



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for August 2013

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

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WING TIPS

HOTTEST NEWS: On Sunday, 1 September at 5:35 p.m. Wing Vice-Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson was notified by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, FL that a passing aircraft had detected an emergency locator transmitter (ELT) signal northeast of Sioux Falls. Early information indicated the ELT may have been near Dell Rapids. Incident Commander (IC) Lt. Col. Larson formed and dispatched ground search teams from Brookings and Sioux Falls. A CAP Cessna-182 launched from Sioux Falls’ Joe Foss Field flew over and around the Dell Rapids area. The ground teams’ initial assignment was to check the Dell Rapids area and a small airstrip south and east of the town. However, no ELT signal was detected. About 9 p.m., based on electronic sensor data onboard the aircraft, the aircrew determined the signal was coming from north and west of Dell Rapids and tracked it to the airport at Madison, SD. The aircrew contacted IC who then notified the Lake County Sheriff’s Office, which quickly mobilized to investigate. The ground teams were redirected from Dell Rapids to Madison. The aircraft orbited overhead vectoring the ground teams to the site. At the airport, with the help of the Sheriff’s Office, the ground teams quickly zeroed in on a specific hangar in which was an aircraft that had just undergone annual inspection. The aircraft owner was notified and the aircraft’s ELT was deactivated shortly after 10:00 p.m. The CAP aircrew returned to base while the ground teams stayed on site a bit longer. After being debriefed, all the crews were released from duty at around 11:50 p.m. Approximately 17 CAP personnel participated. Thanks to the aircrew, ground teams, mission base staff and supporting personnel for responding so rapidly on a holiday to expertly execute one of our core missions! South Dakota Wing is now credited with 2 “finds” from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. On behalf of Wing Commander, Col. John Seten, Job WELL DONE!

HOT NEWS: By Maj. Craig Goodrich. [*This article is for internal SDWG information only. It has not been approved for dissemination by 1st AF, CAP/NOC, CAP/PA or the 28th Bomb Wing.*]

On Monday evening, 26 August, Maj. Goodrich, Commander of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, took a phone call from a member of the U.S. Air Force Safety Investigation Board (SIB) investigating the B-1 Bomber mishap that occurred on 19 August.

The location of the squadron made it easy for a quick meeting, where Maj. Goodrich discussed the capabilities of CAP and how CAP could help the SIB with their task. What the SIB needed was a flight to Ekalaka, MT. Two SIB officers wanted to conduct an in-person interview with a rancher and his wife that were in their yard moving hay bales when the mishap aircraft flew over them, and seconds later was observed having problems. The officers felt that the couple's view from the ground and their comments could be important in determining what happened to the B-1.



On Tuesday morning, Maj. Goodrich met the two USAF officers at the Black Hills Airport in Spearfish and flew them on a SDWG Cessna-182T to Ekalaka, MT. After the SIB officers interviewed the couple Maj. Goodrich flew them back to Spearfish. By accomplishing this transport mission, the CAP was able to save these two important board members more than six hours of driving time, and do it in a manner that is safer than driving.

The SIB members asked to overfly the mishap site to get a perspective of where the B-1 flew before the crew-members safely ejected, and how the B-1 came to rest spread across the Montana prairie. After coordination with several agencies, and ensuring the CAP flight was deconflicted with the 28th Bomb Wing Commander's flight into Powder River that afternoon, the members were able to get the perspective they desired.

HOT NEWS: After 7 ½ years of being stationed at Ellsworth AFB, CAP Lt. Col. Randy Borton (MSgt Randy Borton, USAF), is being transferred to an intelligence/analysis job in New England. His exact job description is classified, but he will get to see "all the cool stuff". MSgt Borton is Chief of Training of the Command Post at Ellsworth AFB - when things were happening, he was in the thick of it. Lt. Col. Borton is the Deputy Squadron Commander of Rushmore Composite Squadron. He has been of tremendous help in getting the squadron turned around resulting in more members and more of the members having Emergency Services qualifications and professional development upgrades. He played a key role in getting the personnel part of the squadron in top shape, promoting several of our members and doing well in the recent SUI. Less recently Lt. Col. Borton was Wing Director of Personnel and Director of Professional Development and Rushmore Squadron Commander from Aug 2006 to Aug 2008. Lastly, Lt. Col. Borton has been Commander of the Joint Dakota Emergency Services Encampment twice ('07 and '13), the Deputy Commander of the JDESE in '09, the Chief TAC Officer in '11, and the Deputy Commander of the 2012 Joint Dakota Cadet Leadership Encampment in North Dakota. Lt. Col. Borton was the 2007 Wing Personnel Officer of the Year, 2007 Professional Development Officer of the Year, 2012 Professional Development Officer of the Year, and the 2012 Senior Member of the Year.

