

AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

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REGISTRATION OPEN FOR APPRENTICE CLASSES

Registration is now open for courses sponsored by the Apprentice Administration of the Technical Service Department. These classes, beginning on October 1, will be taught as usual at the Hampton High School on Monday and Wednesday nights from 7 until 9:30 p.m.

Two 5-week terms will be offered prior to the Christmas holidays with one week between terms. Each student may enroll for only one class each term and will receive 25 hours credit upon its satisfactory completion.

While the courses are intended primarily for apprentices and prospective apprentices, any interested employee of the Laboratory may take advantage of such training provided a nominal fee of \$1.75 is paid for each 25-hour course. Employees who wish to enroll, should contact the Apprentice Office, telephone 2256 not later than September 26.

The tentative list of courses to be offered for the first term includes Blueprint Reading, Shop Mathematics, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Logarithms and Slide Rule, Analytical Geometry, Physics, Mechanical Drawing, Mechanics and Strength of Materials, Machine Shop Theory, Sheetmetal Layout, Metallurgy, Use of Handbooks, Simple Aeronautics, and Advanced Aeronautics. In addition to these courses others, applicable to the apprentice trades, may be offered provided there is sufficient registration to warrant the offering of such courses.

FOR ACER'S

All the enlisted men over 26 years of age, who were sent here on inactive status in the ACER, will be recalled for discharge at the rate of 60 a week beginning September 24, it was learned this week from the Third Service Command. Men will be recalled in groups according to age with the oldest going first. These men will report at Ft. George G. Meade, Maryland.

No decision concerning the disposition of men under 26 has been forthcoming.



Col. Carl F. Greene

COW OFFICIALS BULLING AGAIN

By Rhett Race

In accordance with its time-honored custom of providing sufficient advance notice of social events to allow chivalrous escorts time in which to reserve inexpensive corsages, The Green Cow Committee announced three days ago that a Green Cow dance will be held in approximately three weeks. Amplifying the manifests (in more ways than one), Chairman Houbolt declared, "Every time a newspaper carries an announcement, it says it was made 'late last night', and we are getting pretty darned sick of it. We have determined to make our announcement three days ago."

Having thus made journalistic history, Houbolt allowed Committeeman Pitkin to present a resume of the elaborate dance plans formulated by the group. As outlined to our staff reporter by Pitkin, the dance details may be summarized as follows: The dance will be held in three weeks or perhaps four. It will be scheduled for a Friday night, but this may be impossible. The event will probably take place at the Hampton Armory, with Hampton Country Club a close possible second, and several possible thirds. Music will be provided by some orchestra, probably local.

COL. GREENE DIES AT 58

Col. Carl F. Greene, one of the nation's foremost pioneers in aviation engineering, died last Thursday at the Station Hospital. He had been in ill health for sometime and at the time of his death he was 58 years of age.

Since 1939, Col. Greene had served as a staff member of the Air Technical Service Command's Chief of Engineering Division, working as liaison officer for the Laboratory here at Langley. He was co-inventor of the air cooled engine cowling and chief design engineer for the first successful, fully cantilevered all metal wing for bombardment aircraft. He was also the man chiefly responsible for the award of the Collier Trophy to the Army Air Corps in 1938 for "having designed, constructed and completely equipped the XC-35 subtranssonic plane, the first pressure cabin airplane to be flown successfully anywhere in the world." For his part he won the Distinguished Flying Cross.

On March 13, Col. Greene was presented the Air Medal by Major-General Kenneth B. Wolfe, for meritorious achievement on a flight on September 20. On that date, he served as a copilot on a B-24 which was ditched in the James River as a part of experiments being conducted by the Laboratory.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Dorothy V. Greene, a son, Capt. William J. Greene, and two daughters, Mrs. Harry M. Pike, and Mrs. James Jeffries.

TWO MORE COURSES OFFERED BY UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

Two extension courses that were not listed in the catalogue issued by the Training Division but are being offered through the University of Virginia are Electronic Circuit Design and Advanced Electronics. All persons interested in registering for either course may do so by calling the Training Division, telephone 2300.

Regarding other details, Pitkin was rather indefinite.

The committee announced late last night that further dance details will be made public in approximately a short time.

EDITORIAL

The Passing of Colonel Greene

Col. Carl F. Greene personified the work Army as well as any man I have ever known. He looked, talked, acted, and thought in a manner that shouted that he was real Army. But a man can't spend nearly 30 years with any organization, come up through the ranks, enjoy its glory, absorb its knocks, and help build it without its nearly becoming his whole existence.

