



PTEROGRAM

The Official Publication of the Coast Guard Aviation Association
The Ancient Order of the Pterodactyl

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AOP is a non profit association of active & retired USCG aviation personnel & associates

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Pforty-first CGAA Roost Returning to Atlantic City in September

Our pforty-first annual gathering honoring Ptero CAPT Eric 'Jackie' Gleason, Aviator 3316, and the men and women of Air Station Atlantic City will be in Atlantic City from 11-15 September. Many thanks to Pteros Jeff Pettitt, Aviator 2188, and Dale Goodreau, Aviator 1710, for graciously volunteering to serve as Roost Committee co-chairs. The Roost will be centered at one of the best casinos – Resorts Casino Hotel

– directly on the galaxy-famous Boardwalk at beachside – and next to the Atlantic City Convention Center.

Please see Page six for hotel info and possible excursions.



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A Message from 1777 (CGAA/AOP President):

Greetings, Fellow Pterodactyls: Congratulations to Ptero Jack McGrath on his well-deserved Coast Guard Public Service Commendation for his service as Director of the Coast Guard Heritage Museum! Many thanks to Jack for volunteering to be our new CGAA Membership Director. He has some innovative and exciting ideas for recruiting new members. Many thanks, also, to Ptero 'Butch' Flythe for volunteering to be the CGAA's 'ambassador' to the ATTC graduating classes.

Now that our awesome Centennial celebrations are completed, it's time to keep the momentum going to make our Association even better. One way to do that is to have a Ptero liaison to each Air Station. If you live near a Coast Guard aviation unit, please consider doing that. You'd need to visit the C.O. and find out if you can make a presentation at an 'All Hands' meeting to tell the CGAA's story and then establish a schedule for routine visits to the unit to get to know everyone better and inform them what's been happening around Coast Guard aviation. Please contact Ptero Ben Stoppe, our Executive Director, at bstoppe@comcast.net to volunteer.

As the extended term of your current CGAA elected officers begins to wind down, we're looking for a few good men (and women) to serve as our next leaders. Please see Ptero VADM John Currier's article in this issue and seriously consider filling one of the positions. You'll be glad you did.

BZ to Pteros Dale Goodreau and Jeff Pettitt for agreeing to be co-chairs of our next Ptero 'Roost' in Atlantic City in September! I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

Fly safely! Jim Van Sice, Ptero 1777

Taps

We regret to report that the following members have recently logged their last flight:

Phyllis Leisy (Spouse of Ptero Dick Leisy, 376, Deceased) Fall 2015

RADM David E. Ciancaglini, 971, 1/17/17

James R. Iversen, Sr., 534, 2/15/17

Joseph 'Frank' Gall, 1229, 2/23/17

Corpus Christi Helo Crew Awarded Citizens' Service Medal



An AirSta Corpus Christi helo crew was recognized Feb. 25, 2017, in Hilton Head Island, SC, for a rescue performed while responding to Hurricane Matthew in October 2016. The crew of MH-65 CGNR 6554 was deployed to Savannah, GA when they were launched on Oct. 8 to respond to a patient with a serious medical emergency in Bluffton, SC. The patient required a higher level of care, but since all the roads to the aid station were blocked by flooding and downed obstacles, ambulance transport was not possible. All civilian helicopter EMS units had also been evacuated.

The crew flew through tropical storm force winds to make a challenging landing in a parking lot. The patient was loaded onto the helicopter and transported to Savannah Memorial Hospital, where he received additional care and was released several days later.

Hilton Head Island Fire Rescue held a ceremony where the helicopter crew was presented with the Citizen's Service Medal for adhering to the values of courage, commitment and compassion.

"It was an honor for our crew to be part of this special event and to be recognized for their actions," said CDR Marcus Canady, operations officer at AirSta Corpus Christi. "Our helicopter crew was there for a short time period following the storm, but this is home to the men and women of the Hilton Head Fire Rescue; their heroic actions for the local community are endless and their actions were instrumental to the collective success during Hurricane Matthew."

The crew of the 6554 consisted of LT Thomas Mulder, LT Peter Schofield, PO1 Michael Davis and PO3 Graham Smith.

Congratulations!

First Flight Society Honors CAPT Frank A. Erickson, Aviator 32 and CG Helo Pilot #1, and CDR Stewart R. Graham, Aviator 114 and CG Helo Pilot #2

By Ptero Steve Goldhammer, Aviator 1207



The capstone event of our Centennial of Coast Guard Aviation celebrations occurred on 16 and 17 December 2016 when the First Flight Society honored CAPT Frank A. Erickson, Aviator #32 and CG Helo Pilot #1, and CDR Stewart R. Graham, Aviator #114 and CG Helo Pilot #2 at their commemoration of the 113th anniversary of the Wright Brothers' first powered flight and celebration of the Centennial of the National Park Service and the 100th Anniversary of CG Aviation at Kitty Hawk, NC.

The festivities began on Friday night with a reception and banquet attended by over 140 Society members and Coast Guardsmen. The event was blessed by the attendance of Frank's daughter, Kay Erickson McGoff, her husband David McGoff, Scott Kaufman, Frank's grandson, and SN Paul Kaufman, USCG (stationed at TRACEN Yorktown), Frank's great grandson. Representing Stew's family were Stew's son Stewart R. Graham, Jr. (RM1 (Ret.) USCG), and Sam Lester, Stew's nephew. Sam rented the Mt. Washington Hotel for Stew's 90th birthday celebration in 2007 and coordinated the teleconference with the 2007 Roost banquet so we could wish him a Happy Birthday.



SN Paul Kaufman & Scott Kaufman

The guest speaker was Ptero VADM (Ret.) John Currier, Aviator 1877. Besides ye Ancient Scribe and Marilyn, other Pteros and their spouses who attended included: Joe Kimball, Aviator 3211, and Shelley, Paul Milligan, Aviator 1034, and Jane, RDML Dave Throop, Aviator 2709A, and Marina, Stan Walz, Aviator 1702, Pete Melnick, Aviator 3467, and Michael Ruhlin, P-4254. Orville and Wilbur Wright were represented by re-enactors.

Ptero Currier was introduced by Society President Mike Smith. VADM Currier thanked everyone and saluted the National Park Service, one of the most underrated Government organizations. He said that RDML Throop, who served with him, kept him out of jail and helped him get promoted. He said that Frank Erickson was a true American hero and an icon of the Coast Guard. He noted that Outer Banks people have a vital connection to the Coast Guard and the Wright brothers. He commented that Ptero Terry Beacham's, Aviator 1215, grandfather was at the Kill Devil Hills lifesaving station on 17 December 1903.

He thanked the First Flight Society for preserving Coast Guard aviation history. 'If you don't do it, no one (besides the CGAA) will do it'

John said that the First Flight Society couldn't have chosen two finer people to honor that represent the spirit and dedication of Coast Guard people. Frank was a pioneer and visionary of Coast Guard Rotary

Wing flight. The helo became an instrument of mercy because of Frank and fulfilled Igor Sikorsky's dream about what the helicopter could do. He reviewed Frank's stellar career. Frank was one of 13 pilots flying 13 aircraft in the Coast Guard. He was stationed on CGC Taney at Pearl Harbor on 7 December 1941. John talked about the challenges Frank faced in the CG about the viability of the helo and the disdain he received from Fixed Wing pilots. He said that Frank is under-appreciated in the history of the Coast Guard.

