

CIVIL AIR PATROL/CONNECTICUT WING

399th COMPOSITE SQUADRON NEWS



CT-042

YANKEE HATTERS

MAY 2015

The Real Indiana Jones

*Captain Johnny Burke
Stan/Eval Officer/CT-042*

Harrison Ford (who played the Indiana Jones character) recently experienced an engine failure departing Santa Monica, CA Airport. He was flying a Ryan PT-22, a WW II era training aircraft, restored to vintage condition.

Santa Monica Airport (SMO) is in a suburb of Los Angeles and is surrounded by houses. The only open area for emergency landings near SMO is the beach and a golf course, just off the departure end of runway twenty one.

The engine failure occurred shortly after take-off on runway 21. He did not have enough altitude to make it to the beach, so he turned immediately back toward the airport. When he realized he did not have enough altitude to glide back to the airport, he decided to land on the golf course, just west of the airport. There was not much room for an off

(Continued on page 2)

CADET AWARDS & PROMOTIONS

SECOND LIEUTENANT



Mitchell Award

Joseph Waldron

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS



Arnold Achievement

Brian Silk

Liam Waldron

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 The Real Indiana Jones
Cadet Awards & Promotions
- 2 Aircraft Control Locks
CAP National Public Affairs
- 3 World War II Pilots Reunited
- 5 Heads Up! for May 2015
- 6 Cadet Encampment Assistance Program
- 7 CAP National Commander Memorandum
- 8 Schedule and Training Opportunities
2015 National Conference Registration
- 9 Connecticut Wing Encampment Flyer
- 10 399th U.S. Flag Collection Flyer
- 11 Meeting Calendar/Submission Guidelines

(Continued from page 1, The Real Indiana Jones)

field landing, but he did manage to land on the golf course, clipping a tree on the way down. Harrison Ford suffered some injuries in the off-field landing, but none were life threatening.



Aerial view of Santa Monica Airport

Note the congested environs around the airport.

(Photo: Captain Johnny Burke)

In aviation circles, Harrison Ford is known to be a thorough, well prepared, experienced pilot. Those traits proved valuable in this real life “Indiana Jones” experience. His decisive action probably saved his life, and perhaps the lives of others on the ground.

Be prepared and have a plan!

Senior Meeting

Every second Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m. at Squadron HQ.

See page 11 for meeting date details, including uniform of the day!

Aircraft Control Locks

*Captain John Freeman
Operations Officer/CT-042*

Attention Aircrew

We currently have two round dial airplanes on the ramp at DXR. Use of the orange control locks on these parked aircraft is mandated by the Air Force.

Please be sure to put the orange control lock in place when parking N704DE and N9344L.



CAP National Public Affairs

*Julie deBardelaben
Deputy Director, Public Affairs*

The latest update of Civil Air Patrol National Commander Major General Joe Vazquez is now available online. To read click here: [National Commanders Update](#)

The May 2015 update can also be found on the capmembers.com homepage. Just click on “National Commander’s Update” in the menu on the left side of the page. The May update appears at the top of the page.



World War II Pilots Reunited

Captain Ralph Langham, Public Affairs/CT-042

This story comes about through the reunion of a WW II era B-17 pilot and a Red-Tail fighter pilot who found each other at a ceremony honoring Tuskegee Airmen. So let's start with some definitions.

The B-17 Flying Fortress Heavy Bomber was a four engine bomber that was built in the 1930's for the United States Army Air Corps (USAAC). It was primarily used in the daylight precision strategic bombing campaign against German industrial and military targets. It was a strategic, high flying long-range bomber that took on extreme damage and yet was able to finish its mission and in most cases return home. It dropped more bombs (1.5 million metric tons)



Boeing B-17E

(Photo: U.S. Air Force, circa 1942; source: <http://en.wikipedia.org>)

and did more damage to the enemy than any other aircraft in WW II. This bomber had one very serious problem, it was slower than the German fighters which could take down a bomber with only four or five hits. In 1944, Major General Jimmy Doolittle of the Eight U.S. Army Air Corps started using P-51 Mustangs to escort and fly ahead of the B-17s to gain air supremacy in the European Theatre.

