



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for October 2016

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

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WING TIPS

- **OCTOBER SPLIT SARX**: Saturday, 15 October, in Sioux Falls and Rapid City, CAP members rehearsed their search and rescue skills, as well as flying, incident command, radio, and photography skills.

In East River thirty-six members from South Dakota, North Dakota and Minnesota Wings convened at Sioux Falls Regional Airport. They "found" three missing people and a "crashed" aircraft in Harrisburg. They also took photos of "flooding" in Fairview and a possible "breach" in a sewer lagoon in Chester due to a "terrorist" attack. In Tea, members used an HF radio to try to communicate with colleagues in Rapid City.



EAST RIVER INCIDENT COMMAND POST



EAST RIVER AIR SORTIE MISSION PREPARATION



EAST RIVER GROUND SEARCH TEAM IN THE FIELD

In West River a no-prior-notice alert sent about 30 SDWG members to Rockerville Fire Station #2 to join with members of Pennington County Search and Rescue, Pennington County Sheriff's Office and the Rockerville Volunteer Fire Department in the search for two aircraft involved in a simulated mid-air collision. In all about 45 people took part. SDWG aircraft quickly located the emergency beacon from one of the downed planes and ground teams were sent to "rescue" actors playing simulated casualties. Due to mission constraints our aircraft were not able to find the pieces of aluminum representing the second crashed aircraft that had been placed a few miles north of the other simulated crash location. Most of the members of the other participating agencies had not worked with SDWG before. They all said they'd like to work with us more, and were impressed with the professionalism displayed by our officers and cadets.



WEST RIVER SAREX CREW (CAP, PCSAR, PCSO AND ROCKERVILLE VFD)



WEST RIVER INCIDENT COMMAND POST



WEST RIVER SAREX MEDIA COVERAGE

The annual SDWG radio communications effectiveness evaluation exercise (COMEX) was also held on 15 October. The exercise plan was to simulate the loss of internet and phone service in the state and use HF radio communications to pass information between the East River and West River Incident Command Posts. Mission constraints, however, hampered the effectiveness of the COMEX. Nevertheless, a fair amount of training took place and some “lessons learned” for future COMEXs.

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**: SDWG flew 21 aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over 11 days in October 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 44.4 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills and 7.6 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 52 flight hours. In West River the CAP pilots were Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, nine sorties, Lt. Col. Albert Trumble, four sorties, Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, five sorties, and Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich, one sortie. In East River the pilots were Capt. Neil Schmid and Maj. Justin Johnson. Depending on whom the sortie supported they were accompanied by a representative from SDSU or from GF&P.



- **HURRICANE MATTHEW AFTERMATH**: In October SDWG members, Lieutenant Colonels David and Joyce Jeffries, both long-time American Red Cross volunteers, deployed with a Red Cross emergency support vehicle to Jacksonville, Florida hard hit by Hurricane Matthew. In addition, Lt. Col. Nancy McKenney, also a long-time Red Cross volunteer, deployed to the Emergency Operations Center in Savannah, Georgia. Lt. Col. Rick Larson deployed to support the FEMA Operations Center in Florida.

STAFF NOTES



WING COMMANDER

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

- CAP has created a waiting list for members who would like to attend the 75th Anniversary Gala on 1 December at the Udvar-Hazy annex to the Air & Space museum near Dulles airport in Virginia. The waiting list is NOT a guarantee of attendance. Space is very limited at the venue and we do not yet know how many tickets will be available to waiting list members. Let me know if you would like to attend. Wing commander approval is required to get on this waiting list. There is no funding available for travel or lodging at this event. I believe that the actual event is free.
- Please welcome Maj. Karla West to the South Dakota Wing Staff as Director of Administration. This may not be the most glamorous staff job but it is critical in keeping the Wing running smoothly and in compliance with NHQ and CAP-USAF requirements. Also please welcome Capt. Rob Hinkhouse as Assistant Director of Administration. Rob has volunteered his IT and organizational skills to help the Wing.
- I had the privilege of attending the Wing Commanders College from 31 October to 4 November at CAP NHQ at Maxwell AFB, Alabama. It was an intensive, graduate-level course focused on leadership and how to successfully run a CAP Wing. It was an amazing experience!



CHIEF OF STAFF

Maj. Nick Gengler, CAP

- There are Wing scholarships available for cadets: Flight Scholarships - headed by Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, Cadet Scholarships (both NCSA and Encampment) - headed by Maj. Nick Gengler and for officers, Senior Professional Development Scholarships - headed by Col. Mary Donley. More information will be posted on the Wing website. To apply for a scholarship send a resume and a letter of intent to nick.gengler@sdcap.us