Frank was ably assisted by CDR Stew Graham. John said he's thankful for having known Stew, living Coast Guard history, for over 20 years. Stew achieved an incredible record of firsts. He and Frank developed the hoist, dipping sonar, radios in the helo, etc. The first hoist came from a tow truck in a Brooklyn auto junkyard and they adapted it. Stew made the first night helo medevac and was a leader in developing CG helo tactics and techniques. John covered Stew's role in the rescue of 18 survivors of the Sabena Airlines crash in Newfoundland by helo in 1946. That rescue brought the helo into the national spotlight and cemented the helo as a rescue aircraft. The RON switch was also invented by Stew to have an excuse to stay in a desirable port while on TAD.

John lauded the sacrifice, fortitude, persistence, and courage of Frank and Stew. He thanked all CG members for preserving our freedom every day.

Commemorative First Flight Society coins were presented to all attending active and retired Coast Guardsmen. President Smith introduced Paul, Duncan, and John Jameson, family members of the Wright Brothers.

On Saturday morning, a perfectly beautiful, sunny, and windy day for a ceremony and a first flight, over 300 people attended the induction of CAPT Erickson and CDR Graham into the Paul E. Garber First Flight Shrine on 'National Aviation Day' at the Wright Brothers National Memorial. What an honor and a privilege it was to walk on the same hallowed ground that the Wright brothers traversed! Chaplain LT Matthew Shapard, USCG said the Wright brothers have inspired us to have hope and to pursue the impossible. National Park Service Ranger Darrell Collins said that 'Some men succeed in life because they are destined to while other men succeed in life because they are



Sam Lester (L), Stew Graham, Jr., Kay Erickson McGoff, and David McGoff enjoyed the festivities.

determined to.' That characterized the Wright brothers. Their greatest invention in history changed the world. Darrell said that Neil Armstrong had a piece of cloth from the Wright Flyer with him when he landed on the moon.



Keynote Speaker Adm. Paul Zukunft, our Commandant, commended Ptero CAPT Sean Cross, Aviator 3321, for initiating the effort to honor CAPT Erickson and CDR Graham. ADM Zukunft said when cuttermen and aviators collide, it's truly a horrific collision. When aviators deploy, the first thing they do is check to see if the movie 'Top Gun' is available in the wardroom. He said he's here to worship at the altar of Coast Guard aviators. 'It's not heresy; we are one Coast Guard.' He admires all that Coast Guard aviation has accomplished. The first flight was the beginning of the marriage between aviation and surf rescue. Frank and Stew were truly ingenious and remarkable heroes that overcame much adversity and career risk. They were the fathers of military Rotary Wing aviation. Aviation and helicopters are integral to our nation's security. 'The great things the Coast Guard accomplishes would not be possible without these great pioneers we're here to recognize today.' Frank and Stew are looking down today and saying '...thank God we stuck to our guns!'

Tom Crouch, the Smithsonian's Sen-

ior Curator, Aeronautics, said he does this annually to honor the legacy of Wilbur and Orville; few achievements are worthy of commemorations like this one, and to honor the memory of Paul Garber (who knew Orville Wright) who suggested honoring the heirs of the Wright Brothers. He noted that CDR Elmer Stone, CG Aviator #1, was previously honored by the First Flight Society as pilot of the NC-4 in 1919. He reviewed the heroic careers of Frank and Stew.

President Mike Smith thanked everyone for attending. Portraits of Frank and Stew were then unveiled.



SN Kaufman



Prior to a wreath-laying ceremony at the boulder signifying the start of the first flight, NPS Historian Darrell Collins presented a stirring and poignant story of the events leading up to the first



flight and its witnesses. He said these inventions were conceived by genius and achieved by dauntless resolution. Mr. Jesse Ward, played by re-enactor James Charlet, read surfman John T. Daniel's duties contained in the 1903 Regulations of the Lifesaving Service of the United States.

Wreaths were then layed by family members of the first flight eyewitnesses and Tom Crouch, a native of Dayton, OH, the Wright Brothers' hometown.

A flyover was conducted by a CG HC-144 and an MH-65 from AirSta Atlantic City, piloted by CO Ptero CAPT Eric 'Jackie' Gleason, Aviator 3316, landed for a static display.



The Society's annual luncheon ensued and Ptero CAPT Joe Kimball, Chief of CG Aviation Forces (CG-711) was the Keynote Speaker.



Heroes of the Coast Guard CDR Frank Arthur Erickson Helicopter Pilot No.1

Written by James Burd Brewster
Illustrated by Matthew Melillo
J2B Publishing

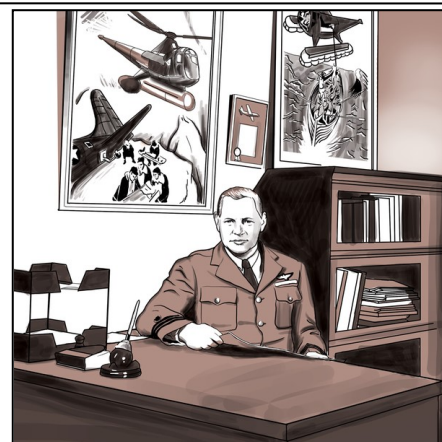
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We hope you enjoy this book. Our goal is to provide "good books for young boys and girls" books that honor public service and devotion to duty while also encouraging humility when praised for doing one's duty. For more information on the "Heroes of the Coast Guard" or "Glad to do it!" books please visit www.gladtodoit.net or write to:

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Ptero Jack McGrath, P-2666, Receives CG Public Service Commendation

Ptero John M. McGrath, (P-2666), recently retired from being the President of the Coast Guard Heritage Museum in Barnstable, Cape Cod, MA. The museum has an extensive display of CG artifacts, incl. a large area dedicated to CG Aviation history. A CG Public Service Commendation was presented to him on his last day at the

museum by CAPT Rich Schultz, USCG, Commander, Sector Southeastern New England.



John "Jack" McGrath

The Commandant of the United States (U.S.) Coast Guard takes great pleasure in presenting the U.S. Coast Guard Public Service Commendation Award to Mr. John "Jack" MCGRATH for commendable public service and significant contributions in support of U.S. Coast Guard missions from May 2008 to October 2016. Mr. MCGRATH has played an invaluable role in helping the U.S. Coast Guard preserve its proud heritage through thousands of volunteer hours and myriad projects at the Coast Guard Heritage Museum in Barnstable, Massachusetts. During that time, he served as a docent, leading multitudes of tours through the two story museum and expertly explaining Coast Guard history and traditions to visitors from all over the country. In an executive and administrative capacity, he served as Vice President for two years and as the organization's President for the past seven years. His diligent efforts to increase visitors, membership and revenues through creative annual fund raising mailings have enabled the museum to become self sustaining. During his tenure more than 10,000 visitors young and old alike have crossed the threshold of the museum entrance and marveled at the extraordinary collection of Coast Guard memorabilia. Mr. MCGRATH personally supervised the purchase, construction and installation of new display cases on both floors of the museum, creating a more modern, clean look and better display of the artifacts. Under his leadership, the museum, one of three in the country solely dedicated to Coast Guard history, has received the praise of the President of the National Coast Guard Museum, Richard Grahn and the President Emeritus of the Foundation for Coast Guard History, Captain Frederick Herzberg, USCG (ret.). Through Mr. MCGRATH's enthusiasm and passion for the Coast Guard, he successfully educated the public and ultimately preserved the Service's proud history, traditions and key memorabilia for generations to come. Mr. MCGRATH's dedication to the ideals of patriotism and duty are heartily commended and are in keeping with the highest traditions of public service.

Got a 1426 T shirt that doesn't fit? Don't know what to do with the Aviator banner or your 100th anniversary patch? Here's a few ideas. All courtesy of Pat Cole of Brady's in Traverse City. Ptero Mark Benjamin, Aviator 1665



2017 Roost Preliminary Info By Ptero Jeff Pettitt, Aviator 2188

Let's Meet at the Shore!

