purpose of this Memorial Day, when young men and women are deployed daily to the Middle East, when the memory of loved ones lost in the Twin Towers of 9/11, and when both men and women Marines present fought in several wars, the crowd sat quietly, respectfully, and meditated on what it means to be an American citizen.

Since the beginning of the twentieth century, Americans follow the ritual of remembering graves of their deceased loved ones whether or not they served in the military. It is a day when families take advantage of a long week-end that officially marks the beginning of summer, of celebrating our freedom with picnics, and Bar B Qs, and short family trips to the mountains or the beach. A national holiday like the fourth of July and Labor Day, it is a day for fireworks, and attending the Indianapolis 500 automobile race, a tradition since 1911.

Good Bless Our Nation. And may we always reflect the honor, and the courage, and the sacrifice that these brave souls left us as our heritage.

Gratefully and humbly,

Semper Fi,

Tricia

Memorial Day Photos by Capt P.:D. Sargent



Gone, But Never Forgotten



2010 Colorado Wing Conference

by
2d Lt Luc Moens

While most of the presentations I attended included slide presentations, all participants were given a chance to ask lots of questions, and to discuss issues that they had encountered in their squadrons. Being a relative newcomer to the CAP system, I often felt like I was flooded with information that, quite frankly, was a bit overwhelming at times. However, since my early days in the Level I training, I have learned that it is often more important to be inspired by such moments, as the pieces of the 'puzzle' ultimately come together anyway.

If there is one important lesson to be learned by every new member in CAP, it must be to fully embrace every opportunity to learn from and interact with more experienced members. Beside the numerous classes, training sessions, squadron meetings and exercises that all new members can participate in on a regular basis, a rather unique opportunity for gaining more perspective on the inner workings of the CAP organization at Wing level is provided through annual

conferences such as the Colorado Wing Conference, like the one recently held in Colorado Springs on May 21-23, 2010.

Any new member quickly becomes exposed to the importance of the CAP Core Values of Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence and Respect that lie at the foundation of all CAP operations and events. In that spirit, Col. Ed Phelka, COWG Commander, asked the attendees of this year's Conference to pay special

Conference Photos courtesy of 2d Lt Luc Moens



L to R: Lt Col John Butler, Capt Victor Sabatini, 1st Lt Leonard Ginther, Capt Jennifer Kauffman, Maj Gary Henderson, Capt Paul Carter, SM Matt Robertson, 2d Lt Luc Moens, Capt Bob Machacek

attention to the core value of 'Respect,' reminding them that all members give of their own time to serve others in CAP as well as in the Nation. Having joined CAP in the Fall of 2009, this was the first time I attended a COWG Conference, and it was my intention to meet some of the leaders who currently serve at the Wing level. I figured it would be a good opportunity to see the real faces behind the names that show up in the numerous emails from COWG.

The conference was organized in breakout sessions that covered a variety of topics in alignment with the various professional tracks such as Emergency Services, Aerospace Education, Public Affairs, and Communication, to name just a few.

As a trainee in Public Affairs, I particularly enjoyed the seminar presented by Lt. Col. Mike Daniels and Capt. Scott Orr, both COWG Public Affairs Officers, and with whom I will undoubtedly have increased interaction in the future as I progress in my duties at the squadron level. I was also delighted to see Capt. Paul Carter of our squadron give a presentation on the

After all this, I came away from the conference with a desire to learn more and in greater depth. And, yes, the dedication and passion of the instructors was a clear reflection of respect that not only stimulated further discussions among the members, but also helped me make new friends across the Colorado Wing. For that reason alone I consider this conference to be a successful mission.

RMMA Air Show

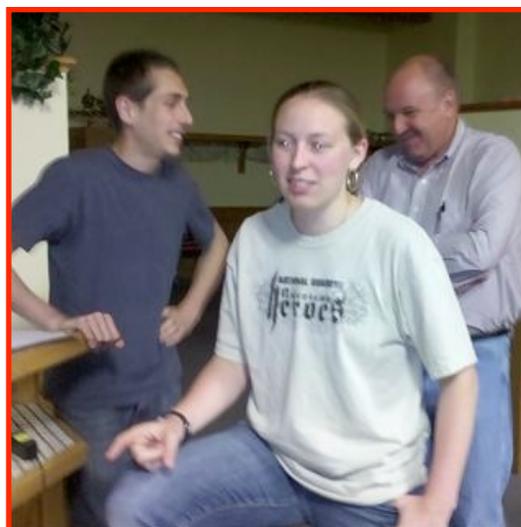


Photo by Lisa Sowell, PAO Broomfield Composite

2d Lt Crystal Fry, Group 2 Administrative and Planning Officer, with planner, SFO Josh Wepman, and Wing Chief of Staff and Air Show Liaison, Lt Col Bob Smith, met with Department Leaders to plan for the upcoming RMMA Air Show in August. Volunteers, both seniors and cadets, are needed to man the show.

If you have a CAP drivers license, or would be willing to get one, you would be a special help. To volunteer, please contact 2dLt Fry at: COWG.Group2ActivityAdmin@gmail.com



Photo by 2d Lt Luc Moens

Maj Paul Carter

ARCHER program in which he is assuming a leadership role.

Building and Flying Your Own Airplane

by
2dLt Luc Moens

“You’re going to do what? You’re going to build it where? Are you crazy?” These are the questions that Lt. Col Bryan Raley of the Jeffco Squadron heard when he decided to fulfill a dream that appears to be common to many seasoned aviators, that is, to build his own airplane. The story of how he came to that decision, as well as the description of the ongoing building process itself were the topics of his presentation during the recent Jeffco Squadron Meeting of May 20.



