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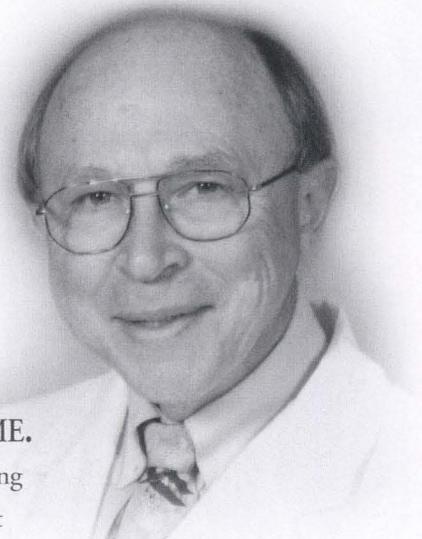
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Commander

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Commander's Comments

*By Col. Teresa Schimelfening
South Dakota Wing Commander*



Former WAC and Air Traffic Controller Accepts Command

For more than four years, the South Dakota Wing has been under the exceptional leadership and command of Colonel Mike Beason. As a retired Air Force Lieutenant Colonel, the Wing Commander position suited him well.

Mike has left some big footprints to follow, providing me the honor and privilege of taking on the challenging responsibilities of leading our wing membership in accomplishing the Civil Air Patrol's missions. Luckily, Colonel Beason will not be far from the flag pole. He has left me a great staff and support of other dedicated members to help in my endeavors. Thank you, Colonel Beason

Continued on page 5 . . .



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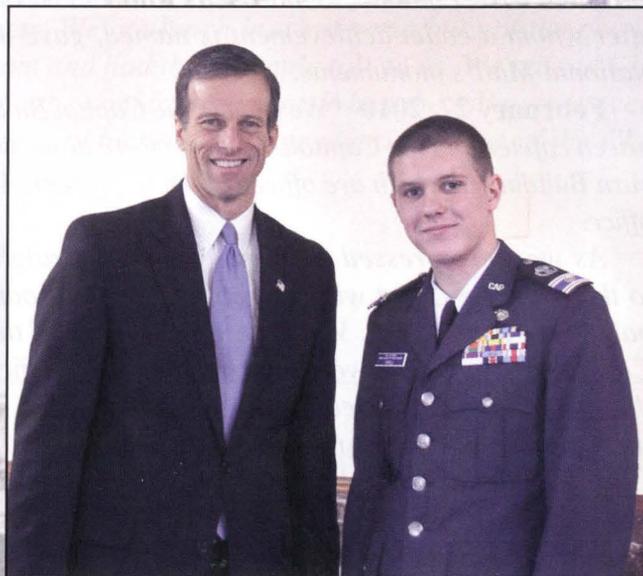
Cadet Shares His Civic Leadership Academy Journal

By C/2nd Lt. David Small
South Dakota Wing

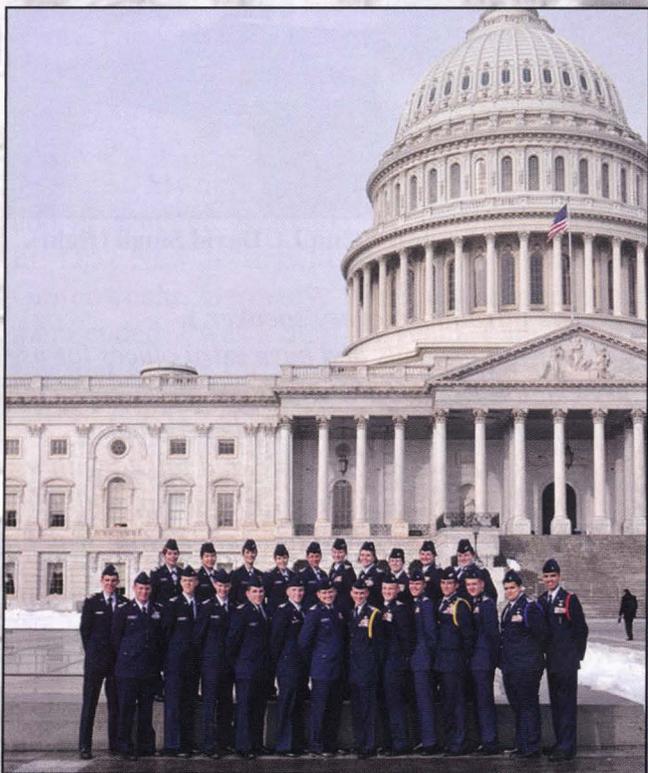
The Civic Leadership Academy (CLA) is a National Cadet Special Activity (NCSA) that gives cadets the opportunity to learn about the government first hand.

Twenty-four of the top CAP cadets nationally are selected to spend a week in Washington, D.C. They tour the city and learn how the government works. They also learn about public services and American heritage. During CLA, cadets get the chance to talk with influential people in the federal government.

As this was my first NCSA, I found the CLA very fun and educational. I got to go to places in D.C. that the public is not allowed to visit and hear from people who the public holds in high esteem.



One of the CLA activities is having cadets meet their state's political leaders while in Washington. C/2nd Lt. David Small (right) meets with United States Senator John Thune, R-South Dakota. Sen. Thune's father, Harold, was a decorated U.S. Navy fighter pilot in World War II.



Cadets members of the 2010 Civil Air Patrol Civic Leadership Academy stand in front of the United States Capitol in Washington, DC.

Other attendees said that this CLA was the best NCSA they had attended. They also encouraged me to attend other NCSAs, including International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE) and Cadet Officer School (COS).

Below are excerpts from my CLA journal. I would love to share what the people said when they talked to us, but the CLA participants agreed to a non-disclosure policy in order to get speakers to participate. So, unfortunately, I can only say who talked to us, and not what they said.

- **February 20, 2010** "I arrived at the Crystal City Marriott. Signed my signature on several pieces of paper, then went and unpacked. After that I attended an introductory-and-ice-breaker class."

Continued . . .

Civic Leadership Academy

- **February 21, 2010** *“We rode the Metro to Arlington National Cemetery. It was interesting seeing rows and rows of tombstones poking out of a blanket of snow. We watched the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and Lt. Col. Beasley, a CLA attendee from Tennessee, and Maj. Gould, a CLA attendee from Wyoming, placed a wreath in front of the tomb. Afterward, we went to where the guards prepare and talked to the sergeant.*

When we were done, we went to the Kennedy Memorial. For lunch, we ate at the Air & Space Museum. CAP Lifetime Member Col. Mary Feik, one of the first women airplane mechanics, a pilot, and after whom a cadet achievement is named, gave us a tour of the museum. Then we walked around the National Mall’s monuments.”

