



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for September 2016

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

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WING TIPS

- ***PILOT INSTRUMENT REFRESHER CLINIC:*** On 10 September, pilots from across SDWG met at the squadron in Sioux Falls to discuss instrument flying and learn what they need to do to be safe and legal when flying in instrument conditions. The event was coordinated with the Federal Aviation Administration’s Safety Team, so pilots received FAA Wings program credit. By making this an official FAA event, it was also open to the general public. Three general aviation pilots came to participate in the day-long class, and work side by side with CAP pilots.

Maj. Craig Goodrich presented a scenario in which each team of three pilots developed their plan for flying a human heart for transplant along with a medical attendant from Mitchell, SD to Pipestone, MN. The pilots covered risk management of dealing with the human factor, aircraft equipment, instrument approaches, FAA and CAP regulations, emergencies, and weather. Six other CAP instructors helped with the teaching. Maj. Goodrich said, “I was thrilled to see such a great turnout. We had pilots from nearly every squadron in the Wing here, and everyone learned a great deal and had fun.”

This event brought all seven of the SDWG assigned CAP aircraft to Sioux Falls, and the wing took advantage of it. Maj. Karla West took some great photos, Maj. E.W. Filler was able to ensure all the airplanes had the new survival kits placed in them and standardized the Aircraft Information File books kept in the planes, Capt. Kurt Johnson did a surprise safety check of the aircraft, and Maj. Goodrich passed out new CAP Shell Master Cards and new laminated checklists for each aircraft.

On 11 September, most of the pilots practiced flying what they had just learned. Cadet orientation rides were planned as well, but the weather was very bumpy – which made for great training for instrument flying, but not very good for cadet o-rides.



A RARE SIGHT – ALL SEVEN CAP AIRCRAFT ASSIGNED TO SDWG IN ONE PLACE



CLASSROOM WORK TO REFRESH OLD SKILLS AND LEARN NEW ONES



PREPARATION FOR FLYING – FUELING, AIRCRAFT CHECKS, PAPERWORK



- PILOT PROFICIENCY:*** On 8 September Capt. Matt Meert of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron (SFCS) was photographed performing a preflight aircraft check for his monthly proficiency flying. Capt. Neil Schmid, also of SFCS, flew as safety pilot while Matt executed a series of instrument approaches and practiced search and rescue maneuvers. It was a nice September evening to fly the Wing's brand new Cessna-182, which has less than 200 hours on it!

- **SENIOR LEVEL IG COURSE:** [Lt. Col. Shelly Metzger, SDWG Inspector General] The South Dakota Wing hosted a Civil Air Patrol Inspector General Senior Level Training Course (IGSC) in Sioux Falls, SD, 10-11 Sep 2016. The instructor was Lt. Col. Don Barbalace, National Deputy CAP IG – Training, Education, and Staff Development. In attendance were Capt. Lion Templin, MNWG IG, Capt. Craig Borchardt, MNWG A/IG, Lt. Col. Shelly Metzger, SDWG IG and Lt. Col. Gary King, SDWG A/IG. The IGSC is designed to help CAP officers better execute duties and responsibilities associated with the Inspector General Specialty Track. The IGSC is required of all Wing/Region Inspectors General and all Wing/Region Assistant Inspectors General. Anyone desiring to earn the IG Senior Rating must complete the Senior Course. It is also a prerequisite for the IG College. The course curriculum includes: In-depth Information, Complaint Resolution, Interview Strategies and Techniques, Listening Skills, Secure Data Entry, Leadership, Problem Solving, Human Relations, Team Building, Compliance and Subordinate Unit Inspections, Oral and Written Communication. Participants completed an after hour case study and a final exam. After completion, this intensive two day course allows graduates to advance in their IG specialty track.