He enlisted as a private in 1916 and from that learned to respect the enlisted man and his feelings. Even after he became a Colonel he told someone who worked for him, 'Don't ever belittle the enlisted men. They work for their ratings and everything else they get a damn sight harder than anybody else in the Army, and they are prouder of them, too.'

One of the true pioneers of aviation engineering in the Army, Col. Greene had a particularly unique career. For his part in the invention and perfection of the pressure cabin he received the Distinguished Flying Cross. He was either the first, or certainly one of the first, non-flying officers ever to receive this award. A year ago he received the Air Medal for his part in the full-scale ditching program, another outstanding tribute. All wasn't so nice as there however. For twenty-some odd years his heart ached for the one thing he wanted from the Army and couldn't get--wings. Then, in the spring of this year they came; he was made a Technical Observer. He strutted about like a peacock, or rather a bantam rooster; he acted just about like a kid on his way home from school with a report card full of "A's".

Intensely interested in everything he was concerned with, he caused his family and friends to die a thousand times in the countless seconds he stayed underwater after his B-24 plunged into the James River last fall. He came up eventually however, waved joyously to the crowd, and then told a friend who was concerned about the length of time he was under, "Oh, I was just looking things over."

An officer and a gentleman, he was also a first class friend to those he knew. Many people saw only one side of him, for his brusque manner tried to belie his heart of gold which nearly always won out in the end. The man is dead, but his work will continue, which is the way he would want it.

WATCH FOR THE STOPPED BUS

Every year at this time it seems wise to caution everyone who drives a car about the school bus law. We're funny folks here in Virginia; we don't want to have our children crippled or killed. In order to insure their well-being we have a law that protects them while they're boarding or leaving school buses.

It's illegal to pass a school bus while it's stopped to take on or discharge passengers. It doesn't make any difference whether you're coming up behind the bus or approaching from the opposite direction; if the bus is stopped, you stop, and wait until it starts.

Stopping traffic that way is the only way we can make certain that the children can get safely across the road. It's a law that no one disagrees with, but occasionally we forget and pass a stopped bus. We can't afford to forget!

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Think Of The Other Fellow For A Change

Now that the war is over and gas rationing has been lifted, employees, both drivers and passengers, are taking a very independent attitude toward each other. The driver, realizing that he no longer has to have passengers to secure five gallons of gas but only has to drive up to the nearest service station and say, 'Fill her up', no longer wants to go to the bother of stopping on the nearest corner long enough for a rider to step from the curb into his back seat. Consequently, the rider who cannot buy a car now because there are no cars to buy, is left stranded on the corner to wait for the Citizens Rapid Transit and ends up at work in time for the night shift. However, there is another side to the story, the passenger maybe and often is at fault. Having been up a bit late the night before, he may want to get fifteen more minutes sleep or take that last sip of coffee, thus leaving his ride waiting until he feels like coming out. Some even go so far as to use their ride's horn as an alarm clock, staying in bed until they hear that familiar toot and not until then do they decide that it's about time to go to work. (Incidentally alarm clocks can now be bought for a small price.)

Of course, if the driver wants to come to work by himself and leave less fortunate people to catch the bus, that's his privilege, but isn't a very cooperative attitude. If the rider wants to take all day about catching his ride, that's up to him too, but he'll probably end up on the corner waiting for the bus.

HECK at the LABORATORY

"My good friend, Si"

is the way Stan Spooner, slugging 19-foot first baseman, refers these days to the Structures Reds manager, right fielder and erstwhile pitcher, one S. H. Diskin. Last year in the final playoff game, the lanky Stan pounded one of Diskin's offerings way over Johnny Houbolt's head in center-field for a home run that won the ball game. In last Wednesday's game, when Diskin made his comeback attempt on the mound, Spooner romped on another pitch and sent it riding over the left fielder's head for a homer. And who was playing in left field this year? The same Houbolt who is getting awfully tired running those things down. Diskin, by the way, has no lost love for 19-Foot's Bill Conner who turned in the most surprising performance of the series. In the first place, in the first game, Bill went deep into left field to retrieve Hal Crate's mighty smash and hold him to a triple when one run would have won the ball game. In the second place, in the second game, Conner caught Diskin playing too close in right field and laid a perfect hit over his head. In the third place, in the third game, Diskin played back for Conner who dumped a perfect hit in front of him. In the fourth place, in the fourth game, pitcher Diskin watched one of his meatballs sail gracefully deep into the outfield while Mr. Conner ran swiftly from home plate to third base without stopping. His stay at third was only momentarily for Spooner's home run came next. Commented Red shortstop Lennie Bartone 'Heck, Si, you ain't even got a spin on it anymore!' One redeeming feature was the last minute reappearance of Joe Kotanchik who had retired from the Structures team this year. Joe took over shortfield for two innings and rapped out a single in his only appearance at the plate. He is the only man in the league with a 1.000 batting average this year and the only pitcher he faced was Martina. Sounds impressive.

