



# THE LANTERN

The Official Newsletter of the Northeast region Staff College  
Civil Air Patrol



## ISSUE 6

Thursday Aug 25, 2016

Joint Base  
McGuire/Dix/Lakehurst  
New Jersey

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## ***This Day in Aviation.....26 August 1974***

Charles Lindbergh died on Maui, Hawaii, 26 August 1974.

Charles Augustus Lindbergh, Brigadier General, United States Air Force, Medal of Honor, was born on 4 February 1902 in Detroit, Michigan. Certainly one of the world's best known pilots, Lindbergh began flight training at the age of 20. In 1924 he was sent to San Antonio, Texas for a year of training at the United States Army flight schools at Brooks and Kelly Fields. He graduated at the top of his class, 5 March 1925, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Reserve Service. He became an Air Mail pilot and gained valuable flight experience.

On 20 May 1927, Lindbergh departed New York in his custom-built Ryan NYP monoplane, *Spirit of St. Louis*, and 33 hours, 30 minutes later, he landed at Paris, France, becoming the first person to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. When he returned to the United States, he was presented the Distinguished Flying Cross by President Coolidge. On 14 December 1927, by Act of Congress, Lindbergh was awarded the Medal of Honor: "For displaying heroic courage and skill as a navigator, at the risk of his life, by his nonstop flight in his airplane, the *Spirit of St. Louis*, from New York City to Paris, France, 20–21 May 1927, by which Capt. Lindbergh not only achieved the greatest individual triumph of any American citizen but demonstrated that travel across the ocean by aircraft was possible."

In the late 1930s, as a colonel in the Army Air Corps, he had various assignments, including evaluating new aircraft at Wright Field. During World War II, he served as a civilian adviser and flew the Chance-Vought F4U Corsair in combat missions with Marine fighter squadrons VMF-216 and VMF-222. He also flew the Lockheed P-38 Lightning with the Army Air Force 433rd Fighter Squadron.

In 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower reactivated his Army Air Corps service and appointed him Brigadier General, United States Air Force.



*Major Thomas B. McGuire, Jr.,  
431st Fighter Squadron, and  
Charles A. Lindbergh with a  
Lockheed P-38 Lightning at  
Biak, Netherlands East Indies,  
July 1944. (U.S. Air Force)*

## **Brigadier General Larry F. Myrick National Vice Commander, CAP**

Larry F. Myrick is the National Vice Commander of Civil Air Patrol. His primary duty is to assist CAP National Commander and CEO Major General Joseph R. Vazquez in leading CAP's 60,000 volunteers in fulfillment of the nonprofit organization's three congressionally chartered missions of Emergency Services, Cadet Programs and Aerospace Education, as well as its steadily increasing role in America's Homeland Security.

As CAP's National Vice Commander, Myrick serves as a Brigadier General (one-star). He is also a member of the CAP Command Council (CCC), which serves as advisors to the national commander, and the CAP Senior Advisory Group (CSAG).

Brig Gen Myrick was named National Vice Commander on June 23, 2014, and assumed command Aug. 15 at CAP's 2014 National Conference. As part of CAP's new governance structure that took effect October 2012, Maj Gen Vazquez selected Brig Gen Myrick as National Vice Commander, and he was confirmed by CAP's Board of Governors. The selection marked the first time in CAP's 73-year history that the organization's National Commander/CEO selected the Vice Commander.



Before his selection as National Vice Commander, Brig Gen Myrick served as an advisor to National Commander as an advisor. Brig Gen Myrick was responsible for special projects and duties as determined by the Commander.

A native of San Luis Obispo, California, Col Myrick previously commanded at CAP's squadron, group, wing and region levels. He was Commander of Bob Beevers Composite Squadron 103 from 1989 to 1993 and he was appointed as Commander Group 11 from 1993 to 1998. He was the California Wing Vice Commander for a short three months in 1999 until he was appointed California Wing Commander from 1999 to 2003. Brig Gen Myrick was the Pacific Region Vice Commander from 2005 to 2009 except for a three-month stint as temporary California Wing Commander in 2007 and Pacific Region Commander from 2009 to 2013.

Active in CAP since he joined in 1987, Brig Gen Myrick is a rated instrument pilot and was operationally qualified as an Incident Commander and Master Observer. He has participated in over 100 emergency services missions.