Maj. Goodrich, the current Rushmore Squadron Commander said, "Randy will be greatly missed. He was a tremendous asset to the squadron and will be hard to do without".

Maj. Tara Borton, Randy's wife, is also a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron. She was the Project Officer for last year's successful dining out and worked behind the scenes on many projects and encampments.

SDWG wishes *Bon Voyage* Lt. Col. and Maj. Borton! Your contributions to your squadron and to the Wing were enormous and are deeply appreciated. We of the SDWG wish you all the best in your future endeavors and hope that in times to come we will have the pleasure of serving with you again.

- On Tuesday, 27 August, the Sioux Falls Area Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) held an organizational meeting. Over 45 individuals attended representing a variety of nonprofit, governmental, volunteer, and public service organizations. Four SD Wing members were present: Maj. Bruce Kipp, Capt. Jerry Foy, 1st Lt. Jason Erickson and 1st Lt. Kurt Johnson. The COAD's purpose is to serve as an executive body to coordinate the disaster relief efforts of various organizations in the Sioux Falls area. The COAD seeks to ensure

that each organization participating in disaster relief is fitted into the overall plan of what is needed by whom, where, and in what amount. The Sioux Falls COAD is an extension of the statewide South Dakota Volunteer Organizations active in Disaster (VOAD). Discussion with the Wing Executive will assess the value added before a decision is reached on SD Wing participation in the Sioux Falls Area COAD.



Google Alert- Civil Air Patrol National Emergency Services Academy [NESA] returns to Camp Atterbury, by Ashley Roy, 6 August 2013 [Edited]: From 21 July to 4 August NESA conducted emergency service operations training at Camp Atterbury in Edinburgh, IN. The largest Air Force funded operation CAP holds, NESA has held this training at Camp Atterbury since 1998 and trains approximately 600 cadets (youth members 12-20 years old), and adult members over a two-week period across three different schools: National Ground Search and Rescue School, Incident Command System School and Mission Aircrew School. The training is focused on search and rescue, disaster relief, humanitarian services and similar areas, said Lt. Col. Michael

Long, NESA deputy director and commandant of the National Ground Search and Rescue School. “Our goal is to train our students to the highest standards we can to provide our customers; FEMA, the Air Force, or Department of Homeland Security with trained, qualified and competent people to do the missions they ask us to do,” he added. While NESA is comprised of two separate training periods each a week long, many participants in the basic search and rescue course stay and transition to the advanced search and rescue course the second week. Taking the knowledge received in the classroom such as land navigation, radio direction finding, search techniques and basic first aid, students of the National Ground Search and Rescue School apply those skills in the field during simulated missions. We train people to a national standard they can take that back to their local areas,” said Long.

Source: www.dvidshub.net/news/111419/civil-air-patrol-national-emergency-services-academy-returns-camp-atterbury#.UgEotZI6PA8

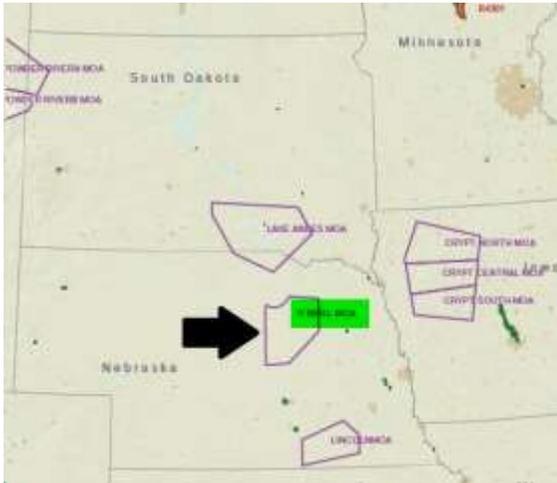
- The newly revised CAPR 50-17, *CAP Senior Member Professional Development Program* was issued on 19 August. In addition, several other regulations have also been revised. A list of them can be found in the “News” section of the eServices home page.

- Professional Development Officers now have the ability to update member Professional Development training and awards online. The new online PD module will allow PD officers to enter the completion of requirements like attendance at Wing Conferences and command and staff positions as well as request final approval PD level completion from the appropriate Wing/Region Commander. This module can be found in the Membership System.

