

ARWG August Diversity Message

What about me?

With the Diversity Officer's focus on highlighting special groups, you may be wondering, "what about me?" I've heard this from a few of you, and I know that the previous Diversity Officer had this question posed to her as well.

While some of my messages are not "special group" specific, I realize that some of them are very specific. So, I've given it a lot of thought, and talked to a lot of folks, and have been working this through my head for weeks/months. While there is a month for almost every cultural, ethnic, and religious group, there is still a large group of ARWG CAP members that are not "included" in some of my messages.

So, I have thought, well I can focus on male aviators, Charles Lindbergh, Chuck Yeager, Jimmy Doolittle, Orville and Wilbur Wright, Howard Hughes, Igor Sikorsky, Manfred von Richthofen, most of these names I'd heard about way before my time in CAP, so I figure there is very little I could share with you that you don't already know.

Males in Aerospace is a possibility, Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin, Alan Shephard, Wally Schirra, Deke Slaton, Alan Shepherd. In rocket science, we have Robert Goddard, Werner Von Braun, Hermann Oberth, and other scientists, Einstein, Da Vinci, Newton, Galileo, Curie, and the list goes. Even current guys, Elon Musk, Jeff Bezos, Richard Branson, all guys we hear about in the news a lot of late.

My goal with diversity is to draw attention to those that may have been overlooked in the history books, people that have contributed to where we are, and share about those that most of us have never heard of before, in the appropriate months. In those months that are not designated, I do try to share something for everyone.

Really at this point, though, I am at a loss, as to how to include you, without repeating information most of us in CAP do or should know. A brilliant man, whom I asked to help me with this question posed to me, "maybe that should be your message?"

All this inclusivity is very exclusive at times on many levels (from a different brilliant man). So, I ask you, how would you like to be included? What can I do to focus my messages on you as well? Are there things that I am overlooking that you would like to see in a message from me? I am open to suggestions.

v/r

Major Janice Podgurski