He has been on the teaching staffs of the Pacific Region Staff College since 2000 and the National Staff College since 2005, where he gives presentations on leadership and the changing environment of today's CAP. He is also an adjunct professor at his alma mater, California Polytechnic State University. Brig Gen Myrick earned a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering technology. He now teaches a senior-level mechanical engineering design course.

Brig Gen Myrick currently works for the firm Integrated Commissioning & Energy (owned by Peggy Myrick), where he consults with architects and engineering firms on the design of mechanical systems and commissioning of commercial buildings. In January 2014, he sold his consulting mechanical engineering business, which he owned for 25 years.



## **Colonel Dan Leclair Commander Northeast Region, CAP**

Colonel Dan Leclair is the Commander of the Northeast Region Civil Air Patrol (CAP) with its Headquarters at Otis Air Force Base, Massachusetts. The Civil Air Patrol is a federally chartered non-profit corporation and the civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force headquartered at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

Col Leclair's primary duty, as the Northeast Region Commander, is to lead the volunteers of the nine wings of the Northeast Region in the execution of the organizations three congressionally chartered missions; Emergency Services, Cadet Programs, and Aerospace Education as well as our role in Homeland Security. He is also a member of the Command Senior Advisory Group (CSAG) reporting to Civil Air Patrol's National Commander.

The Colonel has served in numerous capacities during his time in both the active duty U. S. Air Force and as a volunteer in the Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. He enlisted in 1972 and completed initial training at Lackland AFB in San Antonio Texas at the Cryptographic Systems School. After completing training he was assigned to the 13th Air Force Special Security Office at Clark Air Base, Republic of the Philippines as a Cryptographic Specialist. He was then assigned to the 3250th Technical Training Wing (AETC) at Lackland AFB where he served for 3 years as a Cryptographic Instructor becoming an AETC Master Instructor. In 1978 he was assigned to the White House in Washington DC with the White House Communications Agency (WHCA) as a watch officer in the White House Presidential Communications Center. His duties consisted of providing the President of the United States with direct command and control of both conventional and nuclear U.S. military forces. After four years at the White House he was promoted as the Chief of Technical Security where he provided the President and traveling White House with technical security services for over 10 years. He has traveled with three Presidents on over 500 Presidential Missions in this capacity. He retired from the United States Air Force in 1992 and returned to Maine in 2000.



After returning to Maine, Col Leclair joined the Civil Air Patrol and served in the 77th Composite Squadron as the Deputy Commander and later as the Squadron Commander. He has also served in the Maine Wing as the Vice Commander and as the Maine Wing Commander. He manages national programs for the Civil Air Patrol and serves as the Director of the National Flight Academy and as a project officer for Wreathes Across America. He is a 1700+ hour FAA Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) and Senior Search and Rescue and Counter Drug Mission Pilot and an Incident Commander.

His awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with one silver oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with one bronze star, Civil Air Patrol's Distinguished Service Award, numerous Exceptional and Meritorious Service Awards, numerous Civil Air Patrol Commanders Commendation Awards, and the Presidential Service Badge.

Col Leclair's professional awards include the Gen. Chuck Yeager Aerospace Education Award, Gil Rob Wilson Professional Development Award and he has completed the Civil Air Patrol's Northeast Region Staff College, and National Staff College.

Col Leclair is President and a principal in his consulting firm with offices in New England and is married to Pamela (Rowe) Leclair for over 40 years. They currently live in Minot, Maine with their two dogs.

**Wednesday's Activities/Lectures**

*Strategic Planning & Project Management*

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*Planning a Major Activity*

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*Adverse Personnel Actions*

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*CAP Legislative Day Preparation & Importance*

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*SOCIAL EVENT----PICNIC*



**Today's Activities and Lectures**

*Uniform Inspection*

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*Leadership the Air Force Way*

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*Public Speaking: Delivering Powerful Briefings*

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*Leading Groups & Wings*

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*Strategic Operations at NER*

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*Emergency Services Role in Recruiting and Retention*





## **Major General Patrick M. Higgins US Army Ret.**

Major General Patrick M. Higgins was commissioned as an infantry second lieutenant in the United States Army upon graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the United States Army Reserve Officers Training Corps at Hofstra University, in Hempstead, New York on 17 May 1980. Upon completion of the Infantry Officers' Basic Course and Ranger School at Ft. Benning, Georgia, he served as a platoon leader in the 1<sup>st</sup> battalion, 23<sup>rd</sup> infantry regiment at Camp Hovey, South Korea. Following this assignment, he served as executive officer and company commander in Company B, 2<sup>nd</sup> battalion, 325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne division, Fort Bragg North Carolina. While assigned to the 82<sup>nd</sup>, he also served as the 2<sup>nd</sup> brigade s-3 air, and assistant s-3.