- **SD EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE:** [by Lt. Col. Rick Larson] On 14 September, Col. Seten and I went to Aberdeen for the annual South Dakota Emergency Management Association conference. The purpose of the trip was to conduct liaison on behalf of CAP, gain professional development training offered and solidify relationships with state and county officials. The event was well attended by state, county and local emergency management officials. One extremely valuable training opportunity was on social media tools, applications and their use in emergency and disaster events. We also had the opportunity to visit with EM officials of all levels, both East and West River to discuss alerting procedures, talk about our recent missions, training events, and equipment. State OEM Director Tina Titze and Assistant Director Jason Bauder were presented with the new alert cards and briefed that phone calls made by state duty officers in advance of official notifications can shorten response times. EM directors in central and northeast SD welcomed an offer to conduct “fly in training”, in which a CAP aircraft would drop into their local airport on a pre-arranged date in



order to show local officials our equipment, brief capabilities and possibly conduct an ad-hoc AE experience for local students. The key to engaging CAP capabilities is familiarity with what we can do, when we can do it, who we can do it for, and keeping it simple. We need to conduct liaison before a situation, do joint exercises and make it simple for CAP to contribute to public safety and homeland security. We even had an opportunity to meet the state’s new official emergency management mascot, “Tommy Turtle”.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew 12 aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over eight days in September 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, bobcats and big horn sheep. The result was a total of 40.4 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills. The CAP pilots were Lt. Col. Gary Hewitt, ten sorties, Lt. Col. Albert Trumble, one sortie and Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, one sortie. Depending whom the sortie supported they were accompanied by a representative from SDSU or from Game, Fish & Parks.



- **CAP RECEIVES USAF ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE AWARD:** In honor of their 75th Anniversary, the Civil Air Patrol received the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award during the Air Force Association’s Air, Space and Cyber Conference in Maryland on 20 September. “The Air Force Auxiliary is extremely proud to be recognized for our service with the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award,” said Maj. Gen. Joseph Vazquez, CAP national commander. “This prestigious honor is an inspiration to our 56,000 volunteer Airmen. Seventy-five years after Pearl Harbor, our operational support to the Air Force (continues to) take place every day, around the clock.” The award recognizes the CAP for its exceptionally meritorious service from October 2012 to August 2016. During that four-year period, CAP supported the homeland defense mission by flying more than 36,000 operational flights and executing approximately 3,000 search and rescue missions for the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center, which resulted in 272 lives saved. In addition, CAP assisted emergency response officials in times of natural disasters by providing real-time aerial imagery for mission planning purposes. The Civil Air Patrol was officially designated the official Air Force Auxiliary by Congress in May 1948 when they were given three core missions – emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education. In 2015, CAP became part of the Air Force’s “Total Force” which also includes active-duty, Guard and Reserve members. “The Civil Air Patrol is extremely proud to be considered a member of the total force,” Vazquez said.



A cadet from CAP’s Middle East Region holds the CAP flag as Secretary of the Air Force Deborah James affixes a red, white and blue streamer signifying presentation of the Air Force Organizational Excellence Award to CAP for the period of Oct. 1, 2012-Aug. 31, 2016. Present for the ceremony were, from left, a second CAP cadet; Gen. David L. Goldfein, Air Force chief of staff; Maj. Gen. Joe Vazquez, CAP national commander; and Rick Broome, noted aviation artist whose painting of a CAP intercept mission was presented to the Air Force for permanent display in the Pentagon. The presentation occurred at the Air Force Association’s Air, Space & Cyber Conference at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center in National Harbor, Maryland.

- **DISASTER RELIEF KEEPING CAP BUSY:** The Civil Air Patrol surpassed 100,000 flying hours for the year earlier this week. The flying time is a seven percent increase over the same period last year, according to a CAP release. John Desmarais, director of national operations, attributed the jump largely to disaster relief missions and the training needed to fly them. The 46 missions across the country, including Hurricane Hermine flights in Florida, thus far have required 850 more hours than Fiscal 2015 relief missions. CAP crews have also flown an additional 1,000 training hours this year. "We don't often know where the next disaster will be, but CAP works to be prepared all the time," Desmarais said, according to the release.

