



## “THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for January 2015

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

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### WING TIPS

**REMINDER:** CAP Legislative Day at the State Capitol is February 11, 2015. Col. Seten encourages all who can go that day to attend. Attend the house and senate sessions, meet and greet our state legislators.

**REDCAP Mission 15-M-0016:** Early on 10 January, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida notified the South Dakota Wing that the Lawrence County Office of Emergency Management requested CAP assistance in the search for a missing person in the rugged, heavily forested hills near Spearfish. A Rapid City-based Cessna-182T aircraft was used for the search. The aircrew consisted of Lt. Col. Gary Hewett (Mission Pilot), Capt. Joshua Hall (Mission Observer) and Maj. David Small, Jr. (Mission Scanner). The Incident Commander was J.D. Guigoe of Lawrence County OEM. Col. John Seten coordinated the CAP activity. The individual was found alive and all CAP assets were stood down.



- **CYBERPATRIOT-VII UPDATE:** We’re going to the National Finals! “Team Big Sioux” cadet cybersecurity team is heading to the national finals of the CyberPatriot competition for the fourth year in a row! To earn the all-expenses-paid trip the cadet cyber-sleuths placed first in regional round of the competition. The national finals of the CyberPatriot-VII competition will be in March in Washington, D.C.

In the finals, the only in-person round, the team will compete to defend virtual networks and mobile devices from a professional aggressor team. The finalists will also face-off in three additional competition components: Digital Cyber Crime Scene Challenge, Cisco Networking Challenge, and Digital Forensics Challenge. These extra challenges broaden the cybersecurity experience and expose teams to new elements of the many career opportunities available to them. The team will be scored on how quickly and effectively they establish and maintain secure networks.

Team Big Sioux consists of Team Captain C/Maj Joshua Klosterman of Brandon, C/2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Chris Dinnel, C/SMSGT Jaden Petersen, C/SSgt Sergeant Nathaniel Fleet, all from Lake Benton, MN, and C/2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Laura Rudnik of Brookings. The team is coached by Capt. Shannon Hofer of Hendricks, MN and mentored by Cadet Captain Tyler Gross of Volga. Article and photo submitted by Maj. Gengler and Capt. Hofer.



“TEAM BIG SIOUX” CADET CYBERSECURITY SPECIALISTS RELAX AFTER A GRUELING SESSION

- **SPLIT SAREX 23-25 JANUARY:** The Wing’s first exercise for 2015 was held Saturday, 24 January. The focus was on training aircrews, ground search teams and command staffs through realistic search and rescue scenarios that mirror CAP’s real-world activity. All five of the Wing’s aircraft, six vehicles and 75 officers and cadets took part in the training exercise.

In the West River area an Incident Command Post was set up at the headquarters of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on Ellsworth AFB. Three CAP aircraft flew search and rescue sorties from the squadron’s hangar at the Rapid City Regional airport. In addition, one ground search team operated from the squadron headquarters conducting independent but similar training exercises as the aircraft.

In the East River area, a Staging Base was set up at the headquarters of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron at the Brookings Airport. Big Sioux’s personnel were joined by aircraft, vehicles and personnel from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. Under the control of Incident Commander Col. Mike Beason at Ellsworth AFB two CAP aircraft and two ground teams conducted training exercises similar to those in the West River area.

The Split SAREX was a chance to work with Wing units that don’t often have the opportunity to train together with massed assets. The benefit from training such as this is teamwork, the coordination between command staff, aircrews and ground teams. In addition, a great deal of individual skills training was also accomplished.



LEFT: TWO AIRCREW MEMBERS PLAN FOR THEIR FLIGHT

CENTER: CADET GROUND TEAM MEMBER TRAINS WITH NEW RADIO-DETECTION-FINDING EQUIPMENT

RIGHT: CADET RADIO OPERATORS MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH AIRCRAFT AND GROUND TEAMS

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife on seven days in January in support of the state Department of Game, Fish & Parks and South Dakota State University. GF&P surveys deer, goats, mountain lions, and elk while SDSU surveys elk and bobcats. The result was 21.5 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilot for the flights was Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. Depending on whom the sortie supported he was accompanied by either Mr. Brandon Tycz or Ms. Sarah Nevison from SDSU (19.5 flying hours) or Ms. Lauren Wiechmann from GF&P (2 flying hours). During the 27 January mission 26 bobcats were located over an area from Rapid City toward Faith, to east of Bison, to north of Spearfish. Mr. Tycz, the SDSU tracker who flies with CAP, with a bobcat he trapped. The bobcat is sedated.