- 2013 Annual Conference. Over 500 Civil Air Patrol members headed to Denver from 15-17 August for the U.S. Air Force auxiliary’s Annual Conference. The focus of this year’s conference was on CAP’s increasing role in defending America. “Our direct support to the Department of Defense and our support to civil authorities are expanding exponentially,” said CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr. Members arriving early attended preconference workshops 13-14 August customized to fulfill their unique professional development needs. Several workshops focused on new technology, such as operation of CAP’s new Geospatial Information Interoperability Exploitation Portable go-kits, that feature self-contained communications equipment and other hardware that allows for real time or near-real time full-motion video, digital imagery and in-flight voice link capability. In addition, over 40 learning labs were held on 16-17 August on topics such as communications, disaster relief operations, homeland security, safety, cadet programs, aerospace education and public affairs. 17 August was “Cadet Day” offering the 12- to 20-year-old members attending an opportunity to find out how to get selected for the service academies, to build and operate robots and learn about remote-controlled aircraft. Nine members of the South Dakota Wing were present at the annual conference.

- Each year the South Dakota Air National Guard (SDANG) requests South Dakota Wing conduct a Low-Level Route Survey (LLRS) of certain military training air routes and aerial Military Operations Areas (MOA).

These CAP flights are flown by a Mission Pilot, a Mission Observer, and a Mission Scanner along the routes at 1,000 feet. Their surveys' purpose is to locate and identify uncharted obstructions, usually antenna towers, and noise sensitive areas (such as stock pens), which would be avoided by SDANG pilots flying in these areas.



The last LLRS of the season were flown in August to survey the southern half of the O'Neill MOA. The CAP aircraft flew from Chamberlain to Bassett, NE on the way out to Rapid City. The CAP aircraft and crews flew a total of 22.4 hours and a total of 1,958 nautical miles.

In 2013's LLRS missions CAP aircraft surveyed nine air routes/MOAs for a total of 46.6 hours that covered 4,172 nautical miles.

When CAP flies a LLRS a command post is set up for command, control and communications support for the aircraft. SDWG Vice-Commander Lt. Col. Rick Larson serves as the LLRS Incident Commander.

- CAPR 35-3, Change 1, 4 Sep 13, *Membership Termination*, is posted on the publications page at: www.capmembers.com/media/cms/R035_003_B74F5A60C44CF.pdf
- CAPR 39-2, Change 1, 4 Sep 13, *Civil Air Patrol Membership*, is posted on the publications page at: www.capmembers.com/media/cms/R039_002_A74FDA9552C2D.pdf

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP, SDWG/CC

On 13 August, Col. Seten announced formation of a Wing Recruiting and Retention Workgroup. This group will work on ways to improve our recruiting and retention efforts. As of 15 August the following individuals volunteered to be on the workgroup: Col. Mary Donley, Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, Maj. Bruce Kipp, Maj. Todd Epp, Capt. Jerry Foy, Capt. Richard Helton, 1st Lt. John Becker and Ms. Rachel Kuecker.

Maj. Epp was selected as the Chairman and the workgroup will have its first meeting in the near future to work on these critical issues.



WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

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

South Dakota Wing will hold a training opportunity for senior members and cadets 14-15 September. Activities and bivouacking for seniors and cadets is at Rushmore Composite Squadron - Ellsworth AFB. Because it is on

an active Air Force Base we need your name and CAPID to provide to base security as soon as possible. Be sure to bring your CAP ID. Bring money for meals - will see what we can provide.

Training Leaders of Cadets (for seniors). Squadrons are required by regulation to have two senior members trained in this program - especially if you work with cadets, though any senior can take the program which helps the squadron meet this requirement. This is a requirement for Wing and Squadron evaluations. Classroom work will start Saturday at 09:00 and end around 17:00 on Saturday and from 08:00 until about Noon on Sunday. Cadets will be holding their CAC meeting Saturday after 17:00 and I would encourage all of you to watch the open session because some of you will hopefully help with the CAC program over the coming years. Seniors will wear the corporate uniform of blue golf shirt or white shirt with epaulets and name plate with grey pants and black shoes. Bring civvies to change into if you are spending the night. Lt. Col. Buechler will teach the program assisted by Capt. David Small and possibly Capt. Sharon Moad.

Character Development Day (for cadets). Cadet activities will be all day on Saturday the 14th and should be lots of fun and a chance to re-establish friendships with cadets from across the wing. Capt David Small has been working on this program, expect a great time for cadets. There will be a speaker from Ellsworth AFB as well as drug awareness activities and challenge activities. The new Cadet Advisory Council for this upcoming year will meet on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning if feasible. Cadets can wear civvies traveling to Ellsworth. For Saturday's activities the uniform is blues shirt/pants, no tie or jacket required. Bring your PT clothes.

