



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for June 2013

Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond

Editor: Major Bruce Kipp • Assistant Wing Public Affairs Officer • (605) 261-4507 • paa.sdwg@gmail.com

WING TIPS



BG VAZQUEZ PRESENTS A CAP PLAQUE TO MR. HIGGINS

Google Alert: Civil Air Patrol National Vice-Commander and Maine Wing Commander represent CAP at Air League of Canada Meeting, by Col. Dan Leclair, 26 June 2013, Volunteer Now [Edited]: The Air Cadet League of Canada, the Canadian equivalent of the CAP, conducted its Annual General Meeting on Prince Edward Island, 19-22 June. At the meeting outgoing president, Mr. Ken Higgins, passed leadership of the league to president-elect, Mr. Tom White. CAP was represented by Brig. Gen. Vazquez, national vice-commander, and by Col. Leclair, Maine Wing commander, their wives and other CAP personnel. At the banquet, General Vazquez presented Mr. Higgins with an Award of Appreciation from CAP. Along with CAP, the Air Cadet League of Canada is one of the largest participants in the International Air Cadet Exchange Program.

Source: www.capvolunteernow.com/news/?cap_natl_vice_president_wing_commander_represent_organization_at_air_league_of_canada_meeting&show=news&newsID=16925, Photo by Col. Leclair.

- A Training Leaders of Cadets course, hosted by Rushmore Composite Squadron, is planned for 14-15 September at Ellsworth AFB. The TLC course will be held in conjunction with a cadet Character Development Day and a meeting of the Cadet Advisory Council. TLC is essential for those actively involved with cadets at all levels. Each squadron is required to have at least two TLC trained senior members. Please let Lt. Col. Buechler know if you are interested.

- The Cadet Public Affairs staff has created a website they will use to promote the encampment as well as have encampment information all in one location. The website is <http://jointdakotaencampment.com>.

- Travis Waslaski, son of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron member Capt. Bonnie Kipp, and a former cadet in Montana Wing's Beartooth Composite Squadron, is in Durango, Colorado at the Incident Command Post of the Rocky Mountain Type-1 Incident Management Team. Travis is providing support and assistance at the mission base camp for those fighting the West Fork Complex fire in the southwestern corner of the state.

- The latest issue of "CAP Vector" is now at: www.capmembers.com/cap_national_hq/capvector/. "CAP Vector" is an online new quarterly to "get the word out" about CAP initiatives, events and policies.

- The digital issue of the *Civil Air Patrol Volunteer* is at www.capvolunteernow.com/cap_volunteer/. In addition to the cover story about Civil Air Patrol's response to the Oklahoma tornadoes, there is a feature about CAP's longstanding and expanding relationship with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. There is also an article about the Colorado Wing's support of the Army UAV program, as well as a story about Arizona Wing and New Mexico Wing members participating in "Angel Thunder," a national search and rescue exercise led by the Air Force. Check out the video on page 28, courtesy of Boeing Co., that is part of CAP's coverage of the Oklahoma tornadoes. Other features in the *Volunteer* pay tribute to two former CAP leaders who died earlier this year – National Commander Brig. Gen. Johnnie Boyd and Chief of Chaplains Col. Charles Sharp.

- Lt. Col. Rick Larson attended the North Central Region commanders' conference held in Nebraska.

- Each year the South Dakota Air National Guard ("SDANG") requests South Dakota Wing to conduct a low level evaluation of certain military training routes and the Military Operations Area ("MOA") near O'Neill, Nebraska. The CAP flights are flown by a Mission Pilot, a Mission Observer, and a Mission Scanner near these routes at 1,000 above ground level. The purpose of this mission is to identify and report uncharted obstructions, usually radio towers, and noise sensitive areas, which would be avoided by SDANG pilots flying in these areas. During the month of June, the SFCS flew 4 sorties for a total of 13.4 hours and covering 1,078 nautical miles. The routes covered were located in East and Central South Dakota and Nebraska. Planned sorties for a route to Salina, KS were cancelled due to thunderstorms, but this and additional routes will be flown in July. Submitted by 1st Lt. Schmid, SFCS.

STAFF NOTES



DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP, SDWG/DCP

- South Dakota Wing Cadet Programs held a Cadet Leadership School (CLA) in Pierre June 7-9, 2013. Cadets attending came from: Sioux Falls, Brookings, Custer, and Spearfish. The program included training for cadet NCO's and cadet officers. Thanks to C/Capt. Elizabeth Foy for her service as commander for the CLA. C/Capt. Foy instructed the cadet officer program while C/Capt. Brandon West and C/Maj. Joshua Busch instructed the cadet NCO program.