- **G-1000 VFR CLASS:** On 17 January, six aviators took part in a G-1000 VFR training class hosted by Rushmore Composite Squadron and presented by Maj. Craig Goodrich and Lt. Col. Gary Hewett. The class spent most of the day at SDWG HQ exploring the functions and capabilities of the Cessna-182 “glass cockpit”. Present around the table were (clockwise)



Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, Maj. Craig Goodrich (both CFI class instructors), SM Jack Jensen, Col. Mike Beason, Mr. Cliff Wippel, Lt. Col. Chuck Trumble and SM Tim Shannon, all members of Rushmore Composite Squadron. G-1000 equipped aircraft have tremendous potential for those properly trained to utilize it.

Classes such as this are required for those who have never flown with it before and an important review for those of us who seldom see it. Classroom discussion is much cheaper than aviation gasoline. Article and photo submitted by Lt. Col. DeWeese

- **“CIVIL AIR PATROL HISTORY” FACEBOOK PAGE:** The CAP national history staff has acquired digital versions of some 1950s-era Air Force films about the Civil Air Patrol. Enjoy CAP (1950), an introductory film about CAP at [https://history.cap.gov/video/AF\\_SPF\\_251.m4v](https://history.cap.gov/video/AF_SPF_251.m4v) and Ambassadors with Wings (1957) about the 1957 IACE at [https://history.cap.gov/video/Ambassadors\\_with\\_Wings.m4v](https://history.cap.gov/video/Ambassadors_with_Wings.m4v). *[Editor: If you haven't viewed this Facebook page you should check it out. It has amazing information and old photos of CAP]*

- **NORTH DAKOTA CADET LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**: SDWG cadets are invited to the North Dakota Cadet Leadership Academy 20-22 February at the Fargo ANG Base. It should be a great event with attendees from around the Tri-State area. Note that the NDWG CLA is the week after the South Dakota Wing CLA in Pierre. You are welcome and invited to go to both events. It is always good to get another Wing's perspective on CAP. Follow the link to sign up, [https://und.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_5gRXGNNGwyOEMIZ](https://und.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5gRXGNNGwyOEMIZ), or contact Capt. Graham Frost at Cell: 206-743-7411 or [ae@ndcap.us](mailto:ae@ndcap.us) with any questions, comments, or concerns.

- **POWDER RIVER BOMBING RANGE EXPANSION**: The Air Force has approved the plan to quadruple the airspace of the Powder River Training Complex over the states of North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana and Wyoming. This is to give B-52 crews from Minot AFB in North Dakota and B-1 crews from Ellsworth AFB in South Dakota the ability to train more realistically and efficiently close to home. The expansion will create the largest training airspace over the continental United States. Among the advantages, the extra airspace will allow the Air Force to conduct several large-force exercises each year where some 20 airplanes will train together as they would fight in actual combat. The Federal Aviation Administration must now approve the plan and then modify and establish the requisite airspace.

Source: Air Force Magazine Daily Report, 20 January 2015.

- **ELLSWORTH B-1BS DEPLOY TO SUPPORT OIR, OFS**: Some 350 airmen from Ellsworth AFB, S.D., deployed to Southwest Asia on Jan. 20, where they will support B-1B in both Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan. The aircrew members, maintenance, and support personnel from Ellsworth's 28th Bomb Wing are deploying to the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing at Al Udeid AB, Qatar, where they will help provide US Central Command air presence, precision strike assets, and surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities, while other airmen will work to assist sortie generation and mission assurance tasks. For the last nine months, airmen have worked extensively to train for scenarios they're looking to be involved in during the deployment, including hours of personal and tactical studies as well as numerous training sorties, said Capt. Jonathan Vogel, a 34th Bomb Squadron instructor pilot. The 28th BW deployment will take the place of airmen from the 9th BS from Dyess AFB, Texas, who deployed to CENTCOM in summer 2014.