- **February 22, 2010** *“We went to the Capitol Building and went on a public tour. We ate lunch at the over-priced cafeteria in the Capitol. When we were done, we meet an intern who took us through tunnels to the Rayburn Building in which are offices of the Representatives. He showed us the Rotunda and his Representative’s office.*

As we were pressed for time, we went straight to the Supreme Court without getting our overcoats back from the Capitol. We were given a tour of the Court Room, and then were ushered into a side office that was elaborately decorated. There the clerk of the U.S. Supreme Court, retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. William Suter, talked with us. After a while, U.S. Associate Justice Antonin Scalia came in the room and talked to us for 45 minutes.

Because we got to meet with the Justice for 45 minutes, and because we had to get our coats back from the Capitol, we didn’t have time to attend a talk about the Women’s Memorial.”

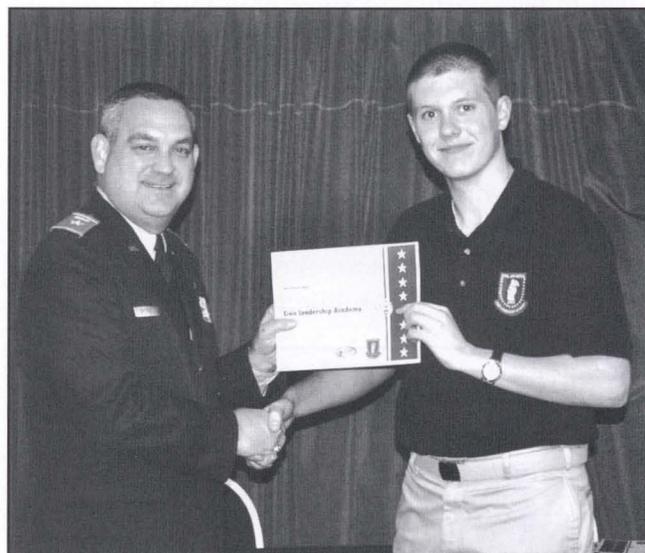
- **February 23, 2010** *“We went to the State Department where we listened to presentations from two people. I had the privilege of introducing one of the speakers, Willard Smith, Deputy Director of the Office of Caribbean Affairs. (Throughout the week, CLA cadets introduced every speaker.)*

Then we went up several floors to the place where they receive all the calls and have extra offices for use in disasters. On the way, we passed Secretary of State Hillary Clinton’s office. She was there on a phone call. While on that floor, we saw the rooms that they used to coordinate the response to the Haiti earthquake.

Next we went and ate lunch in the cafeteria. An Air Force colonel sat at our table and talked with us. After lunch, we went to the Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS). They have a movie-like setup, with nine big screens on the front wall of the room as well as many computers. They had to change what was on the screens because we were there but they had the news, satellite photos of Baghdad, and Google Earth showing. We heard presentations from several people about the DS.

Getting off the Metro on the way back to the hotel, we ran into Maj. Gen. Amy S. Courter, CAP’s National Commander.”

- **February 24, 2010** *“We went to the Pentagon. We were given a tour of the building and then listened to several presentations by military and civilian personnel. We ate lunch at Union Station. After lunch, we attended a talk by Darcy Burner, a former CAP National Cadet of the Year, who is now executive director of a political action committee.”*



Vice Commander and C/2nd Lt. David Small (right).

Civic Leadership Academy

- **February 25, 2010** *“Today is the day that we visited with Representatives and Senators to promote CAP. We were split into groups of three. My group walked back and forth in front of the Capital four times! The Rayburn Building, which houses offices of the Representatives, is on the other side of the National Mall from the Russell Building, which houses offices of the Senators. I talked to Senator Thune’s staff about CAP and then met him in a hall between meetings. In all, my group visited the offices of two Senators and three Representatives.”*
- **February 26, 2010** *“We loaded into vans which took us to the CIA. Once there, we were given a tour and got to see airplane paintings and CIA objects. We ate lunch in a cafeteria but not the one in which the spies eat. Then we went to a conference room and had three people talk to us. We passed CIA Director Leon Panetta’s office on the way to and from the conference room. When the talks were over, we returned to the hotel and packed. That evening was graduation. After graduation, some of the CLA walked the monuments in the dark. We got back at midnight.”* ★

Commander’s Comments

Continued from page 1 . . .

for everything you have done for SDWG.

So who am I? Well I am not a native South Dakotan. I was born in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, grew up in Missouri, and passed up a full four year 4-H college scholarship to join the U.S. Army. I served on active duty from May 1976 until February 1985.

My first enlistment was as a food service specialist and my second as an air traffic control radar specialist. My duty stations included Ft. McClellan and Ft. Rucker, Alabama; Ft. Benning, Georgia Ft. Dix, New Jersey; Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, and Grafenwoehr, Germany. When my second enlistment ended, I was a Staff Sergeant. I am proud to say that I am a former member of the Women’s Army Corps (WAC).

My husband James is a U.S. Army retired sergeant first class and a Desert Storm combat veteran. Jim is also a former air traffic tower controller and airborne ranger. He is currently a 911 telecommunicator at Mt. Rushmore National Memorial. We have two sons; Adam, a full time student at Western Iowa Tech; and Benjamin, a former CAP cadet and a 2010 graduate of the United States Air Force Academy.

My time in CAP started in February 2004 with the Lewis and Clark Composite Squadron in Yankton a little over a month after my son Ben

joined. Six months later, on the day Yankton had a subordinate unit inspection, I was asked to take command of the squadron.

What do I want to see accomplished during my tenure? Under Colonel Beason’s guidance, our emergency services and flying missions grew tremendously. While we continue with these same missions, my goals are to expand our Wing’s reach across the state. I want to work towards increasing the active senior and cadet numbers, expanding and energizing our aerospace education mission, both internally and external.

Taking advantage of untapped resources available to us, I believe we can achieve expanding our reach into more communities across the state. In accomplishing these goals, we can increase further our emergency services mission I have high hopes for the Wing and believe we can make a great Wing even better.

Finally, I want to extend an invitation to our members whose activity has dropped to get back in the action. We still need you! Our numbers have increased but we need the action to go with it. If there are issues that you feel need to be addressed to get you to come back into the action, tell me. I will listen.

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Looking Forward: Immediate Past Wing Commander Col. Mike Beason Reflects on His Tenure—and Ahead

*By Col. Mike Beason
Immediate Past SDWG Commander*

By the time you see this, our new commander has been in place for several months. Col. Teresa Schimelfening will do a great job as commander and I ask you to support her as you supported me.

In past articles, I have reviewed the previous year. This year, I prefer to look to the future. But in doing so, I will touch on some of our past accomplishments.

Our missions continue to grow, primarily driving our flying hour program. Our customers, who include the National Guard, Ellsworth AFB, the state and counties, want our airplane-based capabilities. They generally don't want ground teams (except as support to the aircraft). They can do ground teams using other agencies. But it is the aircraft that make us unique and for which we are in demand. This doesn't diminish the importance of our ground team training and expertise; it is an essential element of our unique capabilities.