The Rushmore squadron will provide limited billeting (on the floor, bring sleeping bags and mattresses). There is a shower. Sleeping facilities will be open for Friday and Saturday nights, no charge for the accommodations. Bring money to pay for meals.

If you plan on attending, or have any questions please contact Capt. David small as soon as possible either at xinthe@aol.com or [\(605\) 431-2604](tel:6054312604).



AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Maj. Rodney "Buck" DeWeese, CAP, SDWG/AE

Trip Report to the Experimental Aircraft Association's "AirVenture 2013" air show/exposition held annually in Oshkosh, WI. By Maj. DeWeese with comments from Capt. David Small

Phase 1, the gathering of eagles, began Wednesday, 31 July for the start of a long, arduous journey that crossed three states via CAP van and chartered bus. After pick-ups in Sturgis, Piedmont, and Rapid City, the West River group of eight arrived in Tea, SD. Capt. Joseph Oye of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron cordially provided billeting for the night; some slept in his house, some in his camper and some in Col. Seton's camper (which he graciously parked in the driveway and allowed us to use). The next morning we met up with nine other CAP members and several non-CAP family members at the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) headquarters hanger at the Tea Airport where Capt. Joe Oye (SFCS) introduced the Tea EAA to Maj. DeWeese who had been successful in securing state funding that significantly helped defray the cost of this trip. The Tea EAA also provided \$50 "scholarships" to each cadet.

Phase 2, the departure for Oshkosh, the 17-person contingent (nine seniors and eight cadets) from SDWG loaded onto a 50-passenger touring bus along with 28 EAA members for the 10 hour ride to Oshkosh, WI, the home of the famous annual Oshkosh Air Show "AirVenture" sponsored by the EAA.

Phase 3 began with check in at the Univ. of Wisconsin dormitory for billeting assignments. Busses provided transportation to and from the airshow. For safety there was a bed check at 2300 each night. We attended three glorious days of aviation history in the air and on the ground. There were daily airshows and a special night air show on Saturday night. Hundreds of warbirds from all eras including the historic B-29 Superfortress bomber “FiFi”, aerobatic helicopters and RV7 (homebuilt aircraft kit) demonstration teams kept the crowd entertained each day as did thousands of non-military aircraft from all eras on static display. There even was a semi- tractor powered by three turbojet engines with afterburner. One night the new animated film “Airplanes” was shown at the outdoor theatre. Our cadets got to meet with C/Capt Brandon West of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who was there participating in the National Cadet Activity “Blue Beret” which supports the AirVenture air show. He gave them a tour of their facility and they chatted with Blue Berets from around the country. There was plenty to eat, drink and explore for three wonderful days. Everyone had a favorite event, but everyone agreed the night air show was one of the highlights. Despite sunburned faces and sore feet a good time was had by all.

Phase 4, the return home, began at 1500 on Sunday, 4 August as we all packed back onto the bus for a 10 hour drive back to Tea arriving about 0100. Those from West River continued on taking turns driving. Those from East River caught a few hours of sleep before reporting to work later that morning.



SDWG CONTINGENT TO “AIRVENTURE” AIRSHOW IN OSHKOSH, WI
PHOTO BY CAPT. DAVID SMALL



WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Maj. Todd Epp, CAP, SDWG/PA

South Dakota Wing received two awards at the CAP National Meeting held in Denver in mid-August. One award was for excellence in disaster relief and the other was in public affairs.

The Wing received the 2013 CAP Disaster Relief Award for the North Central Region. Wings from North Dakota, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Nebraska, Missouri and South Dakota compose the NCR.

The award is given to a wing in each region with the best disaster relief program. The selection criteria includes evaluation results, the quality and quantity of training activities during the year, performance during actual missions and cooperation between the CAP wing and state and local agencies. “The South Dakota Wing prides itself on its preparedness and the results it delivers for federal, state, local and tribal governments,” said Col. John Seten, S.D. Wing commander. “To be recognized by our national organization is a major compliment to the hard work and dedication of our South Dakota members.”

The Wing's public affairs officer received a Certificate of Merit in the Maj. Howell Balsem CAP Public Affairs Exceptional Achievement Awards. SDWG's winning entry involved tracking the results of media coverage of a search and rescue mission exercise (Split SAREX) held in Sioux Falls and Rapid City in 2012.