Source: Air Force Magazine Daily Report, 26 January 2015.

- **USAF CYBER SQUADRON ACTIVATED AT HICKAM**: As a sign of the growing importance of cyber security, the Air Force earlier this month stood up the 690th Cyberspace Operations Squadron (COS) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii. The new unit hosts some 144 airmen who will conduct cyber operations 24 hours a day in order to provide "agile cyber combat support" around the world. "What is improving with the 690th COS activation is an effort to develop better network situational awareness [and] to become less reactive and more proactive," said Col. Chad Raduege, commander of the 690th Cyberspace Operations Group. "The 690th COS can provide a more proactive mission of identifying and closing vulnerabilities, as well as interpreting cyber intelligence and implementing new network configurations," he said.

Source: Air Force Magazine Daily Report, 27 January 2015.

## STAFF NOTES



### **WING CHIEF OF STAFF**

Maj. David Small, Jr., CAP

- Please remember to use the CAPF-32 *Cadet Permission Form* for all activities other than regular weekly squadron meetings, where cadets under the age of 18 participate. This includes SAREX and actual searches.

The SD Wing modified CAPF-32 allows parental input via telephone, text or e-mail. This form can be found on the Wing website at: <http://sdcap.us/cadet-programs/>. Let me know if anyone has any questions.

- All of us are volunteers in CAP. All of us have lots of things in our life that pull us in many directions. Clear and concise communications helps us accomplish our goals and work efficiently with others.

**Here are some rules-of-thumb for e-mailing:**

1. **Respond quickly.** I know that some CAP members like to check CAP related e-mails only a couple of times a week, others of us are neurotic enough to check them twenty times per day. Whichever system you use please check and respond at least weekly. If you can't do that reliably please let me know so that we won't hold up critical action items waiting for a response.
2. **Be crisp in your delivery** - don't ramble, get to the point. Make sure that your topic is clear and unambiguous.
3. **Clean out your inbox constantly** - the more things pile up the harder it is to get to them.
4. **Handle e-mails in a LIFO** (Last In First Out) order. Sometimes the issue has been addressed by the time you might read the oldest e-mail. (Don't use this as an excuse to check your e-mails only rarely)
5. **You are a router** - if you get something useful to someone else, and it isn't confidential, pass it on.
6. **Make it easy to follow up on requests.** Yes/no questions work well. Don't ask 20 questions in an e-mail if possible. Likewise, if you are the recipient of an e-mail with questions please respond to all of them.
7. **Save your e-mail for future reference.** Personally I print all e-mails as PDF files that are stored on my hard drive. These can be searched by word later if needed. Many others save old e-mails in an old e-mail folder.
8. **Use BCC.** If you are broadcasting something to many people or to the wing and don't need everyone to respond to everyone else please use BCC (Blind Copy). This prevents a lot of clutter at the beginning of an e-mail and also reduced extraneous communication amongst a lot of people.
9. **Reply.** If you have received an e-mail that the sender might want to confirm that you have seen please reply with "got it" or some other quick response letting them know that they don't have to follow up with you later.
10. **Don't put anything in writing that you will regret later.** E-mails have remarkable staying power and you don't want to be embarrassed by something that you might have said in the heat of the moment years ago.
11. **Don't hide behind e-mails.** There are times when face to face or telephone communication is needed.

## **SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS**

### **CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)**

(Items and photos by Lt. K. Bierwirth)

- **WELCOME ABOARD:** Diane Geeting has joined our ranks, welcome aboard Nurse Geeting. We are pleased that you decided to join CAP and are proud that you are a member of our squadron!