The P-51 Mustang was a veteran of two wars, World War II and the Korean War. North American Aviation's P-51 Mustang was the first U.S. fighter airplane to push its nose over Europe after the fall of France. Then called the P-51, it scurried back and forth across the channel, taking on the best the Axis could put in the air. Mustangs met and conquered every German plane from the early Junkers to the sleek, twin-jet Messerschmitt 262s. An amazing array of firsts was piled up by the Mustang while carrying the war to the heart of the German fatherland. It was the first single-engine plane based in Britain to penetrate Germany, first to reach Berlin, first to go with the heavy bombers over the Ploesti oil fields (located in Romania) and

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3, World War II Pilots Reunited)

first to make a major-scale, all-fighter sweep specifically to hunt down the dwindling Luftwaffe (German Air Force). Originally designed for the British as a medium-altitude fighter, the Mustang excelled in hedge-hopping strafing runs and long-range escort duty. It made a name for itself by blasting trains, ships and enemy installations in Western Europe and by devastating Axis defenses prior to the Allied invasion of Sicily and Italy.



North American P-51 Mustang

(Photo: U.S. Air Force; source: <http://en.wikipedia.org>)

The squadrons that used the P-51 distinguished themselves by the color of the tails of their plane. One of the most famous was the “Red Tails” of the 332nd Fighter Group which became famous as the Tuskegee Airmen, composed of African American military pilots who fought in WW II. The Tuskegee Airmen were subjected to racial discrimination, both within and outside the army. All Black military pilots who trained in the United States trained at Moton Field, the Tuskegee Army Air Field and were educated at Tuskegee University, located near Tuskegee, Alabama. It should be noted that the 322nd never lost a bomber it was escorting home.

In 1997 Herb Heilbrun and John Lehr met for the first time and started comparing notes. It turns out that the Red-Tail fighter had been escorting B-17 bombers in 1944. Lehr was the Tuskegee Airmen fighter pilot who had escorted Heilbrun’s B-17 on bombing missions over Europe during 1944. As stated earlier B-17s were big, clumsy, and slow—easy targets for enemy aircraft. Herb knew he owed his life to the shepherding fighter pilots. But Lehr and Heilbrun had never met after the war. Fifty years later Heilbrun wanted to thank the unknown men who had helped keep him alive. So he went to a reunion of the Tuskegee Airmen in Cincinnati, Ohio where he found Lehr. They were later able to confirm that Lehr had flown at least two missions with Heilbrun’s B-17. They also learned that they had lived for a time in the same place in Ohio. Afterwards Heilbrun rummaged through his second grade photos and found one with both of them standing next to each other. 61 years after WW II ended they found each other and became fast friends.



Heads Up! for May 2015

Bob Kelly

EPA Meteorologist



Jupiter and Venus command our attention, lighting up the sky right after sunset, moving closer toward their

spectacular conjunction in late June. However, Mercury and Saturn make a play for our affection by peeking into our evening skies. Mars is the only bright planet hiding in the glare of the Sun. Mars hung out in the evening sky for many months, and Mars will take its sweet time passing through the bright twilight this summer. Solar interference with the radio signals from Mars on the opposite side of the Sun may mean communication gaps with the many spacecraft exploring the red planet.

Mercury makes a guest appearance low in the evening sky but it's higher than usual, setting just after dark around the 6th. After the middle of the month, Mercury makes a rapid dive to superior conjunction with the Sun by the end of the month.

Saturn sneaks into the party, rising during evening twilight as we approach opposition on the 22nd. Our ringed friend is gorgeous, with the rings spanning the apparent size of Jupiter in our telescopes. Since Saturn is very far south on the ecliptic, it doesn't rise more than halfway up to the zenith, unlike Jupiter, which starts off the night almost straight overhead.

Jupiter continues its show of multiple satellite shadows, with two of its satellites casting their shadows at the same time for a while on the evenings of the 20th and 27th. With Earth coming to its nearest approach to Saturn for the year, it's a good time to see how many of its moons you can spot in your telescope. This year Saturn's rings are wide open and their brightness makes finding the fainter moons more challenging.

Venus starts off on the horns of the bull, Taurus, (far above Hyades, the 'V' I always thought was the horns of the bull) and ends the month passing through the twins of Gemini.

Comet Lovejoy looks smaller every week, as it approaches the pole star, Polaris. Around the 29th, Lovejoy stands next to Polaris as if wanting to take a selfie. Since the stars near the North

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5, Heads Up! for May 2015)

Star appear to turn very slowly around the pole star, it might be easier to capture this faint fuzzy on camera with a longer exposure than possible for those stars near the equator, even if Lovejoy is only shining at 9th magnitude as predicted. Give it your best shot and let us know!