RESORTS
Casino • Hotel
The Fun is Here

A Mohegan Sun PROPERTY

Need a chance to relax with good friends at the beach? The 2017 Pterodactyl Roost is being planned for Atlantic City – but in the gorgeously warm and uncrowded time of **September!**

Following the amazingly packed 100th Anniversary Roost, this will be a decidedly *less stressful* chance to chill out and chat with fellow Pteros and USCG families – with plenty of Beach and Boardwalk (B & B) time set aside. Relax – or - enjoy the many fascinating Jersey Shore activities – all options are open!

Intriguingly, the 2017 Roost will be held mid-week to ensure we get the best pricing. Block out the dates of September 12 through 15, 2017 for your trip to the Shore!

For the first time at a Roost, you could also **win back** your airfare or lodging fee – just “invest” wisely at one of seven surf-side casinos, or perhaps win our Blackjack or poker tourney! The Roost will be centered at one of the best casinos – Resorts Casino Hotel – directly on the galaxy-famous Boardwalk at beach-side – and next to the Atlantic City Convention Center.

As this is a world-class tourist destination, the list of activities is ridiculously long, including: fun tourist/family events, historical and wildlife preservation sites, entertainment venues, wine tasting, and unique Coast Guard locales.

Lovers of the outdoors can enjoy beach walks, golf, bike or trolley rides, fishing adventures, surfing, sunning, or boating/kayaking/canoeing.

Whatever your interests – your *best bet* is that you CAN find it at the Jersey Shore!!

Expected tours, based upon level of interest, will include bus trips to romantic & legendary Cape May, nearby wine-tasting, and/or a trip down Liberty Lane

into relatively close-by Philadelphia.

Cape May, at Mile 0 of the Garden State Parkway, hosts the USCG's only Recruit Training Center, numerous operational USCG units, the gorgeously decorated “painted ladies” Victorian homes, several wineries, and the historical Sunset Beach Memorial for the concrete ships of WWI.

For the patriotic among us, the Philadelphia tour would include the Ben Franklin Memorial/Museum, Betsy Ross House, Liberty Bell and Independence Hall, Congress House, plus the Declaration house – no doubt topped with a Philly cheese steak!

More traditional Roost events include the opening Happy Hour & Hangar Talk get-together – as we have reserved Jimmy Buffet's *entire* fun & festive Margaritaville Restaurant. And we've already

File your Flight Plan to join us as follows:

The Coast Guard Aviation Association 2017 Roost will be hangared at Atlantic City, NJ. The Roost will launch daily from the *Resorts Casino Hotel*, 1133 Boardwalk, Atlantic City, NJ from Monday, September 11th through Friday, September 15th. The Hotel room reservation lines are now open: Phone 1-888-797-7700 and use the group code VCGAA17

On line reservations: <https://meetatresortsac.com/vcgaa17/>

Hotel rooms are **\$59.00** a night plus tax for a total of **\$85.94**. Request a king *or* two doubles when you make your reservation. If you want to stay over on Friday night the room rate is \$149.00 plus tax.



got notification that Jimmy will be there! A golf tourney is also planned, likely on the opening day -- Wednesday, 13 September. The Thursday night Awards Banquet will take place in Resort's Conference Room, featuring a lower price than the 100th Anniversary Banquet. A picnic at USCG Air Station Atlantic City on Friday is also planned, for those that have not seen one of our “newer” units.

For more information on Atlantic City vicinity self tours & many activities, see the CGAA website at:

<https://aoptero.org/index.php/roost-2017/>



ATC Mobile Holds Memorial Service for Two Aircrews Lost During Training Missions

By Ptero Tom MacDonald, Aviator 2970, ATC CO



On 24 February, we gathered as a family to honor, remember and renew our promise that we will never forget: The crewmembers of CG 1427 lost 35 years ago on October 22nd, 1981

LT Raymond Brooks
LTJG Robert Winter, Jr
AD3 Joe Hinton
AD3 Mark Johnson

AND
CG 6535 lost 5 years ago next Tuesday on February 28th, 2012
LCDR Dale Taylor
LTJG Thomas Cameron
ASTC Fernando George
AET3 Andrew Knight

We will begin with honoring our fallen shipmates with 2 minutes of silence, 1 minute for each crew.

Special welcome to Ken and Becky Knight and Drew's brother Todd, Teresa Taylor and Emmitt and Evan

As always, we are honored to have you back amongst **your** ATC Coast Guard family.

RDML Throop, CAPT Maine, CAPT Rose and CAPT Krietemeyer – we are honored by your presence.

For those that are unaware, the 1427 was CAPT Krietemeyer's crew - he was the CO of ATC at the time of that loss and led this unit through that recovery – We remember you for that.

We are all aware that it was CAPT Maine that led ATC through our darkest hours and back to the light following 6535. Sir you were indeed the rock of leadership that this unit clung to and kept us from going under – we will always remember you to that.

And it was CAPT Rose as the Sector Mobile Commander that led the search for our fallen and poured every possible resource toward ATC to help us recover – sir, we remember

And it was then CAPT Dave Throop that ran to our rescue from Cape Cod, and shouldered a tremendous burden so we could mourn and focus on recovery – we are forever in your debt. Thank you all for your effort to be here today.

So today we gather to renew our promise that we will never forget. We will not forget 5 years later... We will not forget 35 years later.

And as we celebrated the Centennial of Coast Guard Aviation last year, partly with honoring our fallen heroes by painting their names on the sides of our aircraft across the fleet And commissioning this 'second 50 years of CG aviation memorial'...we will not forget 100 years later.

But for families, loved ones and those closest to our fallen, we do not need a date, we do not need a time or even these memorials to remember - we remember them every day.

My specific direction for today was for this gathering not to be a memorial ceremony – but a remembrance.

Because to me, we memorialize the event and the crew...but we remember the individual people.

We actually memorialize these events every day. We took what we learned from those events and changed the way we train, maintain and operate across the entirety of Coast Guard Aviation – we will never forget.

Current and future Coast Guard aviators who never personally knew anyone on either of these crews – will never forget.

But again today is about remembrance.

As I am always reminded when I put together remarks for this annual gathering, remembrance is a very personal thing.

I cannot define personal remembrance for anyone.

I couldn't begin to tell a parent, a child, a sibling or really anyone else how and when to remember.

Now after this morning's 'workout to remember', I can assure you many of us will **remember** as we try to walk up and down stairs for the next few days.

But I did find a most fitting remembrance in the words of the then Commanding Officers of ATC from their original memorial remarks as stark reminder these were real men.

From CAPT Krietemeyer remembering his crew:

LT Ray Brooks was from Chester, PA. A 28 year old graduate of the Coast Guard Academy, he served aboard the CGC ALERT and at CGAS Cape May. He exhibited exceptional aeronautical skill and was hand selected to become an ATC Mobile IP.

LTJG Bob Winter, Jr. from Gilroy, CA. A 29 year old graduate of officer candidate school, prior to joining the Coast Guard, Bob was involved in writing and public relations work. He was assigned to CGAS Brooklyn, NY and was here at ATC as a student.

AD3 Joe Hinton from Starkville, MS. 22 years old and a 4 year veteran of the Coast Guard. He served aboard the CGC ACUSHNET and at CGAS Sitka, AK. He was assigned to the Polar Operations Division at ATC, was known as a hard worker, and he was rapidly becoming one of our top mechanics. He was a brother to us all.

AD3 Mark Johnson from Richmond, VA. 23 years old and a 2 year veteran of the Coast Guard. Mark served at CGAS Miami during the Cuban exodus as a Seaman. He had an excellent record as was well on his way to moving rapidly up the ranks.

From CAPT Maine remembering his crew: I've come to realize that I can tell you, the families, with great certainty that the men we knew and loved here at ATC were in fact the same men you knew – because, to a man, that's who they were – without show, or pretense, or superficiality. They were men of integrity and wholeness, not pretenders.