Last year we added new missions of being targets for the S.D. Air National Guard's F-16s in their intercept/Homeland

Security role, flying teachers, and flying Junior ROTC cadets from Douglas High School. We also regained a mission previously accomplished at Ellsworth AFB--flying their low-level routes, looking for new towers. This year we added a survey of their Military Operating Area, last done 10 years ago. As Ellsworth AFB looks to expand their MOA in the future, we will probably see another mission of surveying the expanded area, a much more robust mission from previous missions.

Our photo missions continue to draw interest from the state and other customers. For several years we have flown photo "documentation" after spring flooding. The calls come from both individual counties and from the state. In 2009, we added a new customer when the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe asked for photos of flooding on the reservation. We've also assisted the S.D. Army National Guard's annual training exercise in the Black Hills by acting as a "photo drone" for the intelligence units participating, meeting their requirements for imagery of targets.



I foresee the photo mission as our single largest mission growth area and for that reason we have been offering photo training around the state. We need to be able to provide quality, professional photos to our customers.

Our fire mission has expanded over several years and I see more changes coming. After the 2000 fire in the Black Hills, we started flying fire "patrol" after thunderstorms to look for new fires. In addition, we are now flying as the "air attack" aircraft that the state uses to place their "air boss" in the air to direct aerial firefighting efforts.

In the summer of 2008, that also meant our pilots were asked to sit on "alert" status, hanging out at the airport, ready to takeoff in rapid response to a fire. Fortunately, a couple of wet years have meant fewer of these missions. Coming soon, we may be asked to expand our fire missions to perform

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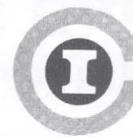
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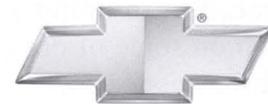
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Col. Mike Beason Reflects

as “air tankers”, simulating the dropping of flame retardant on fires, so the state can train their ground firemen on how to use these resources.

Our animal tracking missions continue to grow. We’ve been tracking mountain lions in the Black Hills for 11 years. In the last couple years the mission has expanded to tracking elk and turkey in the Black Hills, swift fox in the Badlands, and bobcats on the eastern side of South Dakota.

We have also expanded our cadet orientation ride program, adding glider flights to the mix. This has been popular at our now annual Aerospace Education (AE) weekends in Philip. We also have two cadets who received flight scholarships in a glider. This program can expand more.

The growth of all these missions over the years was such that we ranked third in the nation two years ago in terms of flying hours per aircraft. That’s pretty impressive for a small wing like ours. That ranking led us to gain two additional aircraft for the state in the last two years, and these were the NEW “glass cockpit” Cessna 182s. The hard work and long hours of many aircrew members has resulted in this gain for our wing. Thanks.

There hasn’t been much recently in the way of our prime mission, search and rescue. Fortunately, we don’t have a lot of aircraft crashes in S.D. to generate more of these missions.

We still get the occasional ELT search, but with the shutdown of the satellites tracking the 121.5 frequency signals, the “stray” errant signals normally go away before we get called to find them. That means less middle of the night phone calls for us. I’m all for that.

When the call does come to find an ELT now, it generally will be harder to find a 121.5 frequency hit since we won’t have exact coordinates. Instead, we’ll have a large circle to search, perhaps 200 miles across, so we need to learn the aerial techniques to find these signals.

One area where we can grow is helping with ground searches of missing people. The only way for us to get more involved with these is for the local sheriff or emergency manager to call and ask for our assistance. Since they have other resources, we often are forgotten. The way for us to grow these missions is for squadrons to get close to the local sheriff and emergency managers, talking to them about what we can do for them and how they can use us.

Squadrons should also be familiar with how we get called for these missions so they can advise the counties on the procedures. That information is on our public website. Members should also be aware that our agreement with the state says we can’t use minors (those under age 18) on these searches.

Another area in which we can grow is in our membership.

Although we have a membership base now that is higher than I’ve seen in 10 years, there is always room for growth. Most of the growth we’ve seen is in cadet membership. Although that’s great for our cadet programs, we critically need growth in our active adult members. All of our squadrons have members who are not active. That has led to a decline in our capability to sustain a mission. We are critically short of qualified emergency services (ES) members in many specialties. We need to continue recruiting and specifically recruiting members who are willing and capable of assisting in ES.

I’d love to see a new squadron formed in Mitchell and another in Watertown, both population centers that could support a squadron. We are investigating forming a unit at Sky Ranch, a home/school for boys in southwestern SD. Their board of directors has given approval to pursue this, so now we need to explore ways in which we can serve them. Remember our CAP motto, Citizens Serving Communities.

We can always do more in cadet programs. The tremendous growth of our cadets in the past year means we are doing something right in recruiting AND retaining our cadets. They have many competing interests in the schools and elsewhere, so keeping them is a big credit to what the squadrons are doing.

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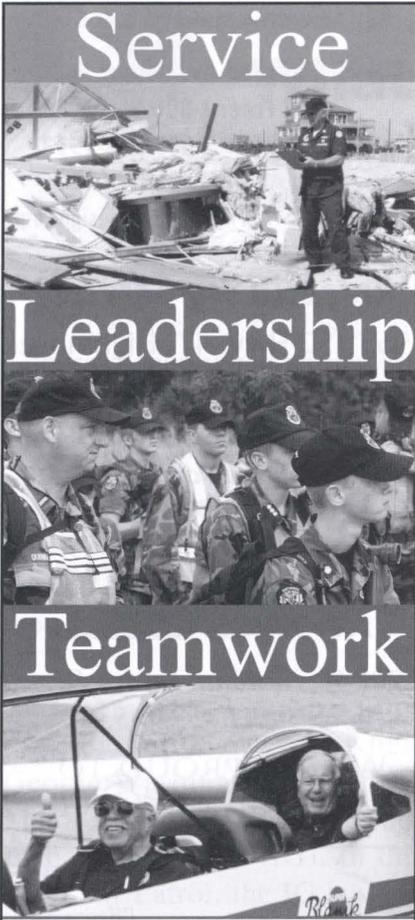
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Col. Mike Beason Reflects

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Thank you.

We need to focus on getting our Cadet Advisory Council more active in planning the activities and policies for our programs. We can focus also on home school programs and the National Guard's Starbase program. In Rapid City this fall, members from Spearfish and Rapid City presented eight, one hour courses to students in the Home School Co-op. They've also worked with the Starbase program. These programs should be expanded state-wide.

We are working with the S.D. Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to pass a law in South Dakota that will allow CAP members to take unpaid leave of absences from work for critical missions. If passed, members would, in theory, be allowed to leave work and assist with missions without the threat of termination from their employers. The missions would need a special authorization from the CAP Wing Commander in order for employees to leave their workplace. And it would most likely be applied only to selected missions skills required for the specific mission within S.D., as designated by the Incident Commander. Watch your emails for updates on this bill.

The two last subjects I'll discuss go hand in hand; professionalism and safety.

In order to do our jobs in CAP to the degree that our customers require, we need to act professionally and safely.