The International Space Station is visible in the morning sky starting on the 12th. In early June, the ISS will have many appearances each night, so get ready for the ISS marathon. It's not as easy as it sounds – since it's hard to see all the appearances in a night, with an hour and a half of waiting between passes.

For more sky news visit Bob's blog
bkellysky.wordpress.com

Officers & Cadets
Submit your news and events for publication to pao@399cap.org
Deadline for the June issue is May 31

Access back issues of 399th Danbury Composite Squadron News online.
- [399th NEWS](#) -

Cadet Encampment Assistance Program

CAP National, Activities

Thanks to Air Force support, CAP has special funding available this year to cover encampment fees, uniforms, transportation, and other costs associated with our encampment program, with an emphasis on serving economically disadvantaged cadets. This is great news and evidence of the Air Force's pride in the accomplishments of CAP cadets and enthusiasm for their future. If a cadet wants to attend an encampment this summer, financial considerations should not be a factor holding them back. For more information:

[Cadet Encampment Assistance Program](#)

(www.capmembers.com/cadet_programs/activities/ceap)

399th Staff

Commander	Captain Joe Bisnov
Advisor to Commander	Lt. Col. Peter Sanderson
Administration/Personnel	2d Lt. Christina Posca
Aerospace Education	2d Lt. Brian Waldron
Deputy Commander	1st Lt. Jeffrey Jenkins
Deputy Cmdr. Cadets	Capt. Greg Sweeney
Drug Demand Reduction	2d Lt. Andrew Luckey
Finance	2d Lt. Devin Pedone
Logistics	1st Lt. Mary Ellen Trohalis
Operations	Capt. John Freeman
Public Affairs/Editor	Major Peter Milano
Safety	SM Richard Kornutik
Standardization/Eval	Capt. Johnny Burke



In accordance with CAPR 36-1, a copy of this letter should be posted at every unit location or made available to all members in the unit. Additionally, commanders at every level will ensure that the CAP Nondiscrimination Policy is briefed to all members within their respective commands, as required by CAPR 36-1.



OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL COMMANDER
CIVIL AIR PATROL
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AUXILIARY
MAXWELL AIR FORCE BASE, ALABAMA 36112

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL CAP MEMBERS

FROM: CAP/CC

SUBJECT: Nondiscrimination

1. Civil Air Patrol is committed to equality of opportunity in offering access to its educational and operational programs and activities. Nondiscrimination and diversity are critical to our success as an organization.
2. CAP provides an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members and ensures that educational, membership and operational decisions are based on each individual's abilities and qualifications. Consistent with this practice and applicable laws, it is CAP policy not to discriminate in offering access to its programs and activities, or with respect to membership terms and conditions, on the basis of race, sex, age, color, religion, national origin, or disability. This policy ensures that only relevant factors are considered and that equitable and consistent standards of conduct and performance are applied.
3. Commanders at all levels are responsible for ensuring that members under their command are aware of and adhere to CAP's nondiscrimination policy.
4. Allegations of violations of the CAP Nondiscrimination Policy will be sent to the Equal Opportunity Officer (EOO), Lt Col Walter Vertreace. Submission of allegations and/or complaints directly to the CAP/EOO will not be considered a violation of the chain of command.
 - a. Those wishing to submit a discrimination complaint should review CAPR 36-2 for procedures and guidance. Additional guidance may also be obtained by contacting the EOO.
 - b. The CAP/EOO can be contacted at wvertreace@comcast.net, (267) 971-9442, or by writing to Equal Opportunity Officer, 105 South Hansell Street, Maxwell AFB, AL 36112.
5. Any questions concerning this policy should be directed to the CAP/EOO.

JOSEPH R. VAZQUEZ
Major General, CAP
National Commander



SCHEDULE & TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Connecticut Wing Legislative Day

May 20, 2015
Hartford, CT

Encampment Staff Mentoring Workshop

May 30, 2015
CTWG HQ, Middletown, CT

Connecticut Wing TRAEX

June 13, 2015
Location to be determined.
(contact your ES Officer to participate)

Connecticut Wing Encampment

August 1-8, 2015
Camp Niantic, Niantic, CT
For more information visit
[2015 CTWG Encampment](#)
(see flyer on page 9)

Bridgewater Country Fair

August 21-23, 2015
Bridgewater, CT
(Mandatory for 399th Members)

AF Operations Evaluation TRAEX

August 21-23, 2015
Hartford, CT
(contact your ES Officer to participate)

National Conference

August 27-29, 2015
Orlando, FL
(registration opens mid April)

Howard E. Palmer Cadet Ball

September 12, 2015
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
New London, CT
(contact Maj Robin Wojtcuk at cp@ctwg.cap.gov)

First Air/CPR Training

First Aid and CPR Training is available to all members of Connecticut Wing. If you want to schedule training please contact Major Marlene Welch at medictroll27@gmail.com



The [2015 CAP National Conference Early Bird Registration](#) is now open!

