



Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport Broomfield, Colorado Vol. 3 No. 11 November, 2010

AIRWAVES

Winner of the 2009 Belsam National Award for Excellence

Civil Air Patrol a Driving Force to Honor Veterans.

by
Capt P.D. Sargent.

A remembrance wreath lies on the Civil Air Patrol Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. A wreath is placed there each December as part of the Wreaths Across America ceremonies at Arlington, where hundreds of wreaths honor our veterans.



Photo courtesy of Wreaths Across America

“Civil Air Patrol has been a driving force behind Wreaths Across America’s growth.”

Tobin Slaven, spokesman Wreaths Across America .

CELEBRATING CAP HERITAGE

Continued on page 2

Civil Air Patrol Participates in Wreaths Across America, Dec 12

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS – More than 16,000 red-ribboned balsam fir wreaths adorn the white marble gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery as part of Wreaths Across America. In what is now a holiday tradition, Civil Air Patrol proudly partners with Wreaths Across America, a nonprofit organization that recognizes the courage and sacrifices of American veterans. Worcester Wreath Company of Harrington Maine donates thousands of wreaths for grave sites all across America. The stirring, solemn tributes honor many of the 25 million men and women who have served in the United States armed forces and guarded and preserved America’s freedom throughout history.

“Our mission is to remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach our children the value of freedom,” said Karen Worcester, executive director of Wreaths Across America. “Thousands of CAP members participated last year and helped us to do just that.”

“Laying the wreaths is an honor to our veterans, a service to our communities and a learning experience for our members,” said CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Amy S. Courter, who is delighted that CAP is involved in this patriotic cause.

Since its inception in 2006, Wreaths Across America has experienced tremendous growth – from 240 ceremonies at national and state cemeteries in its first year in 2006 to the 400 expected in all 50 states and 24 national cemeteries abroad in 2009. CAP units led almost half of the Wreaths Across America observances this year and participated with other color and honor guards at many additional locations. CAP cadets and officers laid wreaths at Arlington as well.

The wreaths were transported on a 750-mile journey from Harrington, Maine, after a sendoff ceremony Dec. 6, and arrived at Arlington on Dec. 12. The route is one the longest annual veterans’ celebrations as patriotic Americans, veterans groups and other local organizations like CAP show their support for the project with parades and ceremonies at more than 20 stops along the way.

Civil Air Patrol cadets escorted America’s Gold Star Mothers, and Cadets Canada escorted Canada’s Silver Cross Mothers to the center of the bridge, spanning the St. Croix River between Calais, Maine, and St. Stephen, New Brunswick. The Gold Star Mothers presented a Worcester wreath to the Silver Cross Mothers for placement nearby at the Cenotaph Memorial Monument in St. Stephen.

In addition to the bridge wreath, the Worcesters donated 50 wreaths for Dec. 5 and Dec. 7 ceremonies at each state capitol in the U.S. And on Dec. 7, Civil Air Patrol’s National Honor Guard took part in a wreath-laying at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, which also featured a wreath provided by Worcester Wreath Co.

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Excerpted from larger NHQ article.

Thanksgiving, a Time for Gratitude

by

Captain Patricia Sargent.

As summer wanes and winter comes, Americans take time to meditate on what is truly important. Flowers have wilted, the life force that flows through their stems and leaves have gone back to nurture their roots as the cold weather sets in. It is a time for the garden to rest, to renew, and to restore. So, too, our life force prepares us for the quiet time, the blasts of winter storms, and the refuge we seek from the busy workaday world. It is a time to take stock in what life really means. It is a time for gratitude. It is a time for giving thanks.

From the earliest of time, humankind has thanked their gods for safety from the enemy, for food and shelter, and for another day of life itself. Ancient traditions held harvest festivals in places all over the earth. Fall is the season for reaping and gathering grain that will sustain the family. Feasting and games accompanied the tribal festivals, and in ancient traditions around the world, harvest festivals were traditionally held near the time of the harvest moon.

America's first Thanksgiving was thought to be in 1621, when the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast. In September 1620, a small ship called the Mayflower left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers comprised of an assortment of religious separatists seeking a new home where they could freely practice their faith. There were also other individuals lured by the promise of prosperity and land ownership in the New World.

It was a difficult voyage in the bitter winter of 1620. The travelers had known hunger, fear, and a sickness that claimed the lives of nearly half their number.

When they landed at Plymouth Rock they began the arduous task of building lives from scratch. Felling timber for shelter, negotiating a peace with the Indians they met, seeking water and tillable soil were all part of setting up a village for protection and community.