Source: Air Force Magazine, Daily Report, Friday, September 9, 2016

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

- I am pleased to announce that Rushmore Composite Squadron was the only squadron in the Dakota's to achieve the Quality Cadet Unit Award for 2015/2016. Congratulations to commander Capt. Mike Johnson and former commander Maj. Craig Goodrich for developing and maintaining a vibrant and diverse Cadet Program!
- Please join me in congratulating Craig Goodrich on his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. Lieutenant Colonel is the highest rank that can be achieved through duty performance. Not only does the rank have certain achievement and professional development requirements but it also has a standard of performance above and beyond the baseline expected of our officers. Lt. Col. Goodrich has certainly demonstrated the leadership, talents and skills expected of someone of this rank. A promotion ceremony will be held in the near future. Promotion approval was granted by the North Central Region Commander, Col Regena Aye.



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Maj. Craig Goodrich CAP

- Lt. Jeff Shawd has accepted the position of Wing Communications Officer. He will continue to be assigned to the Sioux Falls Squadron, and stay active in their Communications and Emergency Services programs there as well. Thanks Jeff for stepping up to this important job!
- Capt. Jerry Gabert has stepped down as Wing Communications Officer but will continue to assist Lt. Shawd as Wing Communications Training Officer and with Wing VHF radio programming functions.
- Lt. Col. Dave Jeffries will continue as Wing Communications Plans Officer.
- Maj. Justin Johnson has accepted the position of Wing Aircraft Maintenance Officer effective 1 November 2016. Until then, he'll be getting some on-the-job training from Maj. E.W. Filler and by helping the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron prepare for their SUI in October as their Safety Officer. Justin is well qualified for this position as a mission pilot and a professional aviator. Thanks Justin for your service to CAP and for

stepping up to fulfill this critical role in the wing. Thanks to E.W. who has filled this role for the past five years. E.W. will focus on developing the Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings.

- **TRAINING PLB**: I have one training Personal Locator Beacon for each squadron. They will be assigned in ORMS soon, and delivered to the squadrons. It is critical that you know: We are NOT ALLOWED to turn on the beacon without prior coordination with NOAA / SARSAT. Details of how to do this will be with each unit, and a slide presentation and other documents have been loaded to the wing website under Emergency Services. There are other things too, such as once you push the GPS test function 12 times, the unit is finished. The battery that runs each unit is a Lithium battery, so you can't ship these things without additional procedures. Please get trained before you open the box.

- **SAREX / COMEX**: We have two SAREX's and a COMEX on Saturday, October 15th. Here's the quick and dirty:

West River SAREX: Squadrons Included: Crazy Horse, Lookout Mountain, Rushmore, and Pierre. ICP Location: To be determined. You won't know until Saturday Morning when you get alerted by your squadron early Saturday morning. Be sure your squadrons have their alerting notification rosters and systems up to speed. This will be a scripted SAREX done jointly with Pennington County Search and Rescue. The IC, OSC and MSO will be PCSAR folks. The Deputy IC, GBD, PSC, and AOBD, and CUL will be CAP folks. Crews will be looking for actual visual targets, and there will be live players. Volunteer fire departments, and the Pennington County Sheriff's office will also be there.

East River SAREX: Squadrons Included: Sioux Falls and Brookings. ICP will be at the Sioux Falls Squadron. Capt. Ehret is the Project Officer for the East River SAREX.

COMEX: We are also doing a COMEX as part of the SAREX on the 15th. We're going to try to launch an airplane from each side of the state, with the other side of the state entering all the WMIRS information, and communicating between locations via HF. We've never done this as long as I've been here, so it should be interesting. The SPINS for the COMEX have been uploaded to the Rapid City SAREX mission folder.

- **END OF THE YEAR**: We finished the year without giving a lot of money back to the USAF, especially with Cadet O-rides and Proficiency flying. This year, we haven't been fully funded, but we're operating under a continuing resolution – meaning we get a little bit by little bit. We have barely enough to do the SAREXs in October. SAREX flying won't be unlimited. Finally, we've ended this fiscal year without any notable aircraft or vehicle mishaps. Thank you all for considering the hazards associated with everything you do, and implementing smart measures do deal with the risk. Great Job! Please continue to make Safety our #1 priority.