All cadet participants were required to give a one-minute speech on an impromptu subject. Great job from all!!! C/Capt. West even got Maj. Nicholas Gengler and Lt. Col. Linda Buechler to give impromptu speeches. Maj. Gengler spoke on what the Native Americans thought of the toilet stool and Lt. Col. Buechler spoke on how she felt when Pluto was "demoted" from one of the planets of our solar system. Lt. Col. Buechler and Capt. Sharon Moad presented a drug awareness program with activities and discussions of actual personal family experiences in dealing with drugs.

Cadets and senior members bivouacked at the Bible Community Church. Thank you 1st Lt. Jonathan Becker for arranging the billeting.

- Capt. Sharon Moad is planning a Red Ribbon weekend in Custer the first weekend in October. This will encompass drug awareness activities and discussions as well as possibility of a helicopter pilot discussing what helicopters do for the public. There may even be an opportunity to closely examine a helicopter. Initial thinking is that billeting will be in tents. Expect a weekend with lots of fun and interesting activities. Lt. Col. Buechler is assisting with this weekend activity. More information will be forthcoming as planning firms up.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(No items submitted for this issue)

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photo submitted by: SM Bierwirth)

- This month the squadron created a Facebook page to keep our communities aware of our activities.
- Cadets Hollick & Parry attended the Cadet Leadership Academy that was held in Pierre and learned how to gain confidence in communications & speaking in front of crowds. They also learned the effects of hazing. While the cadets were learning new skills, Capt Moad attended the corporate leadership school also held in Pierre to fine tune her knowledge. The day was rounded off with a trip to the Cultural Heritage Museum.



On June 27 the squadron had a guest speaker from South Dakota's Department of Game Fish & Parks.

Officer Jacob Ehlert gave a presentation on the mountain lion population in the Black Hills. He explained safety procedures to our cadets if they were to encounter a lion on a search mission and the differences on a dog print versus a lion print.

Members of the squadron pose with SD GF&P officer Jacob Ehlert.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items and photos submitted by: Capt. Small)



On 1 June, Spearfish cadets participated in some orientation flights. It was a beautiful, although somewhat breezy day to fly in the Northern Black Hills.

Left to right are Maj. Buck DeWeese, Cadet Peter Iverson - his first flight on a CAP aircraft, C/A1C Keyvin Rauscher and C/A1C Austin Rauscher.

- Two seniors and three cadets from the squadron staffed a CAP table at the Lawrence County Emergency Preparedness fair on Saturday, 1 June in Spearfish. The fair, held in the Spearfish Walmart parking lot, is an

opportunity for Emergency Services responders to meet the public and discuss their roles in fire suppression, dealing with displaced persons, search and rescue and other aspects of emergencies. Cadets C/SMSGT Connor Caneva, C/A1C Austin Rauscher and C/Capt. David Small III along with senior members Maj. Deryl Miles and Capt. David Small Jr. prepared an exhibit with direction finding equipment, survival gear, communications equipment and other materials relating to CAP's role in search and rescue. Recruiting material was also on hand for those interested in joining CAP. Though the blustery weather limited community turnout, CAP members did have a chance to present their roles to many visiting families and others.



Photo1 - L to R, Cadet Peter Iverson, Maj Deryl Miles, C/A1C Keyvin Rauscher, C/Capt David Small, C/A1C Austin Rauscher
 Photo2 - C/A1C Austin Rauscher uses the Spearfish Fire Department's fire suppression simulator system.

- Four officers and five cadets from the squadron travelled from Spearfish to Deadwood, SD on Sunday, 2 June to provide trail support to the runners at the “Mickelson Trail Marathon.” Near the end of the marathon the CAP officers set up a practice injury, triage and transport event for the cadets. But just minutes from starting the exercise a marathon runner came by and told them there was a runner down on the trail about 1/2 mile away.



INJURED RUNNER PREPARED FOR LITTER TRANSPORT

Immediately Maj. Deryl Miles and the cadets set off with their first aid packs and a stretcher. They found the runner lying on the ground in serious distress. A combination of heat, dehydration and 20 miles into his first marathon had taken a toll on the young man. Maj. Miles and the cadets gave immediate first aid then strapped him to the litter and the cadets hauled him three-quarters of a mile up a steep, muddy, slippery hill to their site where he was further treated then transported by ambulance to the Deadwood hospital. Later it was learned that the man had responded to treatment and would soon be released from the hospital.

Fortuitously, the squadron recently held emergency services training that included the litter carry. The aid provided to the runner was a great example of utilization of the team’s training, skills and resources. Everyone involved is to be commended. In addition, under consideration is granting official credit for a “Save”.