That took time and grim determination.

For many months they housed themselves on the ship, and in the spring they planted



The Mayflower, a fast, seaworthy ship about twenty years old, had been in the wine trade in France and could carry one hundred and eighty tons. The ship was about ninety feet long and about twenty-five feet wide. The middle part of the main deck was open to the weather. Below this was the gun deck and below that was the hold, a grim place to live for months on the stormy Atlantic Ocean.

the seeds that they had brought from Europe. Beside food, clothing and some pieces of furniture, the Pilgrims took along a supply of seeds, garden tools, saws, axes, hammers, gunpowder, and firearms. They also brought barrels of bright cloth, beads, knives and small mirrors to trade with the Indians.

Bit by bit life improved. In April, the Mayflower returned to England, and the little company was on its own. After the harvest, it was time to celebrate, to give praise and thanks to the God that had seen them safely across the waters to a land they hoped gave promise to a new life.

The seeds sown early in 1621 had produced a harvest that allowed people to increase their scanty rations. The settlers were enjoying good health. Babies were born. Work was going ahead on the new houses along Town Brook. They walked peacefully and safely in the woods, as they had made friends with the Indians and signed a long-lasting peace treaty with Massasoit, head chief of the Wampanoags.

Because of their good fortune, the Pilgrims decreed a holiday on which all might, "after a more special manner, rejoice together." The feast was colorful, and the work laborious as women prepared foods totally new to them without ovens and the kitchens they were used to. Governor Bradford sent four men to shoot waterfowl and wild turkeys. Chief Massasoit was invited to the feast, and he brought with him 90 brightly painted braves--about four times the number of Pilgrim men. Some of

Massasoit's men went into the forest and brought back five deer. Dinner preparations increased!

After the first New England Thanksgiving, the custom spread throughout the colonies, but each region chose its own date. Thanksgiving day continued to be celebrated in the United States on different days in different states until Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale, influential editor of *Godey's Lady's Book*, one of the most popular lady's books of the 19th century, decided to do something about it. For more than 30 years she wrote letters to the governors and presidents asking them to make Thanksgiving Day a national holiday.

Finally, in 1863, President Lincoln issued a White House proclamation calling on the "whole American people" wherever they lived to unite "with one heart and one voice" in observing a special day of thanksgiving.

Setting apart the last Thursday of November for the purpose, the President urged prayers in the churches and in the homes to "implore the interposition of the Almighty had to heal the wounds of the nations and to restore it...to full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and union." He also stated that they express heartfelt thanks for the "blessing of fruitful fields and healthful skies."

Thanksgiving 2010 meant that families gathered for a celebratory feast together even if they had to travel across country. Traditionally Thanksgiving is the busiest time for airlines travel. It is a time when hopes and prayers are shared in the land of plenty.

References: *Encyclopedia Britannica* and www.lilesnet.com

Be Thankful for this Great Nation

by Capt Patricia Sargent

Remembering to give thanks for all the blessings of this country should be a daily activity, not relegated to just one day of the year. We as Americans have the right to be individuals, to speak our minds, to believe in whatever is sacred to us, to have the opportunity to fulfill our dreams, and with that to work hard and be paid for our successes. In our great country both men and women are respected. Women have the right to vote, to pursue careers and professions, to wear appropriate clothing and not be imprisoned by ideology and restraining garb like the burka.

Men fought wars to establish freedom from the mother country. Later they fought to unite the country under one flag, one set of values, and one guiding Constitution that established our rights as citizens. Just as they had fought the enemy over the sea, they fought each other in contiguous states over issues that seemed never to be won. The heinous act of slavery was among those issues, and fortunately that human blight was abolished. Fighting against King George III was not the terrible thing that fighting against father, brother, or son was in the terrible Civil War.

And just as Americans left a Mother Country and faced Civil War, people from other lands have experienced similar circumstances. One country limits the family to just one child and force abortions on those who do not follow the law. One country shrouds its women under a canvas tent that they must wear daily, mutilates their faces with acid, hacks off their noses and ears, and subjects them to humiliation by gang rape in front of the tribe. Other countries tax their citizens so that everyone can share in the benefits of the few who work. Overwhelmingly, people from those countries flock to the United States in search of freedom from oppression. And when they knock on the front door, we welcome them and encourage them to join the American family with full rights and freedoms.

Attending a Naturalization ceremony as we did earlier this year when Farida Burnham, born in Russia, became a citizen. People laughed, waved the little flag each new citizen was given, and some cried. I know I did. I was so proud of this woman, my friend and CAP colleague, who studied hard, paid immigration fees, and passed tests to become a citizen.