The story of the “dream” began right after Raley received his college degree in Aviation Administration in North Dakota. At that time he realized that he had little desire to fly people around in big rigs, since those were too slow to suit his desire for speed. Right after leaving college, he joined Civil Air Patrol where he has been a member for 26 years, and to this day he considers it to be an awesome opportunity to fly while utilizing advanced equipment. As a recent example he mentioned the new glass cockpit technology that is now found in many CAP planes.

Lt Col Bryan Raley examines a tiny but crucial airplane part.

of its aircraft, and Raley continued to lack a sense of freedom by not being able to fly cross-country or other travel beyond State borders. Then, during a SAREX based in Greeley in August 2008, he got exposed to homebuilt aircraft, and this was the catalyst that triggered a passion that has not left him. Noticing the relatively low cost for building his own aircraft from a kit, e.g., \$16-20K for a frame, plus \$20-30K for an engine, compared to the high cost of a new commercially built aircraft, \$500K, convinced him to do some research to figure out what airplane he could build. He was particularly excited about the prospect of building something with his own hands while also building a unique airplane with his own arrangement for the instrument panel. That, together with a “cool” paint design, would immediately make it *his* airplane.

Raley said that there are about 700 different kit models to choose from, including many possibilities for building aircraft from wood, metal, and composite materials. Based on the kind of “mission” for building a particular type of aircraft, one has many options regarding the speed, altitude, mode of pressurization, safety and performance that enter the design

process. Raley decided on the design of a two-seater that will essentially become a miniature P-51. However, upon further research of the manufacturer's data, this plane will be rated for aerobatics at 6.5 G with a 200 HP engine. Raley was quick to point out that it is not his intention to do loops and rolls with his newly built airplane!

"The building process itself is facilitated by the directions and mini-blueprints that are part of the kits," said Raley, "but the most demanding job is to assemble the many metal parts with thousands of rivets that require special tools and technique" To his own admission, Raley had zero experience with metal work when he started the project eight months ago, and only with endless patience and great effort is he now able to continue during his spare time with what is a true labor of love. To make it all possible, he also had to transform his two-car garage into a fully equipped workshop that now accommodates the entire building process, all the while making sure that his wife can still park her car in the garage in order to preserve marital bliss!

Raley recommended that anyone who wants to build an airplane at home should seriously consider becoming a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association, EAA, an organization with a membership of around 150,000 and that provides a wealth of technical support. It can also provide a technical counselor who can assist with the preparation for the FAA inspection and certification of the newly built airplane. Moreover, it can even provide a pilot who is willing to do the initial flight testing of the airplane!

Raley's passion for his dream became clear when he spent a few minutes talking about his various power and air tools in a show-and-tell portion of the meeting. His presentation elicited numerous questions from the audience, turning all that talk about rivets into a "riveting" meeting presentation.

Squadron meeting photos by 2d Lt Arif Gezalov



Lt Col Raley discusses the many tools he uses in the building process.



Maj Skip Hyde examines tools and gadgets necessary to build a plane.

**Useful Web sites including
Lt Col Raley's personal blog site:**
<http://www.eaa.org/>
<http://www.vansaircraft.com/>
<http://bryansrv8project.blogspot.com/>



Squadron Meeting Photos by Arif Gezalov



2d Lt Chuck Dickinson is promoted to Captain



SM Matt Beyer earns Membership Award, LVI is promoted to Captain



SM Matt Robertson Earns the Yeager Award, AE



***Lest we Forget:** Days of appreciation for our freedom: Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, Presidents' Day, and Every Day!*



Eagles and Flags Courtesy of PatriotIcon.org

CONTINUING SERVICE

Many Civil Air Patrol members have served this country in the uniformed, military service: Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Marines.

At present, our squadron Commander, Capt Jennifer Kauffman continues that service in the Wyoming Air National Guard.

To all our members who now serve as civilians in Civil Air Patrol, we thank you for our service, for our freedom, and for your courage. Your commitment to duty, honor, integrity, and service to others is what makes this country great!

Thank You! *Ed.*

✓ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



JUNE

30 RMMA AIR SHOW Planning Meeting, 7 pm

JULY

3 Air Crew Clinic, Jeffco
5-11 Guided SAREX, Peterson, RMMA, Montrose
10-25 Glider Academy, Colorado Springs
16-18 CSRB Conference
16-18 Colorado SAR Conference, Gunnison,
Contact Leonard Ginther
17-25 Region Staff College Peterson AFB
18 AIR SHOW Planning Meeting 7 p.m.
23-25 Pilot Survival. GSAR
23-31 GSAR Academy, Gore Pass area

AUGUST

7 Air Crew Clinic, Jeffco
21 Aviation Weather Decoded Seminar **
27-29 RMMA / BJC Air Show

SEPTEMBER

4 Air Crew Clinic, Jeffco
11-12 Communication Unit Leader Class, TBA

OCTOBER

2 Air Crew Clinic, Jeffco
16 Winter Weather Hazards Seminar **

DECEMBER

8 Mountain Flying Seminar **

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Civil Air Patrol: Keeping an eye on Lady Liberty, the symbol of American freedom.

Photo by CAP/NHQ



Women Marines from World War II. Proud to serve along with the men. See story on page 1.

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2ND LT LUC MOENS



A Senior Research Scientist, Chemist, at the NREL, Dr. Moens is actively engaged in biofuel research. He enjoys educating the public about ongoing R&D. Please enjoy his articles on the Wing Conference, p. 3 and on Lt Col Bryan Raley's presentation "Build Your Own Airplane," page 5. He can be contacted at lucmo@msn.com.

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