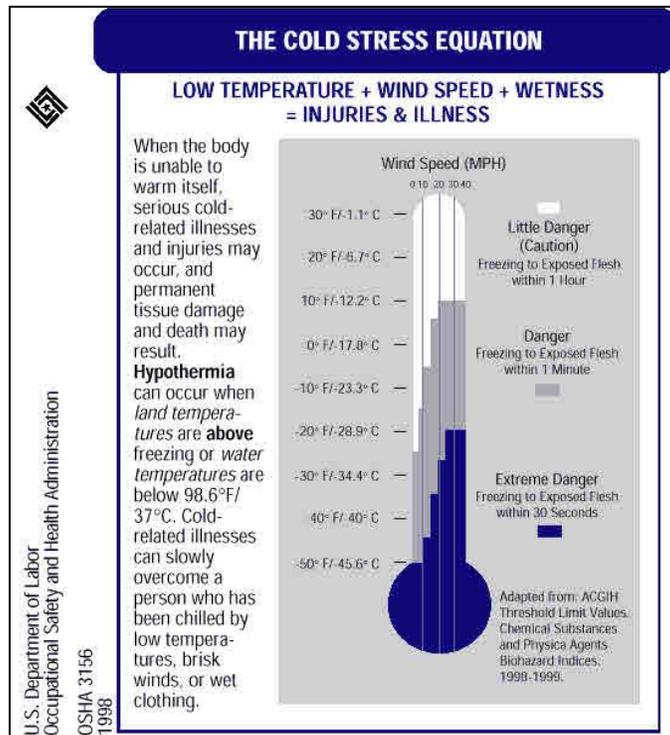
- Awards - It is that time of year again to start thinking of award nominations. Has someone you know gone above and beyond this last year? Nominate them for an award! Many awards are identified in CAPR 39-3. There is even a corresponding pamphlet CAPP 39-3 about how to write up an award. There are far too many awards to mention in a simple list so please review them in the regulation. Deadline for awards to reach the Wing Commander is 15-Jan. Some awards can now be done through eServices so please check them out!



WING HEALTH OFFICER

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- **COLD WEATHER INJURIES:** Remember, when you are working outside on a SAREX or REDCAP or other CAP activities, to dress appropriately to avoid hypothermia (too cold) as well as hyperthermia (too hot). Yes, even in winter you can get hyperthermia by outdoor activities.





WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS

Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- **COLOR GUARD ACADEMY**: The SDWG Color Guard Academy will be held at Rushmore Composite Squadron 2-4 December. Maj. Nicholas Gengler is in charge of the activity with Capt. Mike Johnson assisting. I encourage all squadrons to participate. Fuel expenses will be paid for by the Wing Cadet Programs budget. Food will also be provided to all those attending. Please contact Maj. Gengler for further information. Check out more info here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sd-wing-color-guard-academy-tickets-28639527598>

- **DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION**: Looking through the Wing statistical information I noticed that most squadrons do not have a DDR Officer or Cadet DDR Officer officially assigned. If the squadron does have a DDRO assigned, no one has either listed DDR as a Specialty Track or if they are listed in the specialty track - no one has achieved a level but one person. The same is true with Cadet Programs. Please contact me for information on getting into the Cadet Program Specialty Track (which is for both Cadet Programs and DDR now) - or contact your squadron Professional Development Officer. This information is needed for the Wing CI coming up next year.



DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Lt. Col. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- **SDWG ON TV**: Recently, RFD-TV's "Dakota Life" TV show looked at CAP and its 75 years of service. Interviewed for the show were Lt. Col. Gary Rae, whose father was one of CAP's founding members; former South Dakota Wing Commander Col. John Seten; Wing Historian Maj. Todd Epp; and pilot officer Capt. Neil Schmid. The segment, which talks about the wing's service to the state, is at: <https://vimeo.com/187248738>. The video has also been posted on the Wing website in the Wing History section.

- **DIGITAL VOLUNTEER**: The digital version of CAP's 75th Anniversary "Volunteer" (a special 84-page October-December 2016 issue) is now available at http://www.capvolunteernow.com/cap_volunteer/. Just click on the Volunteer cover featuring Cadet Maj. Megan Laubhan, or the link under the cover, to access. This Edition of the Volunteer includes an article from CAP National Historian Col. Frank Blazich about CAP's first commander, Army Air Forces Col. Earle L. Johnson. There is also an updated timeline of CAP's 75 years of service and an article about notable members past and present, along with a new look at CAP's Total Force partnership with the Air Force and a look-back at memorable missions. Be sure to check out the "Civil Air Patrol 75th Anniversary Tribute Video" on the cover.

- **TITLE CHANGE**: Effective immediately, with the concurrence of the Wing Commander, the duty position title for the officer in charge of public affairs for South Dakota Wing is "Director of Public Affairs" in keeping with the nomenclature for Wing staff members who oversee counterparts at squadron level.

- **REMINDER**: All unofficial photos and/or video taken by officers or cadets at a REDCAP, SAREX or other SDWG activity must not be posted to your personal social media without the prior approval by a senior member in your chain-of-command.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068, CUSTER)

(Items and photos submitted by Capt. Bierwirth)



- **VIP VISIT:** Col. David Small and Lt. Col. Buck Deweese recently stopped by for a visit. They brought us up to speed on a number of issues and shared valuable information with us. They presented a promotion and conducted four o-rides. Thank you gentlemen for your assistance, it is greatly appreciated.

On a beautiful October day in the Black Hills Col. Small took this photo of these enthusiastic cadet o-riders. They are (l-r) C/Amn Alexander Heinrich, C/TSgt Hunter Rice, Lt. Col. Buck Deweese, C/CMSgt Thomas