We are fortunate to have been born in freedom under the red, white, and blue. We are fortunate that our country is rich with natural resources including safe food, adequate housing, and reasonable clothing. As many people struggle having lost jobs, pensions, and seniority in positions they have held for years, we give thanks that we can help them through hard times and share the gratitude for being a citizen of this great United States. Thanksgiving, for me, is every day. Ed.

Maj. Gen. John F. Curry Salute and Awards Ceremony

by
1st Lt Ed O'Brien

Kim Long, photographer



Colorado Wing Celebrated Civil Air Patrol Day with the Third Annual Maj. Gen. John F. Curry Salute and Awards Ceremony at Ft. Logan National Cemetery. The day was bright, dry, and sun warmed. Twenty-Five members and families attended.

New Curry Cadets and future CAP leaders.

receive their Curry ribbon, and Cadet Noah Gibbs came to the ceremony from Steamboat Springs to receive his. Gathered around the gravesite, cadets thoughtfully considered the life of Maj Gen Curry and his contributions to service.

In an open air pavilion, and again at a simple stone marker, the remarkable biography of John F Curry--Jack to his friends--was presented. Capt Liz Caldwell brought eight cadets from Thompson Valley Composite Squadron to

As Colorado Wing Commander Col Edward Phelka said about last year's ceremony, "In this event we unite the past--JF Curry--with our future--new Curry Cadets. This is not a memorial but a commemoration of a great life lived and the founding of the Civil Air Patrol."

If any of us aspire to do good, if we admire dignity, appreciate selflessness, cherish love, ask for grace, and hold America dear, we should know the biography of John F. Curry.



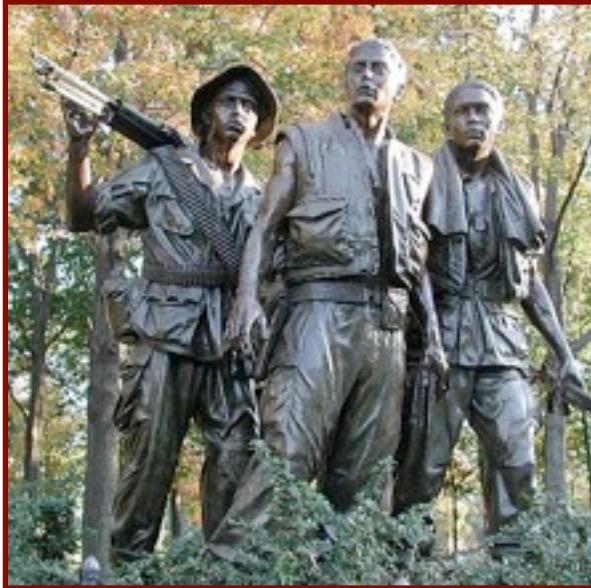
Cols Gary Tobey and Jack Buschmann led the group followed by Jeffco's Squadron's Capt Victor Sabitini and cadets. Thompson Valley Cadet Officers, Caldwell and Callum Schneider, served as Flag Bearers and ceremonial guards, and Maj Jeff Johnson served as Ceremony Chaplain.

1st Lt O'Brien, COWG Heritage Officer and a member of the Black Sheep Squadron.

John Vaught Analyzes The Vietnam War

Honors Veterans Day

by
2d Lt Luc Moens



It would be difficult to imagine a better way to honor Veterans Day than by organizing a seminar about a past event such as the Vietnam War. Kudos should be given to the AO team members of the Jeffco Squadron for inviting Mr. John Vaught, a private pilot based at RMMA, to talk about this war during the General Meeting on November 18. Mr. Vaught, who served on USN riverboats during the Vietnam War, is a frequent speaker on this topic in various venues around the nation. He told a roomful of Jeffco members that by giving these presentations, he satisfied a deep personal desire to share the story on behalf of the many veterans who served in this long conflict. To say that the political events that led to the Vietnam War were complex would

be a major understatement, and the speaker forewarned his audience that while his primary intention was to honor the veterans, he also needed to remain honest about the poor decisions that were made by the US government throughout this military conflict. Through the use of an engaging slideshow, he made the history of this war come alive, and particularly effective was his juxtaposing the events at the war front with the memorable events that took place during that same period at home, such as the assassination of John F. Kennedy in 1963 and Martin Luther King in 1967.