Accidents mar our credibility and to some extent, hurt our recruiting. Being safe is the mark of a professional. A professional knows their duties, their limitations and their capabilities. A professional doesn't take tasks for which they are not qualified. As volunteers in CAP, we have been called "professional volunteers". That means we do not take our roles lightly, we obtain the training we need to do our jobs right, and we provide what the customer is looking for. Who is our customer? We have many; most were listed earlier in this article. But let's not forget that our members are also customers. They have needs and it's the job of our leadership at the squadrons and wing to provide the training they need to be successful in CAP.

As I step down from the role of Wing Commander, I want to thank the many members who have helped us achieve so much in my four years as commander. We had two very successful inspections this past year from the USAF and National Headquarters of CAP. Our members made this happen. You can be proud that you are members of the S.D. Wing of Civil Air Patrol. You are true professionals. ★

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The Inspector General: What is it and What Do They Do?

*By Lt. Col. Donald S. Barbalace
South Dakota Wing*

The concept of the Inspector General began when an inspector of infantry and an inspector of cavalry were appointed by Louis XIV, King of France, in the 17th century. Kings and armies have used inspectors general as the “eyes and ears” of the commander ever since.

In America, it began during the Revolutionary War when George Washington appointed Major Baron von Steuben as his Inspector General (IG). In the Civil Air Patrol, the IG system has only existed for about eight years but has achieved maturity in training and practice. This is due largely to guidance from the USAF and hard work by a handful of CAP/IG assistants.

As the “eyes and ears” of the Wing Commander, the CAP IG is charged with alerting the commander to problems or deficiencies and also praise-worthy achievement within the wing. This is done through the two aspects of the IG job: inspections and complaints.

Most members have some acquaintance with inspections through the wing command inspection (CI) process, or through the subordinate unit

inspections (SUI) performed in every squadron once every two years. The Wing IG is responsible for carrying out the SUI inspection program and providing guidance to wing staff for the quadrennial CI. The IG also follows up on the inspection findings and advises the units or staff members on how to close their findings.

Less well known is the complaint system. Any CAP member who has knowledge of fraud, waste, or abuse of authority by a commander or other member of CAP can bring a *confidential* complaint to any member of the IG staff. The IG is responsible for protecting the identity of the complainant while conducting an inquiry into the merits of the complaint.

A complaint can be dismissed if it is unfounded, referred to an appropriate commander, transferred to another wing if their member is involved. In addition, the IG may be able to assist the complainant with low-level resolution of the matter or begin an investigation.

If a complaint has merit, it will proceed to an investigation conducted by the IG. The result



Lt. Col. Donald S. Barbalace
SDWG Inspector General

of an inquiry or investigation is a report to the Wing Commander (or to a higher commander if the Wing Commander is the subject of the investigation). The report will either sustain the allegations or show that they are not sustained. It is then up to a commander to take appropriate action.

Editor's note: Lt. Col. Barbalace is the Inspector General for the SDWG. Earlier this year, he received the National Commander's Commendation for his work as an IG.



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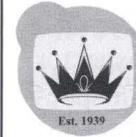
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Changes in Professional Development— Get Online and Promote!

*By Col. Mary Donley
Former SDWG Commander*

How many of you senior members have visited CAP University lately?

You might have “flown” by it on your way to safety, eServices, or Vanguard. CAP University is on the CAP Members website (<http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com>) and is what most of you might refer to as “professional development” or “senior programs.”

If you haven’t been to CAP University lately, when you do go, you’ll notice some changes. As soon as you click on CAP University, you’ll have things nicely outlined for you. Depending on which of the five levels you are in, you can click on the one you need and everything you need is neatly spelled out for you to complete that level. You also have other helpful sites such as: available online courses, Air University course options, links to professional development resources, and best practices page for professional development, and more!

I want to highlight a few important changes that may affect your training options as well as awards and promotions. You will notice that there are now available to you online

Squadron Leadership School (SLS), Corporation Learning Course (CLC), and Officer Basic Course (OBC).

These are all courses that need to be completed in either levels two or three.

Previously, SLS and CLC could only be done in a classroom setting, typically in a weekend with instructors leading the course. Now, both courses can be done online in a fashion similar to the OBC, which has been available online since the beginning of 2010.

All of these online courses will take a set number of hours at the computer. They were designed for members who could not take advantage of the SLS and CLC when done on a weekend. BUT, we will continue to offer these courses through the SDWG on training weekends so that if you prefer the face-to-face course, it will still be available.

The online OBC takes the place of the old CAP Officer Course (ECI 13) that was offered through Air University. This is a great change to Level 2 of the Professional Development Program because the old CAP Officer Course was a huge stum-



Col. Mary Donley

bling block for many members. If you wish to take this course, please go to the national website and sign up for it now! National will notify you when it is available and you have a set amount of time to complete it.

Take the time to learn your program. Fill out the CAPF 45. Read CAPM 50-17. Make sure you are working on your specialty track. If you have questions about any of these areas, contact your squadron professional development officer (PDO) or the SDWG PDO, Major Randy Borton.

And here’s a concluding thought: how about you become your squadron’s next PDO?



Encampment Thoughts from a First Year General Attendee

By C/AIC Avelyn BayBridge
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

Editor's note: Each summer, the South Dakota and North Dakota Wings hold a joint cadet encampment. The 2010 encampment was held at Camp Grafton, North Dakota, a large N.D. Army National Guard base by Devil's Lake. Over 60 cadets from the Dakotas, Virginia, and Colorado participated and were assisted by fifteen senior members from the Dakotas and Virginia. Cadet BayBridge was a "general attendee," which is similar to a recruit in boot camp. This is her observations about the experience.

When I first arrived at encampment, vague ideas of what lay ahead were running through my mind, but nothing is as it seems.

From the very beginning, I was assigned to live, drill, eat, and sleep with three other girls, two of whom I had never met.

By drilling for hours at a time we learned

discipline. By making our barracks look spotless, we learned attention to detail. By customs and courtesies, we were respecting the staff who would go to bed at 0200 and get up at 0430.

In life, you can't always see the full picture of what's going on when you are immersed in something at the time. It is only after the experience that you can look back and reflect on what happened. The staff went through more than we general attendees (GAs) did by ten times as much. By doing what they told us to do, learning with our full attention, and giving our 110 percent in whatever we do helps the staff out more than we could ever know. To them it is respect, trust, and appreciation for all of the long, hard hours they put into us. In return, the staff pushed us out of our comfort zones to show us what we are made of. I found out that I was made of and capable of—and



As the official sport of the United States Air Force, cadets played a lot of volleyball during recreation time at encampment. Here, a team of cadets prepares to serve the ball to their opponents on Camp Grafton's sand volleyball court.

The rappelling tower at Camp Grafton.



Background image: A member of the cadet honor guard raises the American flag at the start of an encampment day.



