



## Squadron Training Mission

On September 29, 2009, the Pinellas Senior Squadron embarked on a self funded Search and Rescue Training Mission from the Albert Whitted Airport CAP EOC. The purpose of this mission was primarily to provide training for squadron members so that members could qualify for certain specialty qualifications for aircrews and mission base staff.

In order to make this training realistic, a missing aircraft scenario was developed and used and target panels were set out in the search area for the members to locate during their search exercise. This training mission utilized one search aircraft flying three sorties.

All training objectives were met as members were able to not only use their training to locate the targets; some members received their final qualifications for their specialty. Other members received valuable proficiency training as well as experience as trainers. Training was provided for Mission Staff Assistant, Mission Observer, Mission Radio Operator and Flightline Marshaller.

The squadron would like to thank the following individuals that participated and gave of their time and money to make this a successful mission: Larry Gray, Gene Olson, Vivian Olson, Larry McConnell, Adrian Cuarta, Joyce Nader, Ken McMahon, Walt Pleasants, Dan Antrim, Bob Smith, Michael Lombardo, Rich Fellows and Michael Levin.

Written by Lt A. Cuarta

### MAJOR JACK WHOLLEY GIVES MILITARY MODEL DEMONSTRATIONS TO CADETS

Major Jack Wholley gave a military demonstration at EOC on Monday August 17, 2009. Rodeny Smith, acting Commander, gave a aerospace test and awarded all cadets with model aircraft kits, to stimulate their interest in building models. There were 10 members present. The Cadets later visited the Pelican Military Model Club located at the new Military War Museum on Ulmerton Road to encourage the cadets into building more models. Major Wholley is an original member of the Pelican Club.

### CONTINUING WITH LT ANTRIM'S TRIP ON THE WWII WEEKEND



Several of the "Special Guests" included Col. C. E. Bud Anderson (Triple Ace), several survivors from "Doolittle Raider", Dutch Van Kirk (Navigator, "Enola Gay"), Pearl Harbor B17 Pilot, Survivor USS Indianapolis, B-24 Nose Gunner-Ploesti Raid POW, eight original members of the "Band of Brothers", and four members of the "Filthy Thirteen (portrayed in the movie "The Dirty Dozen").

One of the survivors from the Pearl Harbor bombing raid wrote an article for the show bulletin. He went over to one of the crashed Japanese aircraft and looked at the instrument panel and there, on one of the instruments, it said, "Bendix corporation, made in USA".

Dan also learned a great deal about "The Flying DutchMan"—Carl Andrew "Tooley" Spaatz. He was the first chief of staff of the independent Air Force and main developer of tactical air doctrine for the United States. He was born in June 1891, in Boyertown, Pa. We went to the U. S. Military Academy in 1910, where he acquired the nickname "Tooley" because of his resemblance to an upper classman of that name. Several weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Spaatz was assigned as chief of the AAF Combat Command at Washington. In May 1942, he became commander of the Eighth Air Force, transferring to the European theatre of operations in July, 1942, to prepare for the U. S. Bombing campaign against Germany. On July 7 he was given additional duty as commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Forces in the European theatre. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1942. Spaatz became the commanding general of the Twelfth Air Force in North Africa, and the following February he assumed command of the Northwest African Air Force, which he organized. He returned to England in January 1944 to command the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in Europe. He was one of the chief strategists who resolved the haze of logistics into an effective strategic bombing campaign for the defeat of Germany, Italy and Japan. In March, 1945, Spaatz received a temporary promotion to four-star rank and in June of that year he was assigned to Air Force headquarters in Washington, D.C. The following month he assumed command of the U.S. Strategic Air Forces in the Pacific. There he supervised the final strategic bombing of Japan by the B-29, including the two atomic bomb missions. He was present at all three signings of unconditional surrender by the enemy: at Rheims, at Berlin and aboard the USS Missouri in Toyko Bay. In September, 1947, President Truman appointed him as the first chief of staff of the new U.S. Air Force, a position he held until April 29, 1948.

Notes: Information pertaining to General Spaatz was extracted from the show bulletin and some of Dan's personal pictures were included in this article. Written by Lt D. Antrim