The conference will be held at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel in Orlando, FL August 27-29, 2015. Register by midnight June 15 to take advantage of the discounted early conference registration rate of only \$99. Early Bird registrants are automatically entered to win one of four Visa gift cards: \$500, \$250 and two \$125 gift cards.

Over [50 learning labs](#) will be presented on August 28 and 29.

Eleven [pre-conference workshops](#) are offered prior to the conference, August 24-27. The pre-conference courses are designed for those wanting more intense training in specific areas. Space is limited, so register early.

The conference will be held at the [Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort](#). The contracted room rate is only \$115 per night. This stylish, massive waterfront resort with acres of tropical landscaping is located within Walt Disney World between Epcot and Disney's Hollywood Studios. Amenities include 5 pools, a white sand beach, 2 health clubs, a spa, and 17 restaurants and lounges (some with character dining). Guests get free transportation throughout Disney World, plus early admission and extended hours at theme parks.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2015 National Conference in Orlando!
CAP National Staff





2015 Connecticut Wing Encampment Camp Niantic, Niantic, Conn.



AUGUST 1 - 8, 2015

Student Cadet Applications due July 1

\$160.00 Cadet

\$50.00 full-time senior staff

\$25.00 part-time senior staff

A Civil Air Patrol Basic Cadet Leadership Encampment can be the most significant and worthwhile training experience of a Civil Air Patrol cadet's membership. Training is what the encampment is all about.

If a cadet wishes to earn their General Billy Mitchell Achievement, become a cadet officer, and attend certain NCSAs or serve at an encampment as a staff member, they must first attend and graduate from a basic encampment.

For additional information email

encampmentadmin@ctwg.cap.gov

- For application questions visit the *How to Apply* Webpage -

<http://ctwg.cap.gov/how-to-apply.html>

- Register on the **Connecticut Wing 2015 Encampment Webpage** -

<http://ctwg.cap.gov/2015-ctwg-encampment.html>

Principes Exercendo - First In Training



CIVIL AIR PATROL

399th Composite Squadron

U.S. Flag Collection

The 399th will collect American Flags no longer fit for service so they can be formally retired in an approved ceremony on Flag Day



Location: Stop & Shop
Mill Plain Center
44 Lake Avenue Ext.
Danbury, CT 06811

(Across from Western Connecticut State University, Westside Campus)

Date: May 23, 2015 Time: 10 am - 3 pm

For information email: pao@399cap.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/399DanburyCAP>



MAY 2015 CALENDAR

5/05	Squadron Meeting	BDUs	Squadron HQ	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
5/12	Squadron Meeting	PTs	Squadron HQ	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
5/19	Squadron Meeting	Blues	Squadron HQ	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
5/26	Squadron Meeting	BDUs	Squadron HQ	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.



399th Contact Information

Civil Air Patrol
 399th Composite Squadron
 21 Miry Brook Road
 Danbury, CT 06810



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/399DanburyCAP>

Website: <http://399cap.org/> **E-mail:** pao@399cap.org

Submission Guidelines

Send submissions in Microsoft Word format or in the body of your email.

Edit copy according to Associated Press Style.

Photos should be sent as attachments in JPG format and must meet uniform compliance.

Identify all persons in photo's and include credits.

Deadline for the June 2015 issue is 31 May

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with 60,000 members nationwide, operating a fleet of 550 aircraft. CAP, in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs about 85 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 70 lives annually. Its unpaid professionals also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 25,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet programs. Performing missions for America for over 73 years, CAP will receive the Congressional Gold Medal in 2015 in honor of the heroic efforts of its World War II veterans. CAP also participates in Wreaths Across America, an initiative to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans.

www.gocivilairpatrol.com www.capvolunteernow.com www.capgoldmedal.com

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