"It's sometimes said that the CAP is the best kept secret in America," Col. Seten said. "However, with the efforts of our wing and squadron public affairs officers we are getting the word out about the CAP here in South Dakota." Col. Seten also noted that with the hard work of its members he is confident there are more awards on the horizon for the South Dakota Wing.

ASK THE WING'S TOP CADET

A new feature in the Skychaser is a monthly column devoted to issues, advice, suggestions and comments from the viewpoint of SDWG's top cadet, Cadet Colonel William Small of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron. Each month he will select one or more questions posed to him by anyone in the Wing. Contact C/Col Small with your question(s) at: 605-484-1642 or by email at wsmall@spatz.org.



Question from C/2d Lt Sullivan Busch from Big Sioux Composite Squadron: What is the best way to advance my CAP career?

Answer: This is a broad question with a lot of answers and aspects to the answers. The simplest answer is that you need to have dedication and loyalty to the cadet program. This may also mean that you might have to give up some activities or jobs elsewhere to advance in CAP. As a first-time Cadet Commander there were times I really did not want to go to the meeting. Luckily I had enough self-motivation and dedication (along with some parental "support") that I did not quit. If I had, I doubt I would be where I am today. Another aspect is putting CAP as a top life priority. For me, CAP is not something I just do every Thursday night and at some activities, it is a whole lifestyle. I set CAP as a top priority and prevent other events from interfering with it. To illustrate this point, I once heard from a motivated and accomplished cadet from another wing that he had received certain job offers during his time in CAP. One in particular was a job he wanted. It paid well and had good hours. If he took it though, he would have missed a squadron meeting. There-fore he did not take the job. Now I'm not implying you shouldn't have a job, but that type of dedication made that cadet one of the top cadets in the nation.

Another aspect as to how to advance your CAP career is simply to keep your word. When you joined CAP you recited the Cadet Oath. That is a simple path for you to follow to be a success in CAP. "...serve faithfully in the Civil Air Patrol cadet program...", "...attend meetings regularly, participate actively in unit activities, obey my officers, and wear my uniform properly..." are keys to success. The second part, attend meetings regularly, is one action that will help you to advance. This doesn't just mean weekly meetings, but also encampments, wing conferences, SAREXs, etc. Go to activities/meetings and participate in them. The third part, obey my officers, is more than just an ego trip for the officers. Discipline and chain of command are also keys to success. A good officer wants all of his/her people to do well. I truly want all the cadets in my squadron to succeed. Therefore, I will help them to go further in the program. Wearing your uniform also will help you get ahead. First, wear your uniform well. There is a certain pride and attitude that goes with it that will help you. Also if you look sharp people will treat you differently. The second part is it is a demonstration of an attitude of caring and wanting to do well, which is perhaps the best attitude to help you get ahead. The end of the cadet oath about advancing your education and training is a really good key to success also. The more you train and learn in CAP, by going to activities, reading your books, talking to experienced people, etc., the better you will become. And I would say that becoming a better person advances your CAP career and leads you to success in life.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058, BROOKINGS)

(No items submitted for this issue)

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by: SM Kris Bierwirth, glider photos by C/2d Lt Bierwirth, EMT photo by SM K. Bierwirth)

- The Squadron started this month roaring into the rally by assisting the Rapid City Kiwanis with their pancake fund raiser. Everyone enjoyed lots of food accompanied by plenty of smiles and laughs.
- Later in the month some of us tested our wings by soaring through the air in gliders and planes. C/2d Lt Gunner LeFebvre had flown before so he handled it like an old pro. On the other hand it was the first time in a glider for C/Amn Thomas Dillon and 2nd Lt. Victoria Bierwirth; boy, did they have stories to tell! The event was organized by the squadron and held at the Black Hills Soaring Club, a private glider club operating out of the airport at Hot Springs, SD, that flies a German manufactured Schleicher Ka-7 "Rhönadler" glider.



CADETS DILLON (LEFT) AND LEFEBVRE (RIGHT) PREPARE FOR THEIR GLIDER RIDES



After the flights our cadets received first aid training from Austin Jones, an Emergency Medical Technician with the National Parks Service, on how to evacuate people using a backboard and in a "Stokes Basket."

A lot of trust in others had to be had by all and we did it!

No one got dropped or slid off the board.

- Since we were having so much fun this month we decided to share it with our family and friends and hosted a pot-luck. With all the wonderful food we ate we will really need to work hard during PT.
- Even with all this activity several of our senior members came in on a Saturday to hold a budget meeting and to do testing themselves... what dedication!
- Last but not least we rounded this month up with a fund raising garage sale. It was a beautiful day and most of our stuff was sold. It just goes to prove "one man's junk is another man's treasure."