Chief Petty Officer Fernando George: He embraced everything he did with childlike exuberance, as if everything was new every time he did it. A big brother, a rock, a constant, an umbrella of caring. He loved his profession and wanted nothing more than to be great at it.

LTJG Tom Cameron; he too was a young man to be admired, a young man to emulate. A fabled athlete and competitor, yet with a heart that was clearly

for his friends. With the same zeal that he embraced sports and his friends, Tom embraced his new profession of flying. Clearly loving it, he was very good at it, and would certainly have been great at it in time.

AET3 Drew Knight: A quiet young man was mature and caring and focused and loving beyond his years. He was a natural leader because of that, and a great friend as well, one who his fellow Petty Officers wanted to be near and be like. He loved the Crimson Tide, didn't much like his time on a Coast Guard cutter and hated to be in pictures.

LCDR Dale Taylor: A man to admire, a man to respect, a man to emulate, an absolute complete man. We knew him as the most professional pilot at ATC Mobile, truly one of the best in the Coast Guard, an instructor's instructor, an outstanding officer. – yet also as a light-hearted, self deprecating buddy who wasn't afraid to wear footie pajamas to a Branch Christmas party. He was the caring friend who would sound the call

for the lunch train to get his officemates away from their computers and over to the wardroom for a while, and the teasing big brother who would torment the galley staff with fake complaints of feigned heartburn once he got there. And just like he was always there for his boys at home – faithfully carving out time for them, teaching them, loving them – he did the same for us here, modeling how a real man – a man of God with deep faith – is caring and compassionate and always put others before himself.

Indeed, all of these men were men of substance - men of integrity - faithfully doing what less than 1 percent of our population is willing to do...

They selflessly volunteered to serve this great country of ours...and knowingly taking great risk to do so.

I believe the term 'hero' is somewhat loosely thrown around these days. But, in the case of these eight men, and the dozens more on this memorial, and the accompanying memorial in Erikson

Hall, the title hero is clearly earned.

But, ironically, the title would be readily dismissed by each and every one of them. Because they were men of substance and men of integrity that readily accepted the risk to serve...and felt honored to be allowed the opportunity.

I believe that gathering as a group – this group - really a family – to remember - is their best reward.

And I am certain it brings a smile to their faces as they continue to watch over us

I know that those closest to these men have similar memories to those shared by their COs...memories that you use to personalize your remembrance.

Cherish those memories and as important share those memories – ensure that we will never forget the individuals.

So, I ask that you use February 28th and October 22nd to honor these men, but remember them every day.

Keep the promise - We will never forget.



Ancient Albatross #25 Letter to Pteros



Fellow Pterodactyls, young and not-as-young!

Greetings from the Front Office of Coast Guard Operations! On behalf of the Coast Guard's Ancient Albatross, Vice Admiral Charlie Ray, it's our honor to update you on the latest happenings in Coast Guard Aviation.

It's a busy and dynamic time here inside the beltway, with recapitalization of our aging cutter fleet, upkeep of our shore infrastructure, developing wide-reaching strategies for the Arctic and the Western Hemisphere, and meeting the needs of a changing Administration, to name a few; plenty of movement and change throughout the service. What hasn't changed over time is our commitment to the American people and to our fellow Coast Guardsmen, and along with that, our promise to be there when they need us - always ready.

In that light, our rotary-wing fleet is no

stranger to that continued commitment throughout this time of change. As many of you know, we're transitioning AirSta Traverse City from an H-65 unit to an H-60 unit. We'll be moving one H-60 each from AirStas Cape Cod, Elizabeth City, and ATC Mobile. This will mean that, with the exception of Kodiak and Clearwater, all H-60 airstas will be three-helicopter units. We've worked with LANT Area, D1, D5, D9, FORCECOM, Michigan's local and state governments, and Congress to ensure a smooth transition with no loss in capability on the Great Lakes. In doing so, we realize a three-fold benefit to the fleet. First, we're providing D9 with a medium range helicopter, which provides an aircraft more capable in the demanding Great Lakes region winter environment. Second, this affords a temporary plus-up of H-65s at ATC Mobile to help support the 5-year fleet-wide conversion and build-up from the MH-65D to the MH-65E. Third, it will place two additional H-65s at HITRON, increasing the down-range coverage of our Airborne Use of Force - Counter Drug (AUF-CD) capabilities. Traverse City is on-schedule for Full Operational Capacity (FOC) as an H-60 unit by August 2017.

Speaking of HITRON, CAPT Gavin's crew in Jacksonville have continued to step it up with their AUF-CD operations. FY17 has already proven to be a hallmark year for HITRON, with 60 busts yielding 42.3 tons of contraband and 173 arrests. They are currently on pace to exceed FY16 record setting

year, which yielded 81 busts yielding 88.4 ton of contraband and 248 arrests, which was, in and of itself, a major increase from years past. The professionalism and skill of our aircrews sets the standard for operators world-wide in the CD mission, as they operate jointly with numerous other nations' navies to stem the flow of illicit drugs from reaching our streets. The FY17 addition of the two aircraft resulting from the Traverse City transition will be a great benefit to that effort.

Speaking of AUF-CD, this year, the CG established an operational shipboard Unmanned Aircraft System (sUAS) program. Working closely with the CG acquisitions community and industry partners, CG-711 developed requirements and standard operating procedures for the integration of a sUAS aboard the National Security Cutter (NSC). These resulted in the award of a contract for contractor-owned, contractor-operated (COCO) sUAS services aboard the NSC to Insitu for their ScanEagle sUAS. Given the incredible pace of evolution within the UAS technology market, COCO operations allow the CG to leverage state-of-the-market technologies without premature long-term commitment to a potentially obsolete-before-it-evolves solution. Coincident with this writing, USCGC STRATTON was marking two milestones for Coast Guard aviation. First, STRATTON is conducting the first full-length operational deployment of a fully-integrated sUAS detachment and a deployed MH-65. Second, STRATTON is conducting the first simultaneous operational sUAS / MH-65 manned/unmanned

teaming (MUM-T) in support of the AUF-CD mission. To date, surveillance by the detached sUAS directly contributed to four drug busts netting over 5,000 lbs of drugs which were bound for the shores of the United States.

It's no secret that our H-65s and H-60s aren't getting any younger. We possess the largest H-65 air force in the world, and even though we only operate a small fraction of the world's H-60s when compared to the DoD, we've put more hours on our H-60 airframes than any other service in the world! Thanks to the herculean efforts of our aviation engineers and technicians, their depot maintenance and unit-level maintenance programs have provided our operators with safe, mission ready, and highly capable aircraft to constantly answer the call. As we enter Service Life Extension Programs for both aircraft, it is imperative that we start looking now at what will be used to recapitalize our vertical lift capability upon reaching the end of service lives of

these aircraft in the mid 2030s. To that end, our Office of Aviation Forces has partnered with DoD and industry leaders and our own requirements analysis teams to identify the future vertical lift requirements of Coast Guard aviation. Now notice I didn't say helicopter, as we don't know what the future will bring for vertical lift capability. It very well may look like a conventional helicopter, but we won't know that until our requirements are defined and we see what modern technology can produce to meet them. We are engaged with the Joint Future Vertical Lift (FVL) program to help shape its requirements and ensure we are well positioned to assess early the potential suitability and effectiveness of the FVL aircraft concepts. To date, FVL concepts include tilt-rotors and a variety of compound co-axial helicopters, which combine coaxial counter-rotating main rotors with a pusher propeller at the tail. Platform Managers within CG-711 are leading many other initiatives and con-

stantly looking at ways to conduct our business better, smarter, and faster while maintaining Coast Guard aviation's well-deserved reputation for initiative, effectiveness, and safety. It's an exciting time to be in aviation and our personnel are trained, eager, and ready to face the challenges ahead to secure a bright and promising future.

