



Pilgrim Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol

United States Air Force Auxiliary

Squadron Headquarters: 222 south Meadow Rd.

Mail: Box 10-B, Plymouth Airport, Plymouth, MA 02360

Squadron Commander: Major Robert Yaeger, 508-888-5970 RWYaeger@aol.com

Training: Tue., 6:30-9 p.m. (1830-2100) 508-367-2934 www.PlymouthCAP.org

Go Patriots! Deflate the Giants

Report on Tuesday training, 1/31

30 attended: 21 cadets, 6 seniors and three visitors (and three of their kids). An interesting and fun night. Patterned after the "Dine-In" that cadets have the last evening of encampment, the cadets hold an informal court of ceremony and dining. The cadets had a set of toasting and dining rules, violation of which draws an accusatory rhyme, a sip of the "grog" (a foul-tasting mixture of several harmless drinks) and a "toast to the mess." Eventually everyone had a taste of the grog, but the pizza, toasts and conversation were good and all seemed to have a fun evening.

***Next training, 2/7:** Running gear. Color Guard presentation – parents invited.

See item below. CPFT & written testing. AE update.

***2/14:** BDUs. Safety. Aerospace – Guest instructor: Mr. Lee Woodworth.

2/21: Blues. AE update. Drill/Color Guard. Mentoring. Awards & promotions.

***2/28:** BDUs. Moral Leadership. AE update. Aerospace class.

3/6: Running gear. CPFT & written testing. AE update.

***3/13:** BDUs. Safety. Emergency Services. Basics training.

3/20: Blues. AE update. Drill/Color Guard. Mentoring. Awards & promotions.

***3/27:** BDUs. Moral Leadership. AE update. ES class.

Asterisked (*) items have changed or were added since the previous newsletter.

***Supporting our troops:** About five boxes filled in January – OUTSTANDING job. The troops like hot chocolate, games, puzzles, socks, toothbrushes, toothpaste and travel-size toiletries. They enjoy books and use lots of alcohol-based hand sanitizers. It's best not to send liquids. Travel-size, but no glass containers or foods needing preparation. Our web site has a list of things. We have many letters of thanks and pictures of troops to whom we've sent boxes. Mutual Bank, 2 Pilgrim Rd. Plymouth, is paying the shipping charges.

***CAP building improvements:** Last Saturday we installed a deck over the two offices, providing much-needed storage space above them. Special thanks to John Hoyt for his work and Cathy Clemons for her help that day. In a couple weeks we plan to install a railing and extend the ventilation and lighting into the offices.

***Fly day:** Also Saturday, we flew three cadets, one for the first time. One cadet learned about advanced maneuvers. The pilot taught basic control movements to other two, stopping at Marthas Vineyard to swap places. Once at a safe altitude and under the supervision of a qualified CAP pilot, cadets "take the stick" and fly the plane for about an hour. The next flights have not been scheduled yet.

***Color Guard:** We plan to start training for color guard soon. Color Guard team members learn a lot and develop pride in their appearance and abilities. Our color

guard has performed before the Red Sox, the Paw Sox, the Brockton Rox, the Boston Celtics, at the Seekonk Speedway, at high school football games and in many parades. Being a color guard member also looks great on college applications. But being a team member requires work and a significant time commitment. We plan to have a short presentation on color guard at the beginning of next week's meeting. If you are interested, please ask your parents to stay for this short presentation.

***Polar Plunge:** On Sat., March 3, Patricia Backlund will dive into the freezing Atlantic Ocean at Plymouth Beach in support of Jordan Hospital's Cancer Research Center. She explains, "In the past 2 years 3 of my friends parents have been diagnosed with some form of cancer so I am trying to give back to Jordan Hospital for all the care they give to cancer patients. The money will go to buying better equipment for chemotherapy treatment at Jordan Hospital." To donate money or to join her in the Plunge please contact Patricia: dramlala123@aim.com.

Tax preparer needed: Our "booster" organization, the Friends of Pilgrim Squadron, needs someone who is familiar with non-profit tax preparation, ideally a local person who will do the taxes for free or reduced cost. Please contact Lt. Balboni if you know of anyone: PSBalboni@aol.com.

***Parent emails:** Please send your parents' email addresses, or have them send, to Maj. Yaeger: RWYaeger@aol.com. There are occasions when we need to invite parents to events or tell them about things they should know, such as awards you might be getting. Thank you for helping us with this project.

Scholarships: The Plymouth Aero Club is accepting applications for the 2012 Aviation Scholarships to be used towards post secondary education or training in the pursuit of a career in aviation. Applicants must reside, work or attend school within Plymouth County. Recipients will be selected based upon academic standing, personal & professional recommendation and financial need. Deadline for applications is April 30. Two, \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded in June. Contact Maj. Yaeger for details if interested.

2012 MAWG Conference: Fri., 3/30, through Sun., 4/1. Sheraton Monarch Place Hotel, Springfield. Conferences are a great way to meet members from other squadrons, get ideas, learn techniques and find out what's going on in CAP nationally. AE display theme: "Aerospace Defends the Home(land)." Other display competitions on Safety and "70 years of service," referring to the 70 year anniversary of CAP. Also a Public Speaking competition. Interested in being a cadet aide? Go to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NFQ86KR> and answer the questions. Registration information, prices and schedules TBA, so stay tuned.

Other upcoming events (See Maj. Yaeger for more information):

Sergeant training – Sat. and Sun., April 14-15. Date could change. Details TBA.

Possible trip to Washington, D.C. – April school vacation week.

International Astronomy Day -- Sat. April 28th.

Pilot, Observer, Scanner training – Pilgrim. Probably early May. Details TBA.

New Bedford Airshow – Probably Sat., May 19. Details TBA.

Mini-Encampment – Memorial Day weekend. Date may change – Stay tuned.

Venus Transit – Venus moves in front of the sun. Tues. June 5th, 6:03 to 6:21.

Last visible transit for 100 years. MUST use proper equipment to view safely.

MAWG encampment – Probably Otis, late July or early August. Details TBA.

Plymouth Air Show – Sun., Sept. 2. Plymouth Airport. Details to come.