CHIEF OF STAFF

Maj. Nick Gengler, CAP

- The SD Wing Email ListServe will soon be discontinued. Over the years we have accumulated a mass of emails from people that have grown too much to maintain. From this point on, if there is information that needs to be sent out in a mass email to Wing Members, that information is to be sent to either the Wing Public Affairs Officer, Chief of Staff, Director of Operations, or Wing Commander, whichever is most appropriate for the audience for your information. They will be responsible for moderating and dispensing information to the members of the Wing. For anyone that is not a member of CAP that wishes to be informed of happenings

throughout the Wing, we ask that you review the monthly Skychaser e-newsletter as that will have the same information.

- The 2017 Joint Dakota Encampment is well into the planning phases. The Encampment will be held July 7th through the 16th at Camp Rapid in Rapid City. Encampment Commander Capt Mike Johnson is asking for all cadets interested in staff positions to please apply now. Everything from Cadet Commander to Flight Sergeant to the Cadet Public Affairs staff is open. Please send a cover letter and resume and your requested positions to the Commandant, Capt Ashley Ehret at capehret@gmail.com. Deadline is December 1.



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Maj. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- I am pleased to announce that SM Mimi Klosterman has accepted appointment as Wing Assistant Public Affairs Officers for Visual Arts. Mimi will serve as the Wing's principal point of contact for questions, advice and assistance on matters pertaining to visual arts such as charts, graphs, photos, videos, etc., for websites and social media.
- I am also pleased to announce that C/SSgt Annabelle Klosterman and C/SSgt Mariel Klosterman have accepted appointment as Cadet Public Affairs NCOs for Visual Arts for Big Sioux Composite Squadron. They will perform the same functions at the squadron level and assist SM Klosterman as needed.



DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**: Will Rogers once said: "When you're through learning, you're through!" That's what Professional Development is all about: Learning and Training! Where you are in your Specialty Track Training? All of you chose one before you finished Level I. What are you doing to advance in this training??

Specialty Tracks are separate from Emergency Service Training we do for the missions we perform. They cover the functional areas that keep a squadron running; things like Personnel, Operations, Cadet Programs, Administration, Finance, Communications, Professional Development and others. To locate the information you need to progress through your Specialty Track go to the Pamphlets section of the Publications page (https://www.capmembers.com/forms_publications_regulations/indexes-regulations-and-manuals-1700/).

There are 27 Specialty Tracks! Click on the one you are enrolled in - you may enroll in more than one. It spells out what you should be doing to progress - from technician, to senior and master ratings! You need to be progressing to finish each level in the senior program from Level II through Level V. You also need to progress to get promoted. Several of our members are ready to be promoted but one thing is holding them back - their Specialty Track rating is not where it should be! To complete Level II you must have a Technician rating. To complete Level III you need a Senior rating and to complete Level IV you must have a Master rating in your Specialty Track.

I encourage every senior member to go on eServices and see what your Specialty Track is and then go to the corresponding pamphlet to find out what you need to be do to advance so you are ready when it's time to

complete the Level and be promoted!! I encourage squadron commanders to sit down with your seniors and put in place some mentoring so our members can enjoy the process of completing a Specialty Track and being a contributing member of the squadron and wing! Any questions?? Contact me at: mary.donley@sdcap.us



WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- **NATIONAL CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT DAY**: On Saturday, 24 September, most average folks were either just getting up for the day to go to work, or out bow hunting or fishing. However, this was a special day for several members from Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and Rushmore Composite Squadron. For them this day was a day of awareness, learning, fun, activities and comradery. At 0830, Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, Wing Director of Cadet Programs, got the show going with activities and talks pertaining to Drug Demand Reduction (DDR). One class was on over-the-counter drugs to see what was in them and how they could impair judgement when driving or flying.

One activity split the cadets into two teams which were given gloves and “drunk” goggles. Each cadet had to unwrap a Hershey’s kiss then bring it to the next cadet in line. The last cadet in line had to unwrap a Hershey’s kiss and bring all five kisses back to the group and say “Finished!” It was interesting to see them handling the little chocolate kisses with the equipment; actually it was pretty funny. However, as funny as it was to watch, we learned much about impaired judgement. Throughout the day we had other speakers; Wing Commander Col. Small and Capt. Mike Johnson came to share the day and interact with the cadets.