In a rather dramatic opening of his presentation, the speaker held up a rubber tire with both hands and stated, "This was what caused the Vietnam War." He used the tire to illustrate the fact that Vietnam initially was a major source of rubber while it was part of the French colonial territory better known as French Indochina. The struggles in colonial Vietnam culminated in the Communist revolt against French rule in 1941 by the Viet Minh under the leadership of Ho Chi Minh. This resulted in the First Indochina War, which was just the beginning of a series of conflicts in the 1940s during which the French gradually lost their power in that part of the world. In 1950, the US sent military advisors and equipment to Vietnam to lend support to the French military efforts in order to regain control over the region against the expanding Communist influence from China and the Soviet bloc.

However, the Battle of Diem Bien Phu in 1954 marked the end of the French involvement in Indochina and was followed by the establishment of Ngo Dinh Diem, “Diem,” as first President of South Vietnam. Being a devout Roman Catholic and anti-Communist, Diem led intense campaigns against the Buddhist population in what was then known as Viet Minh-controlled North Vietnam. All the while he enjoyed the support from the US that at that time was cloaked in a veil of anti-Communist fervor, often referred to as “McCarthyism.” By 1963, however, Diem had revealed himself as an autocratic and cruel ruler against the Buddhist population that rose up to him in violent street protests. Ultimately, his public image in Vietnam and the US became so tarnished that it led to his assassination.

Following the death of President Kennedy in 1963, President Johnson was confronted with the Gulf of Tonkin Incident in which first the USS *Maddox*, Aug. 2, 1964, and two days later the USS *Turner Joy*, were involved in a shooting incident during an intelligence mission along the North Vietnamese coast. The second attack led to retaliatory air strikes, and prompted Congress to approve the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution. It gave the President the power to conduct military operations in South East Asia without declaring war. In 1964, the American draft system was initiated, and the conflict escalated to a flashpoint soon after that. The war officially ended on April 30, 1975 when the last US troops left Saigon in a dramatic helicopter rescue.

Overall, the speaker gave relatively little details of the Vietnam War itself, but instead chose to give us greater insight into the historical context that led to the

beginning and end of the conflict. It certainly made for a mind stimulating presentation.

Never Forget!

The infamous photo of the “Napalm Girl” screaming naked through the streets after the North Vietnamese had bombed her village with napalm is copyrighted. The child saved her life by stripping off her clothing, and in terror ran down the street with other children awed by the devastation to their peaceful lives.

Copyrighted also is the image of the Buddhist monk who poured gasoline on himself and lit a match immolating himself in protest of North Vietnamese cruel oppression.

Below is a photo of a public execution of a Viet Cong citizen. These photos hit the front page in newspapers across America.

You can view them all on the web and gain some understanding what the people suffered and what inhumanity and brutality our veterans faced fighting a hidden enemy. The hideous display of public execution of ordinary citizens and the tortures of our veteran captives have left a lasting image in our national consciousness. We must never forget our veterans who faced this irrational bestiality or indeed the veterans, our sons and daughters, who fought in this and other terrible wars. Ed.



AWARDS & PROMOTIONS



SM Trevor Millward received the Membership Award having completed LVI. In addition, he also earned the Yeager Award. Maj Millward has joined Flight Operations.



Jeffco Squadron Commander, Capt Jennifer Kauffman, conferred the Commander's Commendation on 1st Lt Todd Gamber for his initiative in coordinating and instructing G-1000 courses for Observers and Pilots in 2010. She also commended him for his excellent work as Crew Chief by ensuring 594CP was consistently maintained and mission ready.

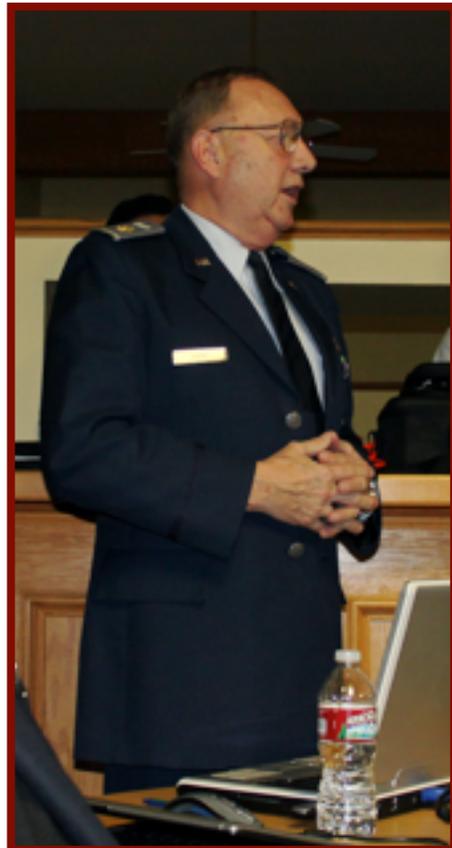
Squadron Meeting Photos by Arif Gezalov



SM Stacy Millward received the Membership Award, completing LVI. She joined the squadron's Retention team.