- **SOON TO BE WELCOMED ABOARD:** Tim Modde from the former squadron in Philip will soon join our squadron. We look forward to having you with us!
- **STAR POWER:** C/CMSgt Jason Parry once again blessed the stage with his wonderful acting talents. This time he was Quinn in the one act play called “Deal With It & Carry On.”
- **VISITORS:** Apparently Maj. David Small Jr. and Capt. Sylvia Small heard about the wild times we have and decided to come and investigate our mayhem. Hope we didn’t traumatize you too much.
- **CRITTER ALERT:** On one of our dark and cold nights we had a furry four legged friend show up on our door step. This was odd as our building is surrounded by fencing but this little pup found his way in and knew where to come after being lost and frightened. Luckily he had dog tags and we were able to contact the owners who rescued the little guy.
- **WILDERNESS INJURIES & RESCUE:** National Parks Service Paramedic Dan Fairchild from the Devils Tower National Monument came to teach us about wilderness injuries and rescue. It was amazing to learn how items you have in your backpack can be used to help someone. Who knew a sweatshirt had so many uses, and just think many of us thought the sleeves were only used as napkins. A great time was had by all.



VICTIMS OF A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT



TURN-ABOUT IS FAIR PLAY

## **LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)**

(Items and photos by Maj. David Small Jr.)



- **CHANGE OF CADET COMMAND:** The torch of cadet responsibility for command and leadership of the squadron was passed on 22 January.

Cadet Chief Master Sergeant Justin Harris (far left) handed over the reins of command to Cadet Second Lieutenant Bradley Blansett (right) with the assistance of Chief Master Sergeant Connor Caneva (center). Squadron Commander Capt. Bill Collister (far right) presided.

- Capt Sylvia Small conducted a character development course on "The Ethics of Fiscal Responsibility – Part 2". Eight cadets and six seniors were present for the lively course.



LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT COURSE

### **RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)**

(Items and photos by Maj. Goodrich)

- ***FIRE, FIRE, BURNING BRIGHT:*** On 26 January the squadron had a special training opportunity. A couple members needed to extinguish a fire as part of their Ground Team Leader training. So, Maj. Goodrich thought it would be good to train everyone in this valuable skill and take advantage of the special CAP/USAF relationship. He shared the surprise during the commander’s call briefing – and all the members of the squadron drove to Ellsworth AFB’s Fire Department. Everyone got to extinguish a fire with a Halon extinguisher (Maj. Goodrich and Lt. Col. Hewett had an “opportunity” to find out what breathing in a small amount of the gas feels like). Afterwards everyone headed back to the squadron where the Ground Team members completed training using the task guide and overseen by a special Ground Team Leader Skills Evaluator/Trainer - Capt. Collister. One cadet remarked that night, “This was one of the most fun things we’ve done at a meeting!” Special thanks go to A1C Jordan LaPoint, and SSgt Zach McCormick of the 28th Bomb Wing Fire Department.



- ***NEWEST MEMBERS:*** Welcome aboard to new members – Senior Members Keven Gross and Clifford Wippel and Cadets Theodore Tornow and Owen Weller. We are pleased that you have chosen to join CAP and proud to have you as members of our squadron.

- **BACK WITH US:** Lt. Col. Chuck Trumble just transferred back to active status in the Rushmore Composite Squadron. He had been in the “Ghost Squadron” while out of state. Welcome back Chuck! Chuck is a CFI for both aircraft and gliders, and has been a senior member in CAP since 1977. He previously held positions in the SD Wing as the Director of Operations and the Wing Stan/Eval Officer.

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

(Items and photos by Capt. Erickson, Capt. Karla West, and Capt. Schmid)



- **STARLAB:** Lt. Stockinger, our Aerospace Education officer arranged a cool AE program on 15 January. A crew from Siouxland Heritage Museum brought their portable stardome to the squadron. From the museum’s website – Gaze into the night sky in our portable planetarium and discover the secrets of the seasonal constellations. Starlab gives viewers the tools to begin their own sky exploration. Starlab encompasses astronomy and mythology. 40 squadron members and guests were transported through the universe as our navigator guided us through the stars of the Northern Hemisphere as they appear at this time of year. We were introduced to Greek mythological characters as we explored how heroes of the past can be found in the night sky as we learned to identify stars and constellations. Capt. Erickson said, "What a great thing to have right at our squadron. It will help me remember how to identify the constellations and how they came about".



**SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON MEETS THE STARLAB**

- **NIGHT CURRENCY FLIGHTS:** On 15 January Capt. Neil Schmid and Capt. Matt Meert were aloft for night currency flights. A major metropolitan area such as Sioux Falls is a kaleidoscope of colors at night and the aerial view is spectacular. In the darkness the two pilots took some very cool photos, although on a clear night photos don’t do justice to the brilliance of the colors when viewed in person. The photo at left is a panoramic overview of Sioux Falls by night. The photo on the right shows the approach and runway lights at Sioux Falls Regional Airport.



# ★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

## Senior Member Promotion



Congratulations to Roy Weller of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant!

## Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Justin Harris of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and to Jaden Roblewsky of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Dr. Robert H. Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Keyvin Rauscher of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Graham Dinnel of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



## Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Samuel Lawrence of Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Melissa Spruill of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General J.F. Curry Award!



# ★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to SM Jordan Tremblay of the Rushmore Composite Squadron! He finished Level I of the Senior Member Professional Development Program



Congratulations to Capt. Richard Geeting and SM Peter Bierwirth, both of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, who earned the Aerospace Education Yeager Award!



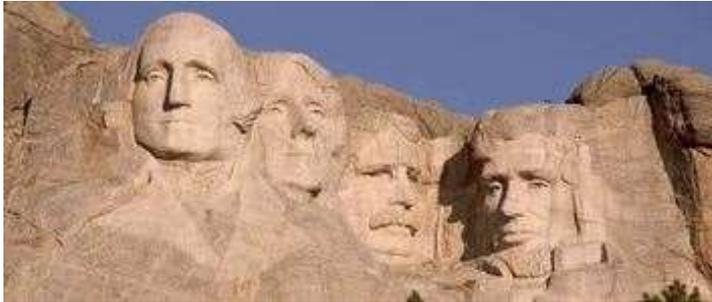
Congratulations to Capt. James Dillon of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron. He became a grandfather this month to a beautiful baby girl: Aullora she came into the world at 6lbs 3oz and according to Jim “she is a peanut”. C/MSgt Thomas Dillon and C/Amn Anthony Dillon are both proud Uncles.

- ★ Congratulations to Capt. Richard Geeting, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Vicki Bierwirth and SM Peter Bierwirth of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who attended the ICS 300 class in Rapid City! We hear CAP saved the day by bringing treats for the class. Now that's good PR!
- ★ Congratulations to C/CMSgt Jason Parry of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on being inducted into the National Honors Society! The NHS is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. NHS serves to honor students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.
- ★ Congratulations to Cadet Hunter Rice of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who received all "A's on his report card! He even brought some of his grades from an A- to A+.
- ★ Congratulations to Capt. Richard Geeting, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Vicki Bierwirth of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who attended the ICS 400 class in Rapid City!
- ★ Congratulations SM Jordan Tremblay of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his appointment as Squadron Assistant Emergency Services Officer!

## ★ ★ PROJECT BLUE BOOK ★ ★

The truth is out there - and it's now on the Web. The fabled Project Blue Book, the Air Force's files on UFO sightings and investigations, have tantalized and frustrated extraterrestrial enthusiasts for decades. But this past week, nearly 130,000 pages of declassified UFO records - a trove that would make FBI Special Agent Fox Mulder's mouth water - were put online. Project Blue Book was based at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. Between 1947 and 1969, the Air Force recorded 12,618 sightings of strange phenomena — 701 of which remain "unidentified." Here is the link: <http://www.theblackvault.com/> [Editor: According to Project Blue Book there have been a few UFO sightings in South Dakota]





# **BLACK HILLS DRILL DOWN**



**2 MAY 2015**

Rapid City Central High School

433 Mt. Rushmore Road

Rapid City, SD 57701

**EVENTS INCLUDE: ARMED AND UNARMED  
REGULATION AND EXHIBITION, COLOR GUARD,  
& INDIVIDUAL DRILL DOWN**

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