Senior members participating were Maj. Buck DeWeese, Maj. Deryl Miles, 1st Lt. Brandon Caneva, and Capt. Bill Collister, Cadets participating were C/SMSGT Connor Caneva, C/Capt. Samuel Earl, C/A1C Keyvin Rauscher, C/A1C Austin Rauscher and C/CMSgt Steven Burns.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Items submitted by: Lt. Col. Gatje)

- The weekend of 8-9 June was a busy one for the squadron as we played host to three simultaneous activities:

Lt. Col. Buechler conducted at Training Leaders of Cadets (TLC) for senior members. It is a requirement that each squadron have at least two senior members (officers) who have received this course.

Col. Mary Donley conducted a Corporate Learning Course (CLC), a basic component of the CAP Senior Professional Development Program and a key requirement for promotion.

The third activity was a Cadet Leadership School (CLS) for cadets of all experience levels to prepare them for leadership roles as non-commissioned officers and officers in the cadet program.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Item submitted by: Maj. Kipp, photo courtesy of Black Hill and Sturgis Harley-Davidson)



1st Lt. Morgan “Dani” Black of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, previously selected as “Miss Sturgis 2013”, was named first runner-up in the 2013 Miss South Dakota pageant. She will compete at the National Sweetheart Pageant representing South Dakota in Illinois at the end of August. In addition to her duties with the squadron Dani is a graduate student at the South Dakota School of Mines and technology. Congratulations Dani and good luck in August!

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050, SIoux FALLS)

(Items and photos submitted by: 1st Lt. Schmid)

- SFCS loaned its Cessna-172 (N98776) to Nebraska Wing for a flight academy conducted from Fremont, NE from 13-25 June. During that time, 38 sorties for a total of 32 hours were flown. According to the flight logs, three NEWG cadets soloed in N98776, an accomplishment they will never forget. Congratulations to CAP’s three newest cadet pilots.



- On Sunday, 30 June, the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron conducted a mini-SAREX at Great Bear Ski Valley near Sioux Falls. The purpose of the exercise was to train new Ground Team members and advanced training for experienced Ground Team Members. Co-leaders of this exercise were C/Capt. Elizabeth Foy and C/Capt. Brandon West, guided by the squadron’s Deputy Commander for Cadets Maj. Justin Johnson. Ten Cadets and eight Senior Members, three of whom were pilots, attended the training.

The exercise commenced at 0700 at Squadron Headquarters and began with a weather and safety briefing. All attendees reviewed and were trained on Ground Team tasks, including safety, potential hazards, missing person search techniques, communications, and rescue methods and techniques. At mid-morning, the search team drove to Great Bear in two CAP vans. Upon reaching the site, a search and rescue scenario was posed to the group and a search area was defined. The members navigated rough terrain using a line search and the target was found and successfully transported to a safe area for medical emergency responders. Other activities included searching for an emergency beacon simulating an aircraft emergency locator beacon (ELT). Three different tracking devices, one analog and two digital units were used in the search. As Major Johnson stated,

despite being “old school” analog method can be very effective and efficient. All members attending the mini-SAREX accomplished 17 tasks, which are credited toward earning Ground Team Member status.



MINI-SAREX CLASSROOM PREPARATION



THE GROUND SEARCH TEAM DEPLOYS FOR A LINE SEARCH

★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotion



Congratulations to Karen Espeland of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant!

Cadet Officer Promotions

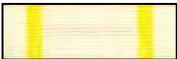


Congratulations to Silas Busch of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Sullivan Busch of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Second Lieutenant!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Laura Rudnik of Big Sioux Composite Squadron and to Blake Hayden of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Chris Dinnel of Big Sioux Composite Squadron and to Kyle Stiffarm of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on their promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Zachary Hollick of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!





Congratulations to Blake Berry and Anthony Pruitt of Rushmore Composite Squadron and to Darin Ekanger, Jr. and Lathen Norling of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and to Dalton Kruse of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on promotion to Cadet Airman and receipt of the General Curry Award!



★ Congratulations to C/A1C Zachary Hollick of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his appointment to the position of Cadet Public Affairs Officer.

★ Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Robert Hinkhouse, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, who completed requirements for certification as an Emergency Services Mission Scanner.



- Alice Wixon, wife of Forrest Wixon, former commander of the Pierre Composite Squadron and a long-time CAP member, passed away Friday, 21 June. South Dakota Wing offers its condolences and respects to the Wixon family.

- South Dakota Wing offers its condolences to the families of the 19 members of the Granite Mountain Interagency Hotshot Crew from Prescott, Arizona who perished in the line of duty fighting the raging wildfires near Yarnell, AZ. Our respect and admiration for these heroes for their willingness to put themselves in harm's way to protect our lives and property knows no bounds.