Straight from the Office of Aviation Forces (CG-711),

CDR Brian McLaughlin, Aviator 3618

CDR Tim Holt, Aviator 3660

LCDR Will Walker, Aviator 3736



Greetings from Ptero Jack McGrath, P-2666, your new CGAA Membership Director



To all Pteros,

I am the new Vice President for Membership for the CGAA. Until recently, when I relocated to North Port, FL, I was the President of the Coast Guard Heritage Museum on Cape Cod. I know the many of you have visited the museum in the past. It is still going strong under the leadership of Captain Greg Ketchen (USCG ret), the new President, and Captain Henry (Buck) Baley (USCG ret), Aviator #1664, the new VP.

I really want to find ways to grow the membership, and one of the best ways is for current members to recruit new ones. As either an Aviator or former Aircrew, we usually have friends who served as well, but are not members. If you can, ask if they would like to join. Show

them a Pterogram, or tell about the latest roost. Some former enlisted folks think the CGAA is a "Pilots only" club, which is not the case. As a former AT and Aircrew, I often find that

other folks like me do not even know of the CGAA.

If you are near an Air Station and have any contacts, officer or enlisted, reach out to them and try to get some interest in the CGAA. If you are comfortable speaking to groups, see if there is any opportunity to maybe speak to a gathering about the Pteros. We provide a one year free membership to all new Aviators and Technical school and Rescue swimmer graduates. Very few seem to renew their membership in the CGAA. If you know someone, ask them why. Many Air Station C.O.s are members and some are not, but they are limited in how they can promote the CGAA. If you know one of them, ask if you can help. Don't forget to see if the Command Master Chief or Senior Enlisted Advisor is a CGAA member as well.

On Cape Cod, I often ran into active duty Coasties around town while wearing a Ptero shirt, and that would start a conversation as well. Anything we can do to grow our organization is great.

Right now you can refer folks to our excellent Web Site. In the future I hope that we can have a presence on Facebook as well. That is where we will find the next generation. Buck Baley runs the Facebook page for the CG Heritage Museum, and it does very well. It has lots of connections to other USCG pages. Check it out if you are a Facebook user.

If I can help in any way, my email is: fire633@comcast.net.



Obituary for Joseph Franklin Gall, Sr.



Joseph Franklin Gall, 77, passed away on February 23, 2017. Frank was born in Charlotte, NC. His parents were Joe Gall and Mildred Gall. He is survived by his two children, Mary Susan (David) Hamilton of Charlotte, NC and Joseph Franklin Gall, Jr. of Mobile; one grandchild, Madison Gall of Mobile. His first wife, Mary Nan, passed away in 2003. His brother passed away in 2001. Frank married for the second time to Madeline Ann Busby in 2008. Frank graduated from the McCallie School in Chattanooga, TN in 1958 and attended North Carolina State, the University of North Carolina, and Charlotte College. He joined the USCG in 1961 and completed Navy Flight training in 1967. He flew helicopters and fixed wing aircraft on search and rescue missions and was a helicopter instructor pilot for 8 years. Frank was promoted to Commander and retired in 1984. A memorial service was held on Thursday, March 2, 2017.

AIR STATION BORINQUEN

www.uscg.mil/d7/airstaBorinquen

www.Borinquenbeacon.com

BY PTERO LT A CORINNE SWAGER, AVIATOR 4641

Coast Guard Air Station Borinquen is located in a tropical surfer's paradise on the Northwest coast of Puerto Rico at the Rafael Hernandez Airport. The unit Area of Responsibility incorporates 13 million square miles surrounding Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. There are currently 136 active duty and civilian members assigned, most residing in base housing. The air station operates four MH-65D helicopters. In addition to active duty and civilians, **Air Station Borinquen** Coast Guard Auxiliary Air program is the envy of the fleet, boasting 23 members and seven aircraft. Each of these elements combine to execute our unit mission: To provide safe and effective aviation resources to meet U.S. Coast Guard missions.

Throughout 2016, **Air Station Borinquen** saw many accomplishments, which included 153 Search and Rescue and 12 Law Enforcement cases. These efforts resulted in 60 lives saved, 748 lives assisted, 146 migrants interdicted and approximately \$150,000 in property protected.

Aircrews were deployed for more than 180 days in the Windward Passage and executed a short-fused deployment to Haiti following the devastation caused by Hurricane Matthew. **Air Station Borinquen** strives to maintain ship-board qualifications for all assigned pilots and aircrew due to the unique nature of the AOR and constant presence of major cutters in theater. As a result, we are *always ready* to embark on a cutter or allied vessel. The unit is pioneering hoist training with the newly fielded Fast Response Cutters based in San Juan and our Customs and Border Protection partners on the island. We also provide Forward Operating Base support to Atlantic Area missions, with a constant presence of fixed and rotary wing assets and crews from around the fleet operating from the air station.

Recently, **Air Station Borinquen** was

involved in two high profile search and rescue cases. On 17 August 2016, the ready crew was notified while in an all hands muster of a report of a cruise ship on fire just outside San Juan Harbor. Based on the initial reports and the flood of news stories coming in, a second helicopter was launched with the expectation that a mass rescue event was underway. As a result of the crews' efforts, and in cooperation with other local agencies, all 511 passengers were evacuated and rescued with no casualties. It was the most successful ship evacuation since the sinking of the ANDREA DORIA in 1956.



Photo by LT Matt Hardgrove

Avionics Electrical Technician Second Class Renee Gasper, the Flight Mechanic responding to the fire onboard the CARIBBEAN FANTASY had not yet conducted a live hoist for SAR, and she was faced with the prospect of over 500 people in distress. She stated "Once you become a Flight Mechanic, you are anxious for that first real search and rescue case. You think about it every day. I told myself, 'I'm not going to wish for a case, because that means someone is in a bad situation.' I didn't want to hope for that. Bottom line is, we all joined to help people. I'm just glad I was able to be a part of it and that everyone safely made it off the vessel."

On 26 December 2016, **Air Station Borinquen** airlifted a patient from the largest passenger ship in the world, C/S HARMONY OF THE SEAS. "This was initially a non-standard left seat hoist due to the location of the pad on the cruise ship," said LT Matthew Hardgrove,

the Aircraft Commander for the case. As the sun set, the crew weighed risk versus gain and elected to land on the ship's helipad, vice a hoist evolution, for a swift and safe



Photos by LT Matt Udkow

recovery of the Rescue Swimmer and patient. "Our training enabled us to make adjustments on the fly and the Captain of the cruise ship was very helpful by adjusting course to provide us with the best wind line for departure from the ship," said LT Hardgrove.

As the Coast Guard closes out the celebration of the Centennial of Coast Guard Aviation, crews remain on watch as generations have before. **Air Station Borinquen** continues to carry the torch as the Pride of the Caribbean. Semper Paratus!



National Coast Guard Museum Milestone Update



Following is a recent Coast Guard ALCOAST transmitted by the Service's Senior Leadership, highlighting the museum project and milestones that have been met to date.