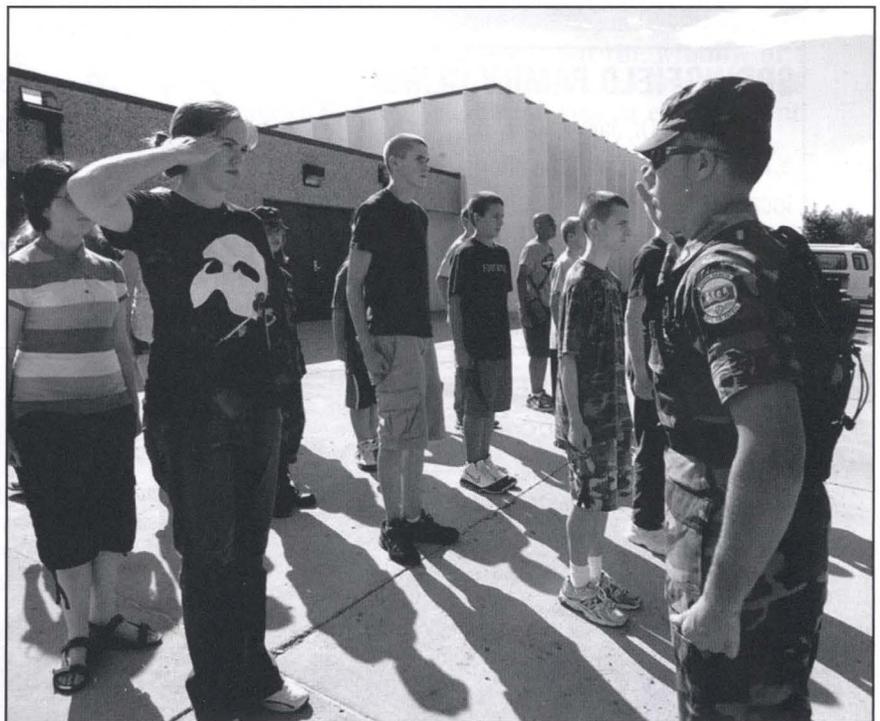
C/SrA Brit Hicks, an encampment general attendee, reflects on her day while in a class. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp



Aerial view of Devils Lake, ND from a North Dakota Army National Guard Black Hawk during an orientation flight. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp



1st Lt. Travis Rup adds a little levity to the camouflage portion of the escape and evade exercise. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



C/A1C Avelyn BayBridge, a general attendee, is given the facts of encampment life prior to the start of the 2010 encampment by C/2nd Lt. Levi Adema. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



C/CMSgt Kelly Oberg demonstrates the "Mickey Mouse" camouflage technique. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp



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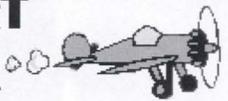
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A cadet staff member puts general attendees through their paces on knowledge and skills at “The Hall.”
Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



C/2nd Lt. Preston Lee gets behind a .50 caliber machine gun at the weapons range simulator at Camp Grafton. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer

what my friends were capable of too.

We are capable of raising the bar in everything in our life. All it takes is just doing it with no excuses. If you excuse yourself, you don't learn anything. There will come a time when you will have to be prepared to meet and opportunity of a lifetime—don't throw it away with excuses.

For over a week, my flight drilled together, learned together and ate together. The girls in my flight bonded closely by the end. I am honored to have them as my friends. They saw the worst in me and the best. We all became so close that in the end we could talk to each other about anything. Those are the kind of friendships the world needs.

Encampment is the most demanding nine days you will ever spend and it is the most rewarding experience you will ever have. I look forward to returning again next year. The truest words to live by was the encampment motto:

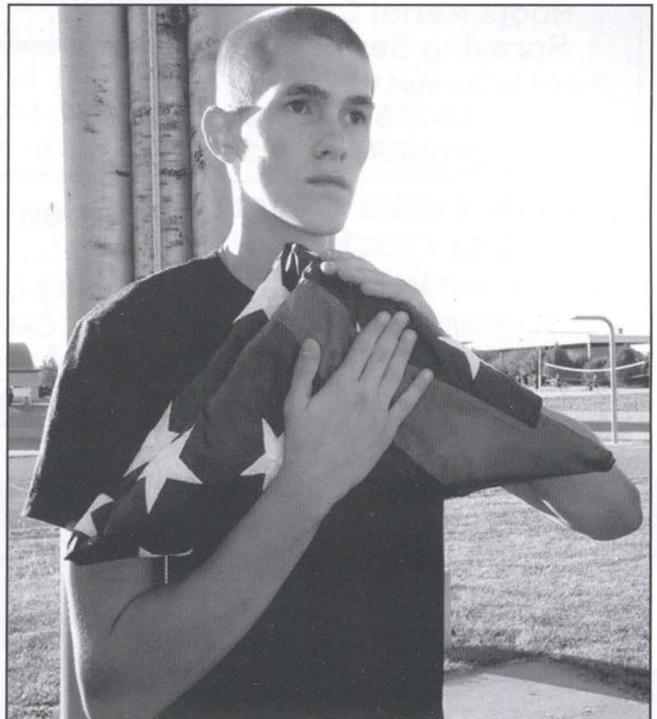
No pain no success; know pain know success ★



Members of the North Dakota Army National Guard instruct cadets on how to rappell down the wall at Camp Grafton. The activity is a tradition at encampment. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp



C/A1C Nicole Schneider peers out the window of a North Dakota Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter during an orientation ride at encampment. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp



A member of the cadet honor guard cradles the American flag after retreat. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer

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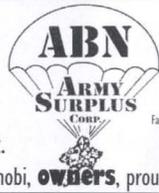


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Civil Air Patrol Dakota Joint Encampment Cadets Assist in ELT Search

*By Capt. Todd Epp and
C/Capt. Kendra Lauer
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron*

Training young Civil Air Patrol (CAP) cadets at a week and a half long encampment is daunting. Then add to that challenge responding to a possible downed aircraft.

That exact thing happened July 11, 2010 at the CAP Joint Dakota Encampment at Camp Grafton near Devils Lake, N.D. Cadets ranging in ages 12-21 and senior members over the age of 21 were participating in the second full day of the encampment.

About 10 a.m., the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida contacted the North Dakota Wing that an emergency locator transmitter (ELT) may have been triggered near Minot, N.D. The AFRCC reported that a SARSAT (search and rescue satellite) had picked up an ELT signal. Most private aircraft have an ELT to act as a beacon in case of a crash or accident.

With a good deal of the NDWG's equipment and people in use at the encamp-

ment, encampment commander Lt. Col. Erik Ludlow, also the ground operations director for the incident, saw an opportunity. Acting quickly, Lt. Col. Ludlow sent out a ground team within 25 minutes of the AFRCC call to search for the ELT. The ground team was comprised of North and South Dakota cadets and senior members. Another ground team was put on stand-by. A NDWG aircrew also launched an aircraft at 10:30 a.m. to search from the sky.

Even qualified general attendees to the encampment—typically younger, lower ranking cadets--were ground team members. The incident also provided an unique opportunity for cadets and seniors alike across the Dakotas to also see the incident command system in action.

"The mission was exciting and I felt proud to be helping out the community looking for the ELT," said C/CMSgt Ashley Ehret from Dickinson, North Dakota.