It was good to see the interaction between East River and West River and how knowledgeable the cadets were on DDR matters. We thank the participants for taking a Saturday of their personal time to partake of a truly rewarding experience. We also thank Captain Johnson for the use of his squadron building.

Written by Capt. James Dillon, Crazy Horse Composite Squadron.



DIRECTOR OF AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, CAP

- SDWG has opened up a new year for Cadet Flying Scholarships as well as a new application process. Scholarships will be awarded 2 times per year, October 31 and April 31. Applications can be downloaded from the Wing Aerospace Education page. A sample of the application follows. Other rules and guidelines will be found on the Wing website under Aerospace Education. Hurry up, don’t delay if you want to be considered for the October award. Deadline is October 15.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items submitted by Capt. Bierwirth)

- **WINGMAN**: Capt. Darwin Kopfmann taught the Wingman's Course to our squadron as part of character development. Our newer cadets learned the value of our wingman and our seasoned cadets were refreshed on trusting out wingman.

- **CHARACTER DAY**: Capt James Dillon, C/CMSgt Thomas Dillon, C/MSgt Anthony Dillon, C/A1c Robert Hewitt, C/SSgt Hunter Rice and C/SrA Ethan Updike all attended the National Character Development Day at Rushmore Squadron. Everyone loved the program and learned a lot of valuable information that they can't wait to share with new cadets.



- **WE WIN AEX**: Our squadron received the Aerospace Education Excellence Award for the 2015-2016 year. This is the 3rd year we have received this award by participating in hands-on aviation and space-related activities. We received a commemorative plaque and participants received an AEX award certificate.

Back row: C/CMSgt Thomas Dillon, C/SSgt Hunter Rice, C/A1C Jon Larcher, C/SrA Ethan Updike. Front Row: C/A1C Robert Hewitt, C/MSgt Anthony Dillon, C/Amn Alexander Heinrich.

- **VISITOR**: USAF 2nd Lieutenant Justin Bierwirth, an Air Force Fire Fighter, came for a visit and observed how his former squadron is doing.

- **VISITORS**: We have had some visitors who are thinking about joining our cadet program. So far they like what they see.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-063, SPEARFISH)

(Items submitted by Maj. Collister)

- **ATTABOY**: Lt. Col. (Chaplain) Rae sent a packet of certificates to be handed out to members in our geographic area. The following peoples' efforts and work at the Pride on the Prairie 2016 Air Show in Sioux Falls was greatly appreciated. The names are: Col. David Small, Capt. Sylvia Small, C/CMSgt Conner Caneva and C/Lt. Jared Doyle. The Wing is proud of your efforts and thanks you for your time!

- **FAREWELL**: We bid farewell to C/Amn Nathaniel Peterson who transferred to the Big Sioux Composite Squadron. He is enrolled in the South Dakota State University in Brookings. We in Spearfish wish him the best. Maj. Hofer will relay our best wishes to Nate in his educational endeavors!

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-038, PIERRE)

(Item submitted by Lt. Col. Gatje)

- **FUND RAISER**: Members of the Pierre Composite Squadron worked with Pizza Ranch of Fort Pierre / Pierre for a fundraiser for the squadron. Members bussed and cleaned tables, prepared dishes for washing and

other miscellaneous tasks for Pizza Ranch. In return we received a portion of the night's proceeds from dine-in, carry out and other sales. This is a continuing fund raiser for the squadron and has worked well for all everyone. We thank Pizza Ranch for sponsoring such a fund raiser.



PIERRE MEMBERS (L-R) LT. RUTH CARLEY, LT. COL. LOIS SCHMIDT (WWII CAP CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENT) AND CAPT. JONATHAN BECKER GATHER BEFORE THE FUND RAISER TO DISCUSS THE PLAN OF OPERATIONS

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031, RAPID CITY)

(Items submitted by Capt. Johnson)



- **WE WIN QCUA:** [Squadron Commander Capt. Mike Johnson sends] Congratulations to the Rushmore Composite Squadron, "Home of the Wolf Pack"! Due to the outstanding contributions from our cadets, officers, sponsors, parents, friends and supporters we've been awarded the Quality Cadet Unit Award for 2015-2016! We've been recognized nationally as a squadron that truly values and embodies the development of the Cadet Program and the cadets that run the day-to-day operations

of this essential segment of our CAP mission. Please everyone take a bow, and let's keep up the outstanding team work as we gear up for 2017 where we will ascend to the next flight level of Rushmore excellence! "I say Rushmore! You Say Hooah!!!"