1. On Monday December 19, 2016, the National Coast Guard Museum Association (NCGMA) revealed the initial exterior design plans for our forthcoming National Coast Guard Museum (NCGM) in New London, Connecticut. This is an extremely important milestone for all members of the Coast Guard Family, as our story and accomplishments will be shared with fellow... citizens who are often unaware of the Service's historic and current contributions to our maritime nation.
2. National Leaders including U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator Chris Murphy, U.S. Congressman Joseph Courtney, and former Commandant Admiral Bob Papp attended the unveiling, showing the prominence and significance of the museum to our Nation. The museum will be built on the Thames River waterfront, adjacent to the 1791 mooring of the Revenue Cutter ARGUS and planned future homeport of USCGC Barque EAGLE. This multi-modal location, including a dynamic ferry terminal, train station, and easy access to I-95, is the perfect home to celebrate the wide-ranging and illustrious past of the Coast Guard and its predecessor agencies.
3. The homeport of New London also offers Coast Guard men and women the opportunity to visit the museum, with the Leadership Development Center and Coast Guard Academy within walking distance. Additionally, the museum will highlight Coast Guard operations and research, incorporating units like the Research and Develop-

ment Center, International Ice Patrol, the Marine Safety Lab, Sector Long Island

Sound, and major cutters operating in the Northwest Atlantic.

4. To view the museum's exterior architecture, please visit the National Coast Guard Museum's webpage at www.coastguardmuseum.org. To remain involved and informed about the museum, you may register on the webpage and you will receive quarterly newsletters and information regarding associated events in your area.

5. The Coast Guard has been actively engaged in this project with the NCGMA, led by a Commandant's Advisory Council and facilitated by CG-0923, the Office of External Outreach & Heritage.

6. Members who would like to share personal stories or highlight important milestones in our Service's illustrious 226-year history are encouraged to send ideas via email to history@uscg.mil and visit the CG-Ideas at Work website:

<https://cg-ideasatwork.ideascale.com> to participate in community discussions about the National Coast Guard Museum. Two previous crowdsourcing challenges and their results can be found there, along with future museum challenges. For information on donating artifact(s) or archival material(s), please visit the United States Coast Guard Historian's Office website: http://www.uscg.mil/history/uscghist/archives/Donation_Index.asp or contact them by email: history@uscg.mil.

Semper Paratus. RDML Anthony Vogt, Director, Governmental and Public Affairs, sends.



Obituary of Ptero CAPT James R. Iversen, Sr.



CAPT James R. Iversen, Sr., USCG (Ret), 92, of Naples, FL died February 15, 2017. Born March 25, 1924 in Brooklyn, NY, he was the second son of the late Albert H. and Loraine G. Iversen of New London, CT.

Jim attended Bulkeley High School, graduating in 1941. He was a member of the Bulkeley football team. He was also a 'fifer' in the VFW Post 189 Fife and Drum Corps.

Following graduation from High School, he attended and graduated from Admiral Billard Academy in New London in 1942; received a principal appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy in 1942 but instead, accepted an appointment to the U.S.C.G. Academy in 1942. He graduated from the Academy in 1945 (Class of 1946).

Upon graduation from the USCGA, he married Eileen Maud Shaughnessy of New London, CT on June 6, 1945 in the CG Academy Chapel.

During his 33 year CG career, Jim served on several CG Cutters and Buoy Tenders on sea duty for three years. Then he was selected for flight training at Pensacola, FL in August of 1948. He graduated from ICAF in July of 1970 and from The George Washington University with an MBA in August 1970.

On July first, 1975 he retired from the USCG as a Captain with 33 years of active duty service.

He will be dearly missed by his family and all those whose work and lives he influenced including his beloved wife of 71+ years, Eileen Maud (nee Shaughnessy) Iversen; his children, James R. Iversen Jr. (Carol), Robin E. Iversen Hill (Lee), Wendy D. Iversen (John Washington), and Shawn L. Iversen; six grandchildren and eight great grandchildren; and sister, Ann Beaulieu. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Eileen Maureen and his brother, Albert Warren Iversen.

A funeral service was held on March 8th. Final committal will be at Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors at a later date.



Mail Call! This issue's mail is brought to you by Aviation Detachment Guantanamo Bay, Cuba personnel -- October 1981 .

Flying Wisdom

Pilots are people who drive airplanes for other people who can't fly. Passengers are people who say they fly, but really just ride. Fighter Pilots are steely eyed weapons systems managers who kill bad people and break things. However, they can also be very charming and personable. The average fighter pilot, despite sometimes having a swaggering exterior, is very much capable of such feelings as love, affection, intimacy and caring. (However, these feelings usually don't involve anyone else.)

Flying is a hard way to earn an easy living.

Both optimists and pessimists contribute to society. The optimist invents the airplane; the pessimist, the parachute.

Death is just nature's way of telling you to watch your airspeed.

As a pilot only two bad things can happen to you (and one of them will):

- a. One day you will walk out to the aircraft, knowing it is your last flight.
- b. One day you will walk out to the aircraft, not knowing it is your last flight.

There are rules and there are laws: The rules are made by men who think that they know how to fly your airplane better than you. the laws (of physics) were ordained by God. You can and sometimes should suspend the rules, but you can never suspend the laws.

About Rules:

- a. The rules are a good place to hide if you don't have a better idea and the talent to execute it.

b. If you deviate from a rule, it must be a flawless performance (e.g., if you fly under a bridge, don't hit the bridge.)

Before each flight, make sure that your bladder is empty and your fuel tanks are full.

He who demands everything that his aircraft can give him is a pilot; he who demands one iota more is a fool.

There are certain aircraft sounds that can only be heard at night and over the ocean. Most of them are scary.

The aircraft limits are only there in case there is another flight by that particular aircraft. If subsequent flights do not appear likely, there are no limits.

"If the Wright brothers were alive today, Wilbur would have to fire Orville to reduce costs." (President, DELTA Airlines.)

In the Alaskan bush, I'd rather have a two-hour bladder and three hours of gas than vice versa.

I've flown in both pilot seats. Can someone tell me why the other one is always occupied by an idiot?

You have to make up your mind about growing up and becoming a pilot. You can't do both.

From Ptero COMO Richard McConnell, Jr., CG AUX, P-2661

Propeller Presentation



I presented this wooden prop to Ptero CAPT Tom MacDonald, Aviator 2970, CO ATC at the Mobile Area CG Safety Stand down on 16 Dec 2016. Over 500 active duty from ATC, Sector, and the Gulf Strike Team were in attendance at Ft. Whiting National Guard Armory. The prop is a 'gift' from the CGAA commemorating the actual commissioning of CGAS Mobile on 17 December 1966.

BM1 John Joe Dec (RET)---(CG AUX member) did the "work" required to turn the old prop into a nice trophy for ATC to display.

I'm on the left along with CAPT MacDonald and BM1 Joe Dec.

Ptero George Krietemeyer, Aviator 913



DFC Society Biennial Convention Announced



The Distinguished Flying Cross Society will host its' biennial convention in Dallas, TX on September 24th thru 28th, 2017. The theme of the convention will be "*Heroic Women of the DFC*" and appropriate hon-

ors will be rendered for their achievements at the gala. A robust series of activities are planned and further details may be found at

www.dfcsociety.org

POC: Bruce Huffman, POC: 518-578-7089, POC: bhuffman@dfcsociety.org
"The Distinguished Flying Cross Society", is a non-profit organization incorporated in the State of California and qualified as a 501(c)(19) organization under the Internal Revenue Code. The Distinguished Flying Cross Society is founded on fraternity and fellowship among military flyers, past and present - of all five United States armed services and of all ranks who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Pterogram Sighting



Ptero Steve Goldhammer, Aviator 1207, at the gravesite of Charles A. Lindbergh (1902-1974) on 8 February 2017 at Kipahulu Point Park, Maui, Hawaii with the Palapala Ha'omau Congregational Church (1864) in the background.