After completing the Infantry Officer's Advanced Course at Ft. Benning and the Special Forces Qualification Course at Ft. Bragg, he was assigned as detachment commander, Operational Detachment Alphas 573, 574, 584 and the battalion s-4 for 3<sup>rd</sup> battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (airborne) at Fort Bragg. He then served as an assignments officer in Special Forces Branch at U.S. Army Personnel Command, Washington, D.C. Next, he commanded Company B and then served as battalion executive officer in 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (airborne) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Following this assignment, he served as an Action Officer in the Special Operations Division of the Operations Directorate, joint staff, at the pentagon. He then commanded 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 5<sup>th</sup> Special Forces group (airborne), at Fort Campbell before returning to U.S. Army Personnel Command in Washington to serve as the Special Forces Branch Chief.

Upon completion of the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, he assumed duties as the Director of Operations for U.S. Special Operations Command, Central (airborne), at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, where he participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom. He then commanded the 3<sup>rd</sup> Special Forces Group (airborne) at Fort Bragg, where he participated in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Following Iraqi, Maj. Gen. Higgins was assigned to U.S. Joint Special Operations Command (airborne) at Ft. Bragg. After this, he was tasked with standing up and assuming command of the nation's newest theater special operations command – U.S. Special Operations Command – Africa (airborne) in Stuttgart, Germany. He was then assigned as the director of Joint Forces Special Operations Component Command – Iraq, under United States Forces – Iraq, as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Upon returning from Iraq, he became the deputy director for requirements, j-8, Joint Staff at the pentagon. He next served as the director, Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization, j-8, Joint Staff at the Pentagon. In his last assignment Major General Patrick M. Higgins served as the deputy director for operations and intelligence integration, in the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization in Reston, Virginia, where he was responsible for supporting the combatant commanders with rapidly fused operational information, intelligence and technology to enable the defeat of threat networks worldwide.

Major General Higgins holds a Master's degree in strategic intelligence from the U.S. Army War College and a Bachelor's degree in social science from Hofstra University.

His awards, decorations and badges include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal (three oak leaf clusters), the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with "v" device, the Bronze Star Medal with one oak leaf cluster, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge with star, the Expert Infantryman Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Military Freefall Parachutist Badge, several awards of foreign parachutist badges, the Air Assault Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Special Forces Tab and the Joint Chiefs of Staff identification badge.

Major General Higgins retired in August, 2014, after 34 years of service. He currently resides with his wife Susan in Fairfax Station, Virginia.

**DAILY SCHEDULE....FRIDAY, 26 AUGUST 2016**  
**UOD.....DAY: CLASS B'S**  
**EVE: DRESS**  
**OD....LT COL JOE ABEGG**

<b>Time</b>	<b>What / Who</b>	<b>Where</b>
0745 – 0800	Seminar Time	Seminar Rooms
0800 – 0815	Formation	Parade Ground
0815 – 0845	General Assembly	Auditorium
0845 – 1045	Leadership & Command in CAP (BG Myrick)	Auditorium
1045 – 1145	Seminar Capstone Preparation	Seminar Rooms
<b>1145 – 1245</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>DFAC</b>
1245 – 1300	Seminar Time	Seminar Rooms
1300 – 1400	Leadership Lecture (MG (ret) Higgins, USA)	Auditorium
1400 – 1500	Region Commander Roundtable (Col LeClair)	Auditorium
1500 – 1530	Seminar Capstone Final Preparation	Seminar Rooms
1530 – 1730	Capstone Presentations	Auditorium
1730 – 1800	Retreat Ceremony	Parade Ground
1800 – 1830	Free Time (Prep for Dining Out)	Hotel
<b>1830 – 2100</b>	<b>Dining Out / Graduation Dinner</b>	<b>Tommy B's</b>