- Welcome aboard to our squadron’s newest senior member, Cheyenne Christopherson, and our newest cadet, Chason Christopherson!

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items submitted by Capt. David Small are in the Kudos section)

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Items submitted by: Lt. Col. Gatje)

- Pierre Composite Squadron welcomes C/SMSGt Joseph Meyer. Cadet Meyer recently transferred from Lake County Squadron in Illinois to the Pierre Squadron. We welcome him to his new squadron.
- Pierre Cadets again assisted with a meal to American Legion veterans previous to the Legion meeting in Pierre. These sessions allow cadets to have a brief encounter with veterans from the several conflicts the United States has been involved in and to show their appreciation to the veterans.

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Items submitted by Maj. Goodrich are scattered throughout the Skychaser)

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

(Items submitted by: Maj. Kipp, photos by Capt. West and 1st Lt. Brown)



C/Capt. Brandon West took part in the National Cadet Special Activities (aka “Blue Beret”) held as part of the Experimental Aircraft Association’s (EAA) annual “AirVenture 2013” air show held in Oshkosh, WI from 29 July to 4 August. This year AirVenture featured over 820 vendors and a plethora of aviation industry exhibits and displays, and at least 10,000 aircraft were parked on Wittman Regional Airport. While there Cadet West was part of the Blue Beret honor guard that welcomed Vietnam veterans returning from their Honor Flight to Washington, D.C. The flight was part of a day of tribute to veterans at AirVenture. Touching down at

Wittman Regional Airport, the first-ever Old Glory Honor Flight devoted to Vietnam veterans attracted lots of excitement as it capped off Friday's afternoon air show. After landing, the veterans walked through a cordon of honor formed by CAP cadets. Friends and relatives waved flags and cheered, giving the veterans the welcome they never received after they returned from Vietnam. This was the fourth Honor Flight; previous Old Glory Honor Flights have catered to World War II and Korean War veterans.



C/CAPT. WEST AT BLUE BERET (LEFT) AND WAS PART OF THE HONOR GUARD WELCOMING HOME VIETNAM VETS

- The weekend of 24/25 August, the Sioux Falls chapter of Vietnam Veterans of America held a major event at the W. H. Lyons Fairgrounds to honor and pay tribute to America's veterans from all services and from all periods. The forecourt of the Expo building was filled with static displays. The squadron had two vehicles on display. Other exhibitors included the S.D. Army and Air National Guards, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the American Red Cross, and encampments by a civil war and a cavalry reenactment unit. Army recruiters were also on hand. The event kicked off Saturday morning with a parade from the south gate to the flagpole. The parade was led by a bagpiper followed by massed color guards. The Sioux Falls Composite Squadron's Color Guard was present supervised by Capt. West. Of the color guards present they were far and away the sharpest looking and performed flawlessly. Several favorable comments were received from the event organizers and from the public. A motorcycle escort was provided by the Patriot Guard flying US and POW/MIA flags.



THE SFCS COLOR GUARD (L TO R): C/SSGT JOSIHA HUNTINGTON (RIFLE), C/CAPT BRANDON WEST (US FLAG/GUARD COMMANDER), C/CMSGT NICOLE SCHNEIDER (POW/MIA FLAG), C/MSGT DEVON BROWN (STATE FLAG), C/MSGT MATIAS KOWANG (RIFLE)
 PHOTO BY CAPT. KARLA WEST

The inside of the Expo building was filled with displays and exhibits from numerous veterans' organizations and organizations providing services to veterans. SFCS had several tables with a display of our Drug Demand Reduction Program and plenty of recruiting materials and copies of the Volunteer magazine. Special thanks go to 1st Lt. Espeland for her outstanding organization of our interior display and recruitment tables ably assisted by 2nd Lt. Dale Palmer. Thanks also to the cadets and seniors who assisted, mingled and schmoozed. Several highly favorable comments were received about how well our personnel looked and acted and our interaction with the public. In addition, over the two days of the event the squadron may have recruited several new cadets and possibly even a couple of seniors.

- The Commemorative Air Force (CAF), a historical aviation group displayed vintage WWII aircraft at Maverick Aviation located on the west side of the Sioux Falls Regional Airport during an open house on 12-14 August. SFCS senior members and cadets participated in crowd control at the event. For their efforts Cadets Josiah Huntington, S Huntington, Franklin Michael and senior member 2nd Lt. Dale Palmer received a ride in the B-29, Superfortress bomber, the only B-29 flying. After the flight, they had privilege of cleaning oil off of the engine cowlings, which is a job that they really appreciated. Mr. Rick Tupper is the local organizer and point of contact for the CAF. The new Sioux Falls wing of CAF has acquired an L5 aircraft that was on active duty in WWII and later used as a CAP Aircraft. Participants will be drawn for a ride in this aircraft.