Meanwhile, during the

excitement and the fluid situation of preparing for, deploying for, and helping to coordinate the search, the remaining cadet and senior member staff worked to keep the encampment functioning smoothly. Senior staff drew and redrew plans on how to stay on schedule as cadets and seniors were deployed over a hundred miles away for the search.

"Our cadets and senior members were reminded that what we do in the CAP has real-world application," Lt. Col. Ludlow said. "I am proud of all of the cadets and staff who stepped up to assist in the search and in keeping the encampment running without a hitch. It was a great learning opportunity and an excellent chance to work together with our South Dakota colleagues."

Editor's note: Capt. Epp and C/Capt. Lauer were also the senior and cadet public affairs officers, respectively, at the encampment.

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Just What Is the Civil Air Patrol and What Do They Do in South Dakota?

By Capt. Todd Epp, South Dakota Wing

Just what is this Civil Air Patrol thing and what do they do in South Dakota?

The CAP is made up of adult and cadet volunteers from the age of 12 on up. The CAP's three primary missions are emergency services (such as search and rescue), cadet programs, and aerospace education.

Nationally, there are over 58,000 CAP members. The organization conducts over 90 percent of the search and rescue missions in the continental United States.

The CAP is actually older than its "parent" organization, the United States Air Force. Founded on December 1, 1941, just days before the attack on Pearl Harbor and America's entry into World War II, the CAP played a critical role early in the war in not just training men and women to fly but patrolling the Atlantic and Gulf coasts for German U-Boats and helping to locate downed ships and sailors.

The CAP is both an auxiliary of the USAF and a private, non-profit corporation. Which "hat" it wears depends on the mission.

Cadets are between the ages of 12 and 21. Their program is similar to a junior ROTC program but with several important differences. First, cadets are expected, along with senior members, if qualified, to participate in real, live search and rescue missions. Cadets make

up the backbone of CAP's and the SDWG's ground teams.

Also, they are expected to serve their community in other ways, such as assisting at community events. They also learn about aviation and aerospace, build model rockets, have opportunities to not just fly but learn to fly, and learn about military customs and courtesies.

Senior membership ranges from 18 years to no limit. Senior members come from all walks of life. In South Dakota, senior members are doctors, lawyers, nurses, firefighters, business people, teachers, retirees, pilots, engineers, scientists, bankers, correctional officers, and even members of the S.D. Air National Guard.

While many senior members have prior military experience, it is not necessary for membership. Senior members and cadets over the age of 18 can be aircrew members. These positions include mission pilot, mission observer, and mission scanner.

Though flying is an important part of the CAP and the SDWG, members don't have to have to fly. There are many other non-flying duties. Any skill that is useful outside of the CAP is needed in CAP as well.

The SDWG has seven single-engine aircraft and performs a number of missions for the state, including: support to South Dakota State University wildlife stud-

ies, emergency services during natural and man-made disasters, support of the S.D. Army and Air National Guard, and searching for lost individuals or aircraft. The SDWG has nearly 200 adult and 135 cadet members.

The SDWG takes its service to the people of South Dakota very seriously.

In March of 2010, the SDWG flew 48 sorties over the state for two weeks monitoring spring flooding and subsequent damage. Several of these missions included daily aerial photography missions over the Camino Real neighborhood in north Aberdeen and assisting the state and local response to the disaster.

There are eight CAP squadrons based in Aberdeen, Brookings, Custer, Philip, Pierre, Sioux Falls, Spearfish and Yankton. Squadrons are active in the local communities, providing outstanding programs for young people age 12 and up. Adult volunteers also contribute their time and talents in service to their communities and country.

If you are interested in joining the CAP, contact your local CAP squadron or browse the SDWG website at <http://www.sdcap.us> or the national website at <http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com>.

Members of the SDWG and its squadrons take the CAP motto seriously and proudly: Serving Communities, Above and Beyond. Join us and do the same!

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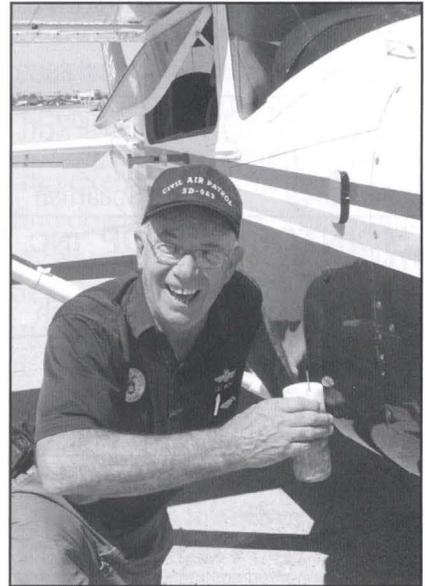
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SDWG Sharpens Its Search and Rescue Skills in Summertime USAF “Guided SAREX” in Aberdeen

By Capt. Todd Epp
South Dakota Wing



Col. Greg Maier, CAP-USAF state director, and 1st Lt. Travis Rup discuss the day’s upcoming events. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, mission pilot, flashes a smile while preparing his Cessna for a training sortie. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer

Looking to prepare for its Air Force evaluation next year, the South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol conducted a USAF “guided” search and rescue training exercise (SAREX) August 7, 2010 from the Aberdeen Regional Airport.

been subject to considerable spring snow melt and summer rainstorm flooding.

In one of the exercises, CAP aircrew members took and processed aerial photographs of area

Continued . . .

The exercise also involved emergency responders from Brown and Day Counties. Both counties had



LEFT: C/2nd Lieutenants Preston Lee and Levi Adema await assignment as members of a ground team. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



Cadet Sponsor Karla West, 2nd Lt. Karen Espeland, and SDWG Commander Col. Teresa Schimelfening confer with Col. Mary Donley, planning section chief, prior to deployment. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer

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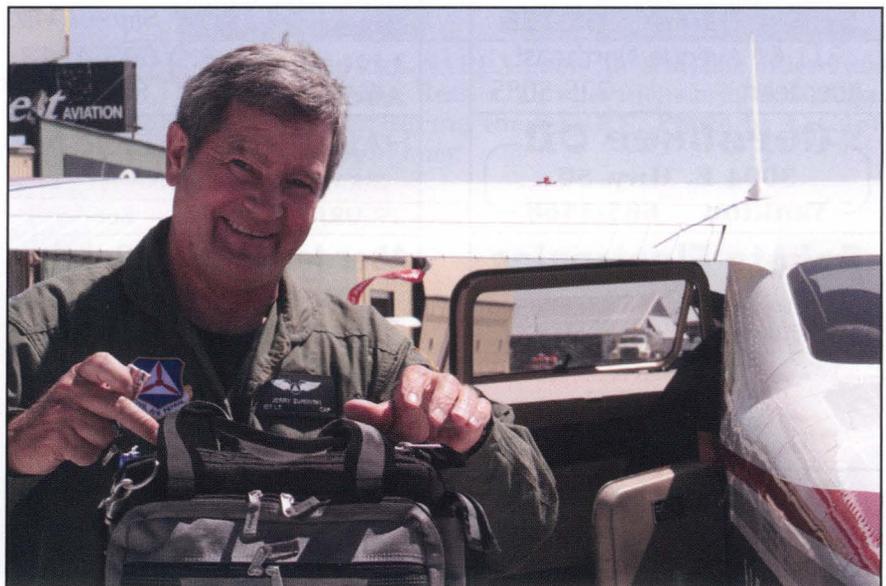


Capt. Matt Meert, mission pilot, inspects the wing of one of the SDWG's Cessna's during preflight. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



Cadets from various SDWG squadrons await assignment in the lobby of the Aberdeen Regional Airport FBO. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer

RIGHT: 1st Lt. Jerry Zurovski, mission observer, vamps for the camera following a sortie. Photo by C/Capt. Kendra Lauer



lakes to assist local emergency planners in assessing the impact of the wet spring and summer on northeast South Dakota.