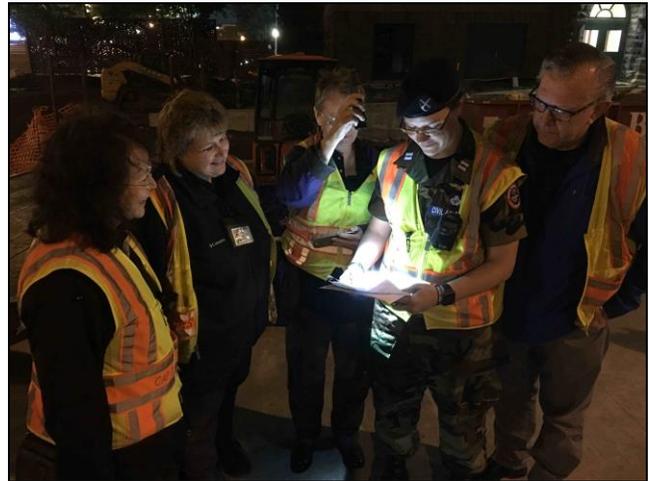
- **AEX AWARD:** We have been notified by NHQ that we have fulfilled the requirements for the Aerospace Education Excellence Award. This has involved our squadron members participating in hands-on aviation and space-related activities. In the near future the squadron will receive a commemorative plaque and participants will receive an AEX award certificate.

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

(Items submitted by Maj. Epp & Capt. Foy)

- **NEW CADET:** Please join me in welcoming new member Cadet Xavier Larson to our squadron! We are pleased that you decided to join CAP and proud to have you in our squadron.

- **NEW OFFICER:** Please join me in welcoming new officer Donna Osment-Epp to our squadron! We are pleased that you decided to join CAP and proud to have you in our squadron.
- **POW/MIA CEREMONY:** On 16 September, the our Color Guard performed at the annual POW/MIA ceremony held at Sioux Falls’ Veterans Memorial Park. Mr. Nick Nesseim of the local chapter of the Vietnam Veterans of America was the Master of Ceremonies for the event. He kindly provided a brief YouTube video with positive comments on CAP’s participation at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFdIDdWSpYM>.
- **SIDEWALK ARTS FESTIVAL:** A hardy group of seniors and cadets dragged themselves out at o-dark thirty (actually 0415) to provide support to the Sioux Falls Sidewalk Arts Festival. While still dark the members set up traffic barricades, tents, tables and chairs, and placed garbage and recycling cans throughout the event area. The one-day downtown festival, held on 10 September, is a fundraiser for the Visual Arts Center of the Washington Pavilion. The festival featured over 225 vendors from over 10 states, a large food court and live entertainment. 40,000 were expected to attend this annual event. Kaia Hedrick, Special Projects Coordinator for the Washington Pavilion, praised our contribution writing, “We love having the Civil Air Patrol at the Sidewalk Arts Festival each year. This group is prompt, efficient, and always eager to help. Even when they’re asked to arrive at 4:15 a.m., they come with enthusiasm, great attitudes, and a willingness to assist wherever needed. They stay until the job is done, and their work consistently exceeds expectations! CAP is an invaluable part of our event – we couldn’t do it without them!



★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotions



Congratulations to Craig Goodrich, SDWG Director of Operations and former commander of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel!



Congratulations to Jon Becker of the Pierre Composite Squadron and to Michael Johnson of the Rushmore Composite Squadron on their promotion to the rank of Captain!

Cadet Officer Advancement



Congratulation to C/1st Lt Levi Woodard of Rushmore Composite Squadron on appointment as Cadet Administrative Officer (Phase III – Command/Achievement 10)!

Cadet Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Kyle Clement of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Second Lieutenant and receipt of the milestone Billy Mitchell Award!



Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Anthony Dillon of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer on promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Chase Lucas of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Annabelle Klosterman and to Mariel Klosterman, both of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to David Willison of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!