- 5 cadets received orientation rides this month Roblewsky, Josiah Huntinton, Kowong, Benz, Norling.
- Form 5 check rides were complete in Rapid City on August 31st by Capt. Matt Meert and 1st Lt. Neil Schmid. The check pilot duties were accomplished by Maj. Craig Goodrich in the SFCS G1000 equipped aircraft. In addition, 2nd Lt. Jerry Hayden received G1000 transition training from Lt. Col. Gary Hewett.

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to James Hopewell of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who received an advanced appointment to the grade of Lieutenant Colonel due to his prior military experience!



Congratulations to Sylvia Small of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who received an advanced appointment to the grade of Captain due to her special educational qualifications!



Congratulations to Vinnie Brown and Kurt Johnson of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of First Lieutenant!



Congratulations to Shane Warne of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant!

Cadet Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Nicole Schneider of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Second Lieutenant and receipt of the milestone General Billy Mitchell Award!



Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Jared Doyle of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Errol Kelly of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Congratulations to Laura Rudnik of Big Sioux Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Nicholas Nash of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Jaden Roblewsky of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on his promotion to Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Dylan Benz of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Steven Diaconu, Ivan Kreger, and Kyle Kreger of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and to Thomas Dillon of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General Curry Award!

★ Congratulations to Cadet Captain Brandon West on his appointment as Cadet Commander of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron!

★ Congratulations to Lt. Col. Gary King and to Capt. David Small Jr. who completed the two day Senior Inspector General course taught by Lt. Col. Don Barbalace in Aberdeen from 31 Aug - 1 Sep!

★ Congratulations to 1st Lt. Karen Espeland of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron for completion of Level II of the Senior Member Professional Development Program!

★ Congratulations to C/Col William Small who was selected by North Central Region Commander Col. Robert Todd, upon recommendation by SDWG Commander Col. Seten, to be North Central Region representative to the National Cadet Advisory Council (NCAC). Small will join ten cadets nationwide on the NCAC. The NCAC will work on issues relating to cadet programs at the national level where he will also represent the North Central Region. William will also chair of the North Central Region's Cadet Advisory Council.



Congratulations to C/Col William small who earned his solo wings on 3 September under the tutelage of Lt. Col. Gary Hewett.



Congratulations to 1st Lt. Neil Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron for earning the Yeager Aerospace Education Ribbon, part of the Aerospace Education Program for Seniors!



Congratulations to 1st Lt. Jason Erickson, Capt. Joe Oye, and 1st Lt. Neil Schmid, all of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, who attained "Technician" rating in Specialty Track – Operations!



Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Robert Hinkhouse of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who attained "Technician" rating in Specialty Track - Information Technology!



Congratulations to 1st Lt. Brandon Caneva, of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, who attained “Technician” rating in Specialty Track – Cadet Programs!



Congratulations to Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, Wing Director of Cadet Programs, and Capt. Sharon Moad, Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, who attained “Senior” rating in Specialty Track - Drug Demand Reduction!



Congratulations to Maj. Buck DeWeese of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron who attained “Master” rating in Specialty Track – Aerospace Education!

MY STORY

American Aviation History Revisited

by Maj. Buck DeWeese



[Background: Tinian Island, about 1,500 miles south of Japan in the eastern Philippine Sea is part of the Mariana Islands. Japan gained possession of the islands in 1914. Tinian wasn't garrisoned by Japanese military until the latter stages of World War II, when they realized its importance as a potential base for American bombers. After the island was seized by the Allies during the Battle of Tinian (24 July to 1 August 1944) US forces built a very large base consisting of two airfields. From the runways of North Field, now overgrown and abandoned, the B-29 Superfortresses Enola Gay and Bockscar, each carrying atomic bomb, were launched against Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Two pits were constructed to load the atomic bombs on the

planes as the bombs were too large to be loaded in the conventional manner. Each plane was positioned over a pit with its bomb bay doors open and the atomic bomb was hoisted into the aircraft. At North Field remains of the runways, atom bomb pits, and Japanese fortifications, can be found. A memorial was opened at the atomic bomb loading pits in conjunction with the 60th Anniversary Commemoration of the Battle Tinian.]