In another exercise, other cadets and senior members searched for electronic location transmitters (ELTs) that aircraft carry. The ELT emit a signal if impacted and can help rescuers find downed aircraft. The ground crews encountered several delays because of flooded-out roads in Brown County while trying to locate the practice beacon. Aircrews and ground crews with special electronic devices work together to locate the signal.

Several members of the active and reserve United States Air Force guided and then assessed the exercise to assist the SDWG in preparing for its evaluated SAREX in 2011. The USAF looks at all aspects of the SAREX, not just the mission objectives. The evaluation looks at everything from

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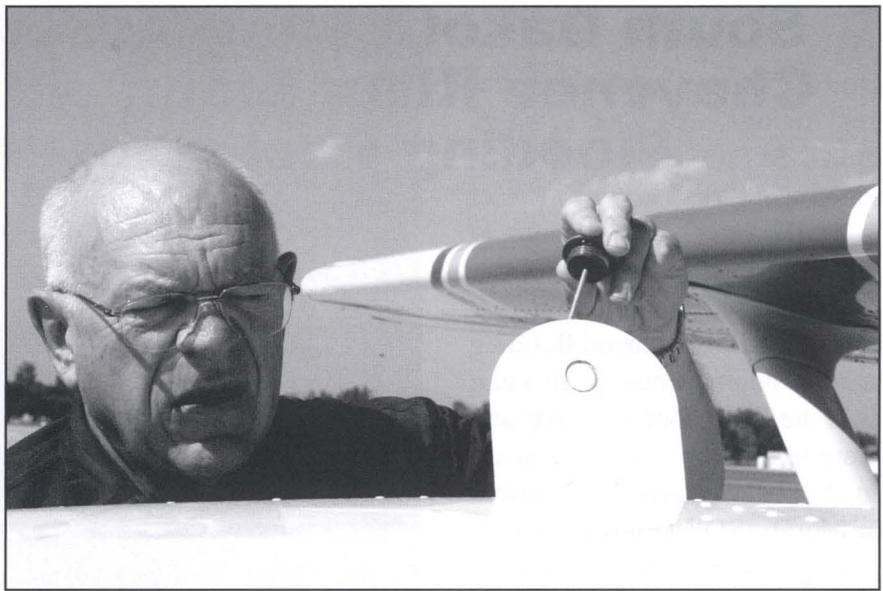
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CAP vans have first aid kits in them to member check-in procedures to finance monitoring to how the press and public were treated.

Following the SAREX, the USAF prepared a report on the SDWG's successes and challenges that the observation team noted. The SDWG will incorporate those comments in preparation for the "real" evaluation by the USAF next year.

The Aberdeen Composite Squadron, lead by Lieutenant Colonel Gary King, hosted CAP members from across South Dakota in the exercise. Lt. Col. Donald Barbalace, also the SDWG's inspector general, led the SAREX as the incident commander.

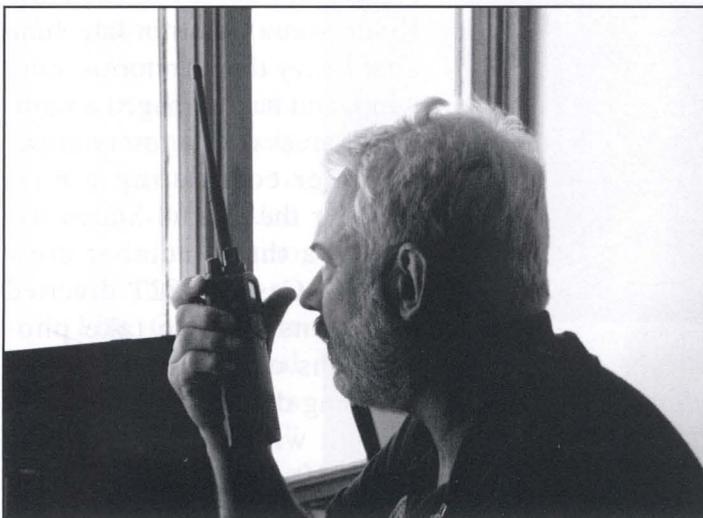
The SDWG conducts six to eight search and rescues exercises per year in various locations across the state. Squadrons sometimes also conduct their own "mini-SAREXs" at the local level. ★



Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, mission pilot, checks the oil of one of the SDWG's Cessna's during preflight prior to launch at the SAREX. Photo by C/Capt Kendra Lauer



Todd Epp, SAREX public information officer, and Col. Mike Beason, air operations branch director, confer during the SAREX. Photo by C/Capt Kendra Lauer



LEFT: 1st Lt. Bill Collister, mission radio operator, communicates with a ground team during the SAREX. Photo by C/Capt Kendra Lauer

South Dakota Wing Assists State and Cheyenne River Sioux with Storm and Flooding Photo Assessments

*By Capt. Todd Epp
South Dakota Wing*

South Dakota faced flooding across the state nearly all year. And the SDWG of the CAP was there to help.