Deputy Commander, Capt Jason Rew and Colonel Hap Burnham, Standardization/Evaluation Officer for the Rocky Mountain Region, congratulate 1st Lt Matt Beyer who has become a new Form 5 Pilot



Maj Skip Hyde is the squadron's new Safety Officer. He presented National Statistics Safety Brief at the squadron meeting.

Happy
Birthday!

CIVIL AIR PATROL
DECEMBER 1, 1940



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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

DECEMBER

19 Christmas Party, Western Air Flight Academy
time TBA

ICS 300 and 400 available on request:
wmoconnor970@msn.com

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AOBD, GBD, IO, CUL, MSO, and LO.*Contact:
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Colorado Pilots Association, CPA, has
numerous fly-in opportunities--many in
Colorado, some out of state--too many to print
here. For more information visit

www.ColoradoPilots.org

A Weather Map to Save in Favorites

Just move your cursor around the map and
see what the current temperatures and weather
conditions are in cities all over the country!

Click: [http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/zoa/
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“This year’s ceremonies honor the
memory of the Maine Wing’s Maj. Dennis
W. Murray, who passed away in September
and whose devotion to the Wreaths Across
America program is his legacy,” Maj Gen
Courter said. Murray, CAP’s 2008
National Public Affairs Officer of the Year,
is credited with helping link the
organization with Worcester Wreath
Company and Wreaths Across America
three years ago. “That partnership has
grown exponentially, and CAP has become
a major partner,” Maj Gen Courter said.



Contributors

PHOTOGRAPHER

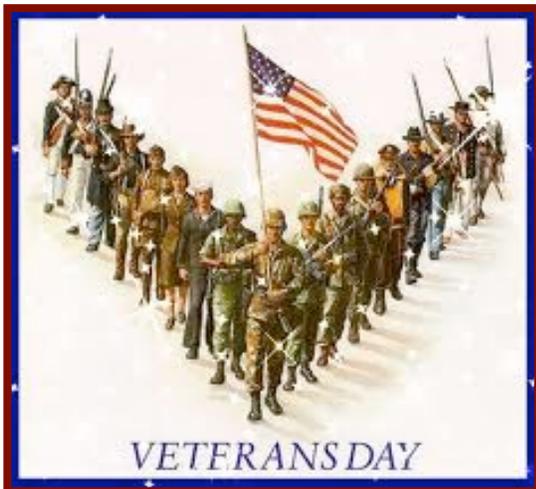
2LT ARIF GEZALOV



With his experience and focus, he faithfully takes outstanding pictures of special events, meeting, SAREXs, and Civil Patrol life in general. Arif is the Senior Software Engineer at Webroot Software Inc. in Boulder. Please see his photos on pages 7.



Jeffco Squadron's Public Affairs Team: Capt Patricia Sargent, 1st Lt Luc Moens, and 1st Lt. Todd Sainer.



STAFF WRITERS

CAPT PATRICIA SARGENT



PAO team leader, Dr. Sargent is responsible for the design and format of the newsletter. She has served the squadron since 2005.

She will finish 2010 with a final edition of *Airwaves* in December before retiring from the squadron.

Please contact her with suggestions, corrections, or comments: 303.216.1931

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1ST LT LUC MOENS



Senior Research Scientist, Chemist, at the NREL, in Golden, Dr. Moens is actively engaged in biofuel research. He enjoys educating the public about ongoing R&D. Please see his article on John Vaught, the November speaker, pages 7-8

GUEST WRITER

1ST LT ED O'BRIEN



1st Lt Ed O'Brien is a frequent contributor to *Airwaves*. His experience as a journalist has given him a keen eye for the news. His service as the COWG Heritage officer brings us a broad scope of information about the history and the heritage of Civil Air Patrol. Please see his contribution on page 6.

Thanks to proofreaders

Maj Bruce Hertelendy, Dick Sargent, and Capt P.D Sargent.

Many thanks to photographers:

1st Lt Ed O'Brien, Black Sheep Squadron and COWG Heritage Officer and staff photographer, 2Lt. Arif Gezalov.