A Ptero's Personal Centennial Report

As 2016 made its take off, I began to share my home-developed CG Air powerpoint with northwest civic clubs, retirement facilities, and local chapters of military-related associations, basically any group wishing to see and listen to my presentation. My goal was to do this 40 minute talk monthly throughout the centennial year. Well, I reached the goal logging twelve presentations in '16 and did a thirteenth for good measure in January '17. Along the way, I enjoyed sharing some of our history with lots of citizens who knew little about the Coast Guard and less about Coast Guard aviation. Fitting in the time to do this was not as difficult as I initially expected, and I highly recommend that other Pterodactyls think about doing something similar in your communities. I believe it will be a satisfying and worthwhile endeavor. And while 2016 has closed, the history of CG Air, of course, lives on each and every day.

My September presentation, to a lively and interested large group at a meeting of the Olympic ANA Squadron, was mentioned as follows in 'Squadron News' of the winter edition of the ANA Wings of Gold: *"At our September lunch, we celebrated the centennial anniversary of U.S. Coast Guard Aviation. The USCG sent its first aviator, LT Elmer Stone, to Naval Flight Training in March 2016. Squadron member CAPT Ray Copin, USCG (Ret.) summarized major events during 100 years of growth, national service, and adventure. He was awarded his wings of gold in 1957 and ended his career as Chief of Staff, USCG District 13. His interest in*

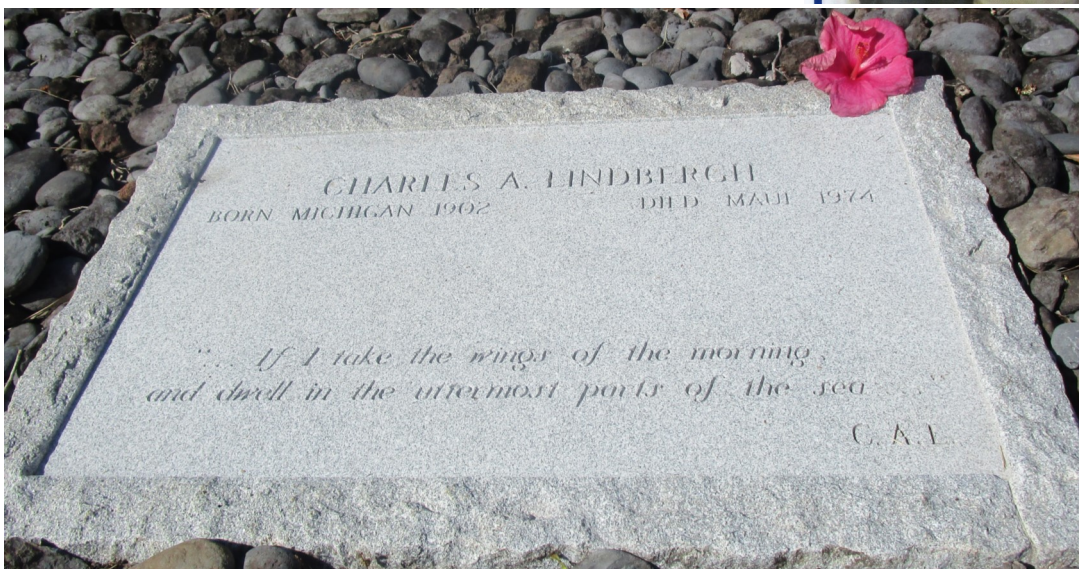


Coast Guard history has given him a mother lode of detailed information that he shares regularly with interested parties."

In January, I spoke to 40 members of the Mt Rainier MOAA Chapter at Dupont, WA. Port to Stbd in the post-presentation pic below: Phil Raschke, CG Av 1483, CG-blue-blooded Army DCA who later returned to the Army to accept a higher-ed offer he couldn't refuse; yours truly; Chapter Prez Jerry Jackson, retired Reserve Naval Aviator; Iris Copin; Vance Vought, retired CG CPO (Boatswain); Nicky Vought; Ptero Vic Primeaux, CG Av 1508.



Ptero Ray Copin, Aviator 744





Aviation Technical Training Center Honor Graduates



The CG has three aviation ratings: Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT), Avionics Electrical Technician (AET), and Aviation Survival Technician (AST). The AMT and AET Schools are 26-weeks long and a typical class has 20 students. The AST School is 24-weeks long and a typical class consists of 20 students. In recognition of active duty aircrews, the Executive Board approved special recognition for **ALL** ATTC school graduates with a dues-free initial year of membership in the association, **effective 1 July 2014**. Here listed are mid-2016 Honor "grads" which we are proud to salute. In honor of the dedication and skill of every CG aviation air crew member, we congratulate the honor graduates. We view each of them as representing all their respective classmates. We welcome them all to the exciting and rewarding world of CG aviation and extend our heartiest wishes for many satisfying years of performance in their vital roles in the rich and continuing CG aviation history ahead. We recommend and hope **ALL** the graduates will continue as members and will help grow the association with new members. **Congratulations and Welcome Aboard!!**

<u>Honor Graduate</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Honor Graduate</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
AMT3 Andrew G. Kyler	Clearwater	AET3 Hailey A. Hutchinson	Kodiak
AST3 Samuel L. Legrand	Atlantic City	AMT3 Kara M. Kennedy	North Bend
AET3 Thomas V. Magness	Atlantic City		



Newly Designated Aviators

The following pilots have been designated as Coast Guard Aviators and have been provided with a first year dues-free membership in the Association. Welcome aboard, Pterodactyls!! We salute you and wish you safe flight. We envy the thrills, opportunities and satisfaction which are on and beyond your individual horizons. As you settle in at your initial and subsequent assignments and carve out future CG aviation history, we hope you will maintain your membership and stay tuned to your rich heritage. As busy and focused as you are on many things, you are history-in-the-making, and you will want to preserve that history as well as that of those before and around you today. Your modest annual dues will help to keep you informed and make possible active duty awards, memorials and CG aviation history-preserving-projects. **Congratulations and Welcome Aboard!!!**

<u>CG Aviator Nr.</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>CG Aviator Nr.</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
4657 Andre J. Jones-Butler	Sacramento	4658 Molly R. Smith	Detroit
4659 Gloria R. Fox	Clearwater	4660 William M. Seabrook	Pensacola
4661 John C. Geary	Pensacola	4662 Jeb S. Slick	Savannah
4663 Zachary M. Farrell	San Diego	4664 Katelyn M. Docimo	Corpus Christi
4665 Vincent M. Knaeble	Port Angeles	4666 Patrick K. Collins	New Orleans
4667 Thomas R. Cogley	Humboldt Bay	4668 Carl W. Schemel	Elizabeth City
4669 James B. McCormack	Elizabeth City	4670 Edwin J. Forteza	Humboldt Bay
4670A Chris Faires		4671 Jackson L. McGinnis	San Diego
4672 Blake Labat	Pensacola	4673 Ryan Stille	Pensacola
4674 Angela P. Ingram	Miami	4675 Zachary J. Speck	Detroit
4676 Nathaniel D. White	Miami	4677 James M. Fennessey	Atlantic City
4678 Spencer W. Grinnell		4679 Theodore J. Borny	Traverse City
4680 Logan M. Swan	Corpus Christi	4681 Randall P. Renneisen	



CGAA Leadership Nominations Request



Greetings Fellow Pterodactyls;

According to our organizational bylaws, we are past the time to elect a new Board. The positions that require a bi-annual election are: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer.

At the request of the President and Board, CAPT George Krietemeyer, Aviator 913, and I are serving as the nominating committee tasked with soliciting volunteers for these key leadership positions. Finding the best qualified individuals from within the CGAA membership is necessary to ensure the future vitality of our organization. There are no restrictions in running; officer or enlisted, Admiral or Chief Petty Officer, only that you have a current membership in the CGAA.

The sitting Board has done a terrific job carrying forth the CGAA support functions for our active duty brethren (awards/recognition) while additionally ensuring that the Centennial was appropriately celebrated. It is now time to identify their successors.