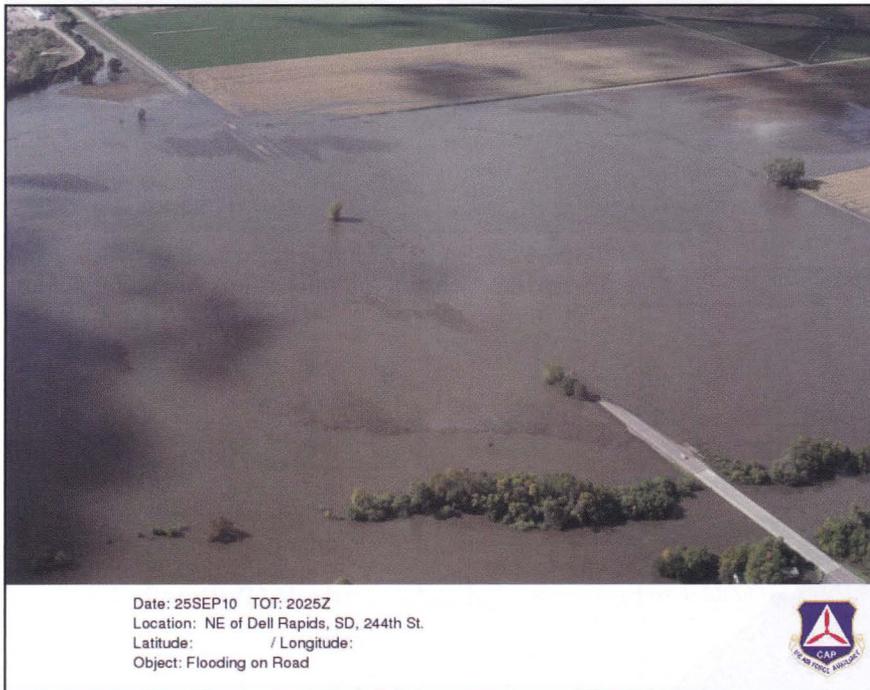
For nearly two weeks straight in March, SDWG aircrews flew multiple sorties per day taking photos of flooding in Aberdeen, northeast South Dakota, and in western South Dakota.

The SDWG also assisted state and local officials June 23, 2010 by taking aerial photos of flooding in the Woonsocket area in east central South Dakota and again on September 25, 2010 north of Sioux Falls.

The South Dakota Wing



Aerial photograph processed through ARGUS showing flooded football stadium at Dell Rapids, SD on September 25, 2010. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp



Aerial photograph processed through ARGUS showing flooded county road northeast of Dell Rapids, SD on September 25, 2010. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp

also assisted the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in late June after heavy thunderstorms, rain, wind, and hail damaged a number of areas on the reservation.

After completing a mission for the United States Air Force, a three-member crew flying a Cessna 182T diverted to Woonsocket to take photographs of the flooding and resulting damage. Woonsocket was hit with heavy rains June 22, 2010 and had flooding in low-level areas.



Date: 25SEP10 TOT: 2025Z
 Location: Trent, SD
 Latitude: / Longitude:
 Object: Flooded homes in Trent



Aerial photograph processed through ARGUS showing flooding in Trent, SD on September 25, 2010. Photo by Capt. Todd Epp

In March while flying a flooding aerial photography mission for the state, a SDWG aircrew was redirected mid-air to look for a man who jumped into the James River near Mitchell.

Also in March while on an aerial flooding mission at Gary, South Dakota, a SDWG aircrew was directed mid-air by the state to immediately fly to Aberdeen to get photos of sudden flooding in the Camino Real neighborhood.

“The Civil Air Patrol can respond quickly in times of natural disasters,” said Col. Teresa Schimelfening, com-

mander of the South Dakota Wing of the CAP. “We are here to help the citizens of South Dakota in precisely these types of situations.”

The photographs, which are geotagged by latitude and longitude so emergency planners and others can pinpoint damage and problem areas, were then made available to State of South Dakota’s Emergency Operations Center which coordinated the response to the flooding.

On June 19, 2010, the SDWG also responded to a request by the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe to assist it with aerial assessment of flooding and tornado damage from storms that hit the area on June 16, 2010.

“The S.D. Wing has the aircraft, the technology, and the training to assist tribal, state, and local governments in responding to these sorts of emergencies,” said Capt. John Seten, the wing’s director of operations. “We have dedicated volunteers who are ready to respond at a moment’s notice when needed.”

The wing’s efforts in using the new ARGUS system to geotag and upload photos during the flooding missions was recognized nationally by the CAP in the July-September issue of *Volunteer*, the CAP’s quarterly magazine. ★

Missed Opportunities

Take a moment to think about opportunities that you've missed in your lifetime because you hesitated, did not have the self-confidence, lacked information to make a decision, or even worried about what other people would think or say. If you're like the average human being, you've thought of several of these "moments" which have had a significant impact on your life.

Now take a look at the other side of the coin. Have you ever had someone give you that little nudge, that extra boost of confidence, the right information, or even taken you aside to show you how to do something you never thought you'd be able to do? Each and every person has a memory of that special person that's made a difference in their life or career path.

Recruiting and mentoring go hand in hand. Don't miss the opportunity to recruit an individual that you believe is talented and would benefit your organization. You may be that person who gives the encouragement needed to make someone a great community asset!

Recruiting is defined as "seeking out an engaging someone for work or service" and mentoring is taking that one step further. Mentoring is defined as "the sharing of skills, knowledge, information and perspective to foster the personal and professional growth of someone else." It doesn't sound much different than parenting... because it's not!

Here are a few simple steps to seek out the opportunities to recruit and mentor someone else:

- 1. Seek out good people.** You ask yourself how to do that? Throughout history our skills, information and culture have been passed down through generations by simple story telling. Don't be afraid to talk about what you do, and express the pride and satisfaction you have from doing what you enjoy. Be it flying, sports, carpentry, or just a hobby that you love dearly. Soon you will start to recognize those who have the same passions that you have. Step one – complete!
- 2. Take the opportunity to train and impart that instructional knowledge.** Here is where the mentoring begins. If you want someone to know how to do something and do it correctly, then take the time to train them and remediate if necessary. Remember we all learn differently... but that's an entirely different article! Make training a learning experience that's not dreaded or difficult. It's important when dealing with volunteers to be positive and know your students limitations.
- 3. Positive reinforcement.** Give credit where credit is due. Acknowledge a job well done and provide feedback both positive and constructive. This is the mentoring part. Don't be afraid to make corrections and step in when something is on the downward spiral. Recover and try to make every situation a learning opportunity. Talk about mistakes and how to avoid them in the future. My Pap said "There's more than a 1000 ways to skin a cat! You don't have to do it my way, and I just might learn something from you in the process. As long as it's the same when it's all said and done - it's a good day for skinning cats." Honestly, we've never skinned cats!
- 4. Set realistic goals and expectations.** This is one of the major keys to success in any organization. Have achievable goals and reasonable, realistic expectations for everyone. If expectations are set too high then the cream of the crop will rise, and the others will settle and fall away. Remember not to make exceptions, but hold everyone to the same standard. No one likes the good 'ole boy system!
- 5. Build, promote, & reward.** Every organization has a tool for recognizing and rewarding good performance. This must be something that is truly earned. If it's given out at a whim it becomes meaningless and ineffective. Build relationships, promote wisely, and reward generously when deserved.

These five simple steps can help an organization move forward. Each person within a unit must ask themselves a truly important question. Do I want someone to volunteer by default, or do I want someone to volunteer that I have great confidence in? It seems obvious, but we would pick someone who's willing to provide strong leadership and vision to help improve and expand what already exists!

Remember that an organization is only as good as the members that support it, but membership itself is not enough. Strive to support your organization the best way you can by helping create partnerships - - **be a RECRUITER and a MENTOR!!**

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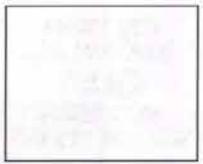


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