Congratulations to Brooklyn Raber and Wyatt Trohkimoinen, both of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron in Spearfish, and to Robert Hewitt of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer on their promotion to Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the General Hap Arnold Award!



Congratulations to Luke Thompson of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General J.F. Curry Award!



★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★



Congratulations to Capt. Jonathan Becker of Pierre Composite Squadron who passed his Commercial Pilot Check-ride. We now have one more commercial certificated pilot in the South Dakota Wing. This aviation achievement required Capt. Becker to put in a lot of time studying and a lot of time flying. South Dakota Wing applauds his effort and his achievement.



Congratulations to C/CMSgt Thomas Dillon of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, He has entered into the second phase of his rank (Achievement 8) and has received the Neil Armstrong Award.



★ ★ **CAP HONORED FOR WWII SUBCHASING** ★ ★

Sikorsky Aircraft Honors CAP for WWII Subchaser Missions

CAP is the latest recipient of the Winged-S Rescue Award from Sikorsky Aircraft. The award was presented to Maj. Gen. Joseph Vazquez, CAP national commander, “in appreciation of all Civil Air Patrol members who flew the Sikorsky S-39 amphibious aircraft on antisubmarine coastal patrol operations from March 5, 1942-August 31, 1943.

“We were honored to present the Winged-S award to CAP and to take a few moments to remember the incredible contribution that was made by the S-39 crews,” said David Peterson, Sikorsky’s regional sales director, North America. “The standard that was set during World War II endures to this day. We deeply appreciate CAP’s service to the country and the difference the organization continues to make in a variety of ways. Thanks for choosing to serve in such a profound way.”

CAP patrolled the East and Gulf coasts in S-39s and other planes during the earliest days of World War II. The seaworthy Sikorsky biplanes, predecessor to the company’s helicopters of today, allowed CAP aircrews to land in coastal waters and rescue survivors of downed planes or merchant ships delivering oil and war materials to U.S. and allied troops in Europe were often targeted by German U-boats.

“This is a great salute to our S-39 wartime pilots and crews,” Vazquez said. “Their civilian service 75 years ago was quite unusual, yet so important. Their efforts to protect the homeland will never be forgotten.”

Honoring company founder Igor Sikorsky, the Winged-S Rescue Award Program began in 1950 as a way to recognize pilots and crewmembers that perform rescues flying Sikorsky aircraft. Through the award, Sikorsky acknowledges the humanitarian efforts of these rescuers, who put themselves in harm's way to save others.

The Winged-S award will be permanently on display in the World War II exhibit at National Headquarters.



The Sikorsky S-39 (right) flown in one of CAP's earliest major missions, photographed at Coastal Patrol Base No. 2, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, circa 1942. The biplane was flown by Maj. Hugh Sharp on a rescue flight July 21, 1942, after a Fairchild-24 with two CAP members aboard lost power off the coast of Virginia. Sharp's partner, 1st Lt. Eddie Edwards, saved 1st Lt. Henry Cross from drowning, though the Fairchild's pilot, 1st Lt. Charles Edgar Shelfus, sank in the heavy seas, never to be seen again. Sharp and Edwards were subsequently honored with Air Medals for valor presented by President Franklin D. Roosevelt – the first two civilians to receive the decoration. The restored Sikorsky S-39 flown by Sharp and Edwards on the rescue mission, on display at the New England Air Museum in Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

★ ★ WING CALENDAR ★ ★

Below are the Wing Calendars for October and November as of the date this Skychaser was published. Check the Wing website for the latest information as the calendars are frequently updated.

OCT	all-day Tach Sheets Due
5 Wed	all-day Vehicle Reports Due to Wing VMO ...
OCT	all-day SPLIT SAREX / PCSAR(RAP) and FSD
15 Sat	
OCT	all-day Sioux Falls SUI
29 Sat	
OCT	all-day Sioux Falls SUI Due
31 Mon	
NOV	all-day Tach Sheets Due
5 Sat	all-day Vehicle Reports Due to Wing VMO ...
NOV	all-day COME-ALL SAREX – Brookings
19 Sat	