If anyone who is a member of the CGAA is interested in serving as an elected official for a twenty-four month term, please contact me at jpcurrier1@gmail.com. Once a list is compiled, we will hold an election at the 2017 Roost Board business meeting in Atlantic City.

Deadline for notifying the nominating committee of your interest is **May 1, 2017**.

The Coast Guard Aviation Association is a fantastic, grass-roots organization committed to the past, present, and future of Coast Guard Aviation. Its successes have been, in large part, due to the volunteer spirit within the Pterodactyls. Although we are all busy with our everyday lives, I urge you to stand up and submit your name for an elected leadership position. The Pteros and Coast Guard Aviation need you!

Respectfully,
VADM John Currier (Ret.)
Aviator #1877
Ancient Albatross #23



CG Aviation Association Multi-mission Form

Apply for or Renew Membership / Update Data

☐ New Member ☐ Renewal ☐ Update Information

Name _____ Rank/Rate _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

CHECK BOX(es) IF Spouse, Phones or Emails NOT to be listed in Directories

Spouse: _____ ☐ TP Res. () _____ - _____ ☐

Email Res. _____ ☐ TP Work () _____ - _____ ☐

Email Work: _____ ☐ TP Cell () _____ - _____ ☐

Sign me up for:

☐ Life Membership **\$250** (includes a Ptero Pin)

☐ Annual Membership **\$35** (*Active Duty \$20*)

To activate your access to the members-only area on the web site, mail-in registrations must send an email to webmaster@cgaviationassn.org and request access to the members-only area. Be sure to include your full name and email address. Members who join/renew online automatically have access to the members-only area.

For many years, the “Ptero Store” has operated out of Ben’s basement, making an annual appearance at the Roost and filling the occasional mail order. The Centennial of CG Aviation has increased the products available in the store, and the number of orders per day.



To keep up with demand, the new Ptero/Centennial Store has been moved to an online specialty company located in Annapolis, MD. Stoutgear has been in operation for years and has a long history with the Pteros. If you purchased a shirt at a Roost in the last 10 years, it was probably supplied by them. The memorabilia provided by Stoutgear Promotional Products donates the profit to the CGAA. From hats to shirts, embroidery and screen printing, quality products with CG insignia representing the “Pilots”, “Aircrew”, and “Rescue Swimmers”, can be purchased through the Stoutgear/Ptero web store. Stoutgear is pleased to provide such a service to those who have served. StoutGear is easily reached through the “Store” tab at either <https://aoptero.org/> or <http://centennial-cgaviation.org/> and you can even pay by check if you don’t like using credit cards on the internet .

Please check all below that apply:

☐ CG Active ☐ CG Retired
☐ CG Reserve ☐ Former CG(not ret)
☐ CG Auxiliary ☐ Other Supporter

☐ CG Aviator (Data if known:) ☐

Designation Nr: _____ Date: _____

Helo Nr: _____ Date: _____

☐ CG Aircrew ☐ CG Flight Surgeon

☐ Exchange Pilot

Service _____ Country _____

CG dates served: _____

_____ to _____

☐ Other: _____

☐ Please send me how-to-help info!

MAIL TO:

**The CG Aviation Association
P.O. Box 940,
Troy, VA 22974**

Mar 2017 Please make copies of this form and pass it on.

Total Enclosed: \$

Obituary for Ptero RADM David E. Ciancaglini

David E. Ciancaglini, 79, a native of Woodbine in Cape May County, NJ died on 24 January 2017 in Sun Lakes, Arizona, where he lived since his retirement.

After graduating from Millville High School, Ciancaglini enrolled in the Coast Guard and graduated from its academy in 1960. He spent his first two years aboard a ship stationed in Boston before receiving orders to attend naval flight training in Pensacola, Florida. Ciancaglini went on to complete assignments at eight different air stations. After being promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral, Ciancaglini served as commander of the 17th Coast Guard District in Alaska, where he was appointed fed-

eral on-scene coordinator for response to the Exxon Valdez oil spill—which dumped nearly 11 million gallons of oil into Alaska’s Prince William Sound.

“There was a tremendous amount of pressure on all of us, not just the Coast Guard but Exxon and Alaska,” he told The Press of Atlantic City in 2011. “The eyes of the world were on us.”

Ciancaglini retired in 1996 after 36 years as a Coast Guard officer. “He absolutely loved the Coast Guard,” said his brother Joe Ciancaglini, 71, of Millville. “That was his life.”

Ciancaglini’s time in the Coast Guard took him across the nation, from Washington, D.C., to Hawaii and Alaska, and he enjoyed travelling in his retirement, Joe Ciancaglini said.

Ciancaglini received a number of

awards for his military service, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal and the Coast Guard Commendation Medal.

He was predeceased by his wife Mona Lucinda MacCormick and is survived by his daughter Anna Ciancaglini, grandson Joshua, sister Barbara Leider, brother Joseph Ciancaglini and dear companion Kay Barnett.

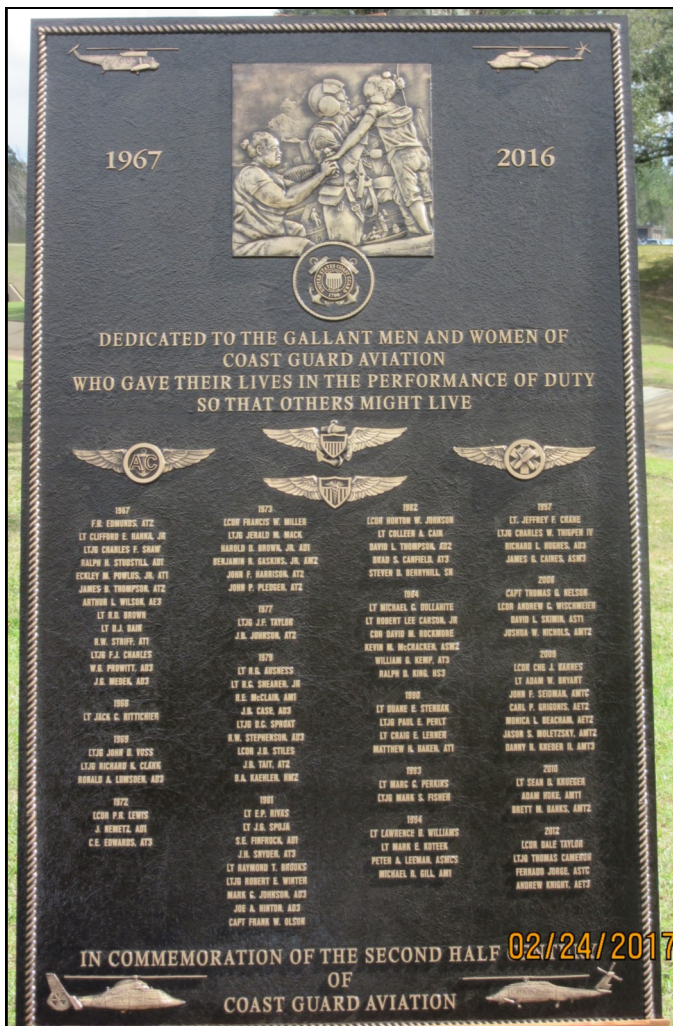
A celebration of life service will be held at the Valley of the Sun Funeral Home Chapel in Chandler, Arizona, and, at a date to be determined, the combined ashes of Ciancaglini and his wife will be interred during a Full Honors Funeral Ceremony at the Arlington National Cemetery Columbarium in Arlington, Virginia



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Second Half Century of CG Aviation Commemorative Plaque
Unveiled at ATC Mobile's Erickson Hall and Memorial Service
Conducted for flight crews lost at ATC [See Story on Pg. 7]



THAT'S NOT ALL !!