



“THE SKYCHASER” – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for February 2015

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

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WING TIPS



- **LEGISLATIVE DAY:** 11 February was South Dakota Wing “Legislative Day”. Some fifty of our members from five squadrons converged on the state capitol.

The officers and cadets met with the governor and posed with him on the Capitol Rotunda staircase..

Afterwards the SDWG members attended the legislative sessions of the House and Senate where they received special recognition when legislators of both houses gave the CAP members a standing ovation.

During the afternoon break in the legislative sessions CAP hosted a snack for the legislators. While mingling with the legislators the officers and cadets handed out informational materials about SDWG and CAP and spoke with them about Civil Air Patrol and what CAP’s South Dakota Wing does for our communities, our counties and the state.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. John Seten, CAP

• I just returned from Washington D.C. where I attended the Winter 2015 CAP Command Council. While there I also visited our congressional delegation and gave them a briefing about what SDWG has been doing since I met with them last year. This was the first year for Senator Rounds so it was a good meeting with him as he is already well aware of what CAP is about as he was a CAP cadet. In attendance with me at the meeting with Senator Rounds was CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Joe Vazquez, North Central Region Commander Col. Robert Todd and two very sharp cadets from the MD wing. I presented each of our delegation a framed picture of Mt. Rushmore with a CAP aircraft flying by as well as a coin replica of the Congressional Gold Medal our WWII members received. The main CAP topic discussed was the CAP budget. The President's proposed budget leaves CAP short about 11M dollars from what we really need for Operating and Maintenance, aircraft procurement and vehicle procurement. All stated that they'd take a look at the CAP budget when it comes before them and seemed eager to assist with getting the funding to the levels we need. Senator Rounds signed on to be a member of the CAP Congressional squadron joining Senator Thune and Representative Noem.



Senator Thune



Representative Noem



SDWG Presentation Photo

• **STAFF APPOINTMENT:** Lt. Manny Steele has been appointed Wing Assistant Government Relations Advisor. He's been very active in helping South Dakota Wing prepare for the Legislative Day in Pierre. Manny represented Lincoln and Minnehaha counties in the State Assembly for many years. His knowledge of how the state legislature works and personal friendships with many serving legislators is a real asset to SDWG.

• **WING CONFERENCE:** The 2015 South Dakota Wing Conference is being held 18-19 April in Pierre at the Clubhouse Inn and Suites. The guest speaker at the banquet will be U.S. Representative Kristi Noem. Call Wing Administrator Rachel Kuecker at (605) 393-4215 for more information.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS



BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (BROOKINGS)

Next week "Team Big Sioux", our team of topnotch cadet cyber-sleuths, leaves on the all-expenses-paid trip to the CyberPatriot-VII National Finals Competition 11-15 March in Washington, D.C. Thirteen teams will compete in the All Service Division; two each from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Air Force JROTC and the Sea Cadets, two CAP teams and one wildcard team.

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.

★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★

Congratulations to 1st Lt. Victoria Bierwirth of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer on her induction into the "Order of the Engineer" in a ceremony on 17 February at the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology. According to the Order's website, "the Order of the Engineer was instituted in the United States to



foster the spirit of pride and responsibility in the engineering profession, to bridge the gap between training and experience, and to present to the public a visible symbol identifying the engineer. Since then, annual ceremonies are held at which graduate and registered engineers are invited to accept the Obligation of the Engineer and having done so are presented with a stainless steel ring." In the U.S. the engineer's Ring is worn on the fifth finger of the working hand by engineers who have accepted the Obligation of an Engineer in a Ring Ceremony.