Anna Cumming, Training Division

and Bob Jeffries, Instrument Research, have finally decided to abandon the rapid pace of the wolfish circles to join the overflowing ranks of 'and so they were married and lived happily ever after'. The wedding is scheduled for early October.

PRT looked like a

smoke stack last week and some of the engineers were even beginning to turn slightly green. Reason: Harry Pilgrim had just become the father of a daughter.

19-FOOT WINS CHAMPIONSHIP

The defending champions from the 19-Foot Pressure Tunnel hung the mythical league pennant on their office wall for the second successive year after bowling over the Structures Reds, three games to zero. The final triumph came last Friday, 7-0.

The winners jumped on Andy Anderson for nine hits and seven runs in the first four innings before he was relieved by John Houbolt. Houbolt pitched hitless ball for the remainder of the game but his wildness allowed one more run. Bob Neely led the batting attack with two singles in three tries. Stan Spooner added a triple to his string of extra base hits. Al Martina was touched for five hits, one a double by Dave Ochiltree.

Another tie game was added to the series on Wednesday preceding the finals when the two teams called it quits after the sixth inning with the count knotted at four-all.



Robert Bryant, formerly of Spin Tunnel, writes that "Army life is ever so boring" and that he is finding it almost impossible to wait out his discharge. At the present, he is a clerk typist in charge of files and letter writing which, he says, is a little out of his line. However, he finds that life in Germany isn't too bad and that the country is really lovely, especially the Rhine Valley. Bob has been lucky in that he has seen no action so far, however, his company was undergoing training for action against the Japanese when the war came to a close and he feels that they will be assigned to occupational duties in Europe.

George Evalenko writes from Keesler Field that he has finished Airplane Mechanics School as have several other former NACAr's. He also explained that most of the NACA is still stationed at Keesler Field, but a few have ventured out to see the world, some ending up at Denver, Colorado, others in Illinois, Wisconsin, Nevada, and still other fortunate souls in Texas.

SYMES-EATON STAMP CLUB TO MEET TUESDAY NIGHT

The Symes-Eaton Stamp Club will hold its first meeting of the fall on Tuesday night at 8 o'clock at the Symes-Eaton Community Center.

Since this will be the first meeting following a summer layoff, plans for the fall and winter program will be discussed.

PERCY KEFFER CELEBRATES TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AT LAB

The fifth of the Laboratory's employees to reach the twenty-fifth anniversary of the day they came with the NACA, Percy Raymond Keffer "came of age" Thursday, September 20. However, only three of his predecessors are still here, R. E. Mixson, Charlie Wolfe, and Benny Bennett. The fourth, Sam Eakin, died this past year.

According to Percy, he has no claim to fame, he's just been working steady since 1920. However there is at least one unusual thing about him; he's one of the few native Virginians left around the place, having been born in Blacksburg on April 16, 1897.

He served his trade as a patternmaker at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Company and followed that with a hitch in the Navy where he was rated a Patternmaker 1/C. Coming out of the Navy in March, 1919, he went to work at the Norfolk Navy Yard and then to Charleston, W. Va., where he opened a model shop. Back on the Peninsula on a visit in 1920, he read an advertisement in the local paper. It seems that the NACA needed a patternmaker, so Keffer applied and was accepted. He was the only worker of his kind here, and his shop was located on the second floor of the present Administration Building, where the Stenographic section holds forth today. The Laboratory at that time consisted of the one main building, the newly completed AWT, a shack housing the Engine Lab, and one of the Army's borrowed hangars.

BRIDGE TOURNEY BEGINS OCTOBER 5

The LMAL Bridge Club announces that the first duplicate contract bridge tournament of the fall season will be played Friday evening, October 5, at 7:45 p.m. Until the Recreation Building is completed, all sessions will be played in the bridge room of the Fifth Rental Office, Copeland Park, on 58th Street just off G Street.

