

# Wing Tips

## THE AEROSPACE EDUCATION NEWSLETTER OF NEW YORK WING WINTER 2010-2011

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### MAJOR DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER

There are two important dates in December of special interest to CAP members that we usually do not remember until they are upon us, if we remember them at all.

One of them is 1 December 1941, six days before Pearl Harbor. This is the day on which CAP was founded. In 2011, CAP will be celebrating its 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on 1 December. In December of 2016, CAP will be 75 years old. Seventy-five is probably a better anniversary to make a big fuss about, but it is harder to remember because 2016 doesn't look like a milestone year of something that happened in 1941, the way the 70<sup>th</sup> (2011) and the 80<sup>th</sup> (2021) do because they end with the same digit as the original date, 1941. Just think about it a bit and don't let these opportunities to promote CAP with the general public pass unnoticed.

The other major aviation-oriented event that occurred in December happened on 17 December 1903. December 2013 will be the 110<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first successful flight of a fully controllable, powered aircraft that landed at a point no lower than that from which it took off. Orville Wright was the pilot of the airplane that he and his brother, Wilbur designed and built in the workshop of their bicycle business in Dayton, Ohio. That flight, and three others, took place on the same day near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The brothers took turns, so each had the opportunity of two flights before a wind gust severely damaged the unattended airplane. 2013 represents an opportunity to promote aviation with the general public. It is not too early to start doing historical research and preparing a presentation.

### SO WHAT IS PEARL HARBOR ANYWAY?

Cadets from Long Island Group know. Every year, on December 7<sup>th</sup>, they assist the Air Force Association and

the US Navy Reserve in a touching ceremony to remember the attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii and to honor the old war veterans who were there. Many veterans associations turn out for this ceremony in large numbers. After the music and the speeches, the key part of the ceremony comes when a Navy Chaplain blesses several bundles of roses. Sailors carry the roses out to the aircraft which are WWII vintage single-engine airplanes. The airplanes take off and fly to New York Harbor where they drop the roses near the Statue of Liberty. Similar events can occur around the State where there are CAP Squadrons, veterans organizations, Reservists, and Air Force Association Chapters.

### SOME HISTORIANS REALLY SEARCH OUT DETAIL

The Wright Brothers had a tendency to abandon some of their experimental aircraft, when they had learned all that they could from it, and go on to build a better one. As years went by, all of their research and development became important to historians. Only recently, a small aircraft part was discovered among things belonging to a man who used to vacation at Kitty Hawk and had found it there. It was thought to be from the original 1903 Flyer, but experts at the Smithsonian said that it was from the Wrights' 1905 Flyer, a much improved model. Every little detail counts!

### NEW CAPR 52-16 GOES INTO EFFECT ON FEB 1, 2011

Every Senior Member who serves in a Cadet or Composite Squadron should be familiar with this publication, especially those involved in Aerospace Education. Note that Squadrons now must conduct a minimum of one AEX activity per quarter. Go for six AEX activities between October and October the following year plus an "Aerospace Day" and the unit gets a plaque from National (see CAPP 15).

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