Following AirVenture 2013 in Oshkosh I stayed in Sioux Falls and boarded a 0830 flight to Minneapolis, MN. There I slept most of the day and then flew to Seattle, WA for the next 13 days of my “life in a suitcase”. Next day I flew 13 hours to Shanghai, China for 2 days, Tokyo, Japan for a day and then to Saipan, a Commonwealth of the United States. It is part of the Mariana’s chain which includes Guam and most notably, Tinian Island.

Tinian Island gained fame and notoriety for having launched the B-29 bombers “Enola Gay” and “Bockscar” carrying out the first nuclear strikes against mankind. The cities bombed were Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. The resulting death and destruction brought Japan to its knees and forced them into surrendering, thus ending World War II in the Pacific.

I had a day off in Saipan and bought a ticket for the 15 minute flight to Tinian where I rented a car for a self-guided tour of the island and airfield. As you can see from the pictures, the runways and facilities are overgrown with island vegetation. Only the bomb loading pits and memorial park were being maintained. There is talk to make it a National Park, thus funding more restoration of the airfield and facilities. World history was made here, Aviation History. I can’t describe the chill I felt on that 100 degree day, standing on the 9000 foot runway Col. Paul Tibbets used to launch that fateful mission. As I stood there, I wished I had asked “FiFi,” the B-29 flying at Oshkosh, if she remembered flying off that runway. If only airplanes could talk, like in the movie. There are many memorials and markers throughout the area; some readable, some not even locatable. The air raid bunkers were the only two to survive the continuous bombardment by the US before capturing the island. All surviving structures were riddled with bullet holes and had huge gaping holes from ship artillery. The concrete walls were 24 inches thick, but destroyed by direct strikes from the 16 inch guns on the heavy cruisers. Every part of this island is a war museum and has a story to tell. Unfortunately, very few people go there to hear it. The rest of my trip was very anti-climactic after that. I got home on Sunday, 17 August....eighteen days after leaving home for Oshkosh. After 37 years of flying, I felt like MY Aerospace Education had barely touched the tip of the iceberg. All photos are by Maj. DeWeese unless otherwise noted.



AERIAL VIEW OF TWO ABANDONED RUNWAYS AT THE WWII-ERA AIR BASE “NORTH FIELD” ON TINIAN ISLAND



**AMERICAN MEMORIAL COMPLEX AT TINIAN ISLAND’S NORTH FIELD
RUNWAY FROM WHICH THE ATOMIC BOMB ATTACKS ON JAPAN WERE LAUNCHED**



MEMORIAL ERECTED AT ONE OF THE TWO ATOMIC BOMB LOADING PITS AT NORTH FIELD ON TINIAN ISLAND



L TO R: ENOLA GAY BEING POSITIONED OVER BOMB LOADING PIT, ATOMIC BOMB “LITTLE BOY” IN THE PIT, BOMB RAISED FOR LOADING INTO THE ENOLA GAY¹



A PEACEFUL SUNSET OVER TINIAN ISLAND BELIES THE ISLAND’S CRUCIAL ROLE IN WWII

¹ Atomic bomb loading photos: www2.gwu.edu/~nsarchiv/NSAEBB/NSAEBB162/, accessed 8/22/13.

BRAIN-BUSTING TRIVIA QUESTION FOR CADETS



Each month's cadet trivia question is selected from a variety of military-related topics such as CAP uniforms, military customs and courtesies, drill and ceremonies, emergency services, aerospace education, cadet programs, etc.

The first cadet to contact me at paa.sdwg@gmail.com with the correct answer to the trivia question wins the glory of seeing their name in print in next month's issue as the hero who answered the question.

This month's military trivia question:

What are the four principal aerodynamic forces acting on an aircraft in flight?



Former South Dakota Wing Commander Colonel Jerry Hayden, 81, died Monday, Aug. 19, 2013, in Texas. He was born in Klamath Falls, OR in 1932. He retired from the military in 1971 after 22 years of service. From 1971 to 1988 he farmed in Brookings, and then moved on in 1989 subsequently living in Holiday Island, AK, Sierra Vista, AZ and finally Llano Grande Lake Park in Mercedes, Texas. He was a member of the VFW, Elks Club, and the Masonic Lodge, an active member of DOVES, the American Red Cross and an active member in first responders at Llano Grande Lake Park. He is survived by his wife Jan; 10 children; 33 grandchildren; and nine great grandchildren. The South Dakota Wing offers its condolences to his family as well as our gratitude for his service to the nation and to our Wing.

Source: The Brookings Register, E-Edition, Wednesday, 28 August 2013, www.brookingsregister.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&story_id=18564&page=80