Last spring's co-champions, Mr. and Mrs. Anders Hirth, Electrical, and C. J. Workinger and C. E. Williams, Buildings and Grounds, will be around to defend their laurels. Most of the other ranking pairs have also expressed a desire to return and challenge the present leaders.

All persons who enjoy bridge are extended an invitation to attend the coming duplicate. There are no dues in the Bridge Club, the only cost being the twenty-five cent entry fee at each event. The entire "take" will be split evenly among the winners. A knowledge of duplicate play is not necessary since concise instructions are given at each session.

For further information and reservations call D. R. Cervin, Buildings and Grounds.

Percy says one of his most serious disappointments came over the first spin model that was made here. Many years ago, the model shop got an order for this model and it seemed that someone was in a hurry. So Percy and the one other patternmaker worked straight through 48 hours to finish it. It then went down to the balloon hangar which was used before we got the Spin Tunnel. It was supposed to be launched from the top and caught in a net just above the concrete floor. Everything went all right except that the catcher got his signals mixed and got a drop instead of a curve ball. As a result, the model turned into splinters on the floor.

Keffer was quite a catcher in his day, being Lefty Forrest's battery mate on the old NACA baseball team of the middle twenties. That team defeated some of the best Army and semi-pro nines in the area in those days, and Percy's only unpleasant recollection is the time during a big game with Poquoson when he went after a foul fly, stepped in a hole, and broke his wrist.

Keffer has worked in the model shop since his arrival here and in 1940 was made section head. He is now head of all the Laboratory's woodworking shops.

Married since two weeks before he joined the Navy, he has three children. Percy, Jr., a Lieutenant in the Coast Guard, is a former employee of the Laboratory, and his other son, Clarence, works in West Engineering. The other offspring is a daughter, Julia.

APARTMENTS MAY SOON BE AVAILABLE TO EMPLOYEES

In view of the fact that the Port of Embarkation is moving its quarters to Norfolk and the Training Command is leaving Langley Field by October 1, it is quite possible that apartments will be available in housing projects such as Southampton, Armstrong Garden, Sussex-at-Hampton, and various other localities. All persons interested may secure application blanks from the Housing Office, telephone 2377.

BRAINBUSTER' THIRD ANNUAL MODEL MEET POSTPONED

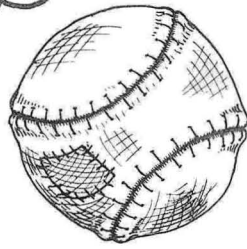
The Brainbuster's Third Annual Model Contest has been postponed until Sunday, October 7, to give modelmakers more time to prepare for the event, it was announced this week. It will last from 12 noon until 4:30 p.m.

There will be two events this year, one for gas and one for rubber. Class A, B, and C gas models will all be in the same event, using the 1944 Brainbuster rules. Prizes are two trophies, cash, and merchandise.

FOR RENT: Furnished house ½ mile from Langley Field. Available after September 24. Contact Air Scoop Office.



SOFTBALL NIGHTMARES



19

45



Arabesque Andrews



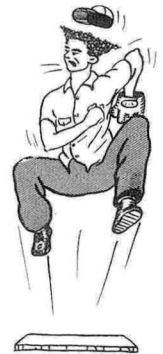
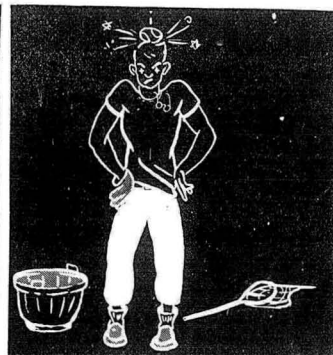
Vollo's Rollo



I got it! I got it! I got it!



Nothing ever happens out here.

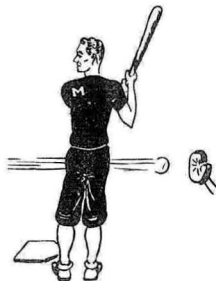


Run, Houbolt, Run!

Editor's Note: You should see him play basketball.



O'wan, try and hit me!



Now I know how they feel.



My grannudda coulda dun betta.



Comenzo, Cancro, or bartone?



He'll do it every time.



The pitch is legal and we've got movies to prove it.



deuoto
"...Or How Would You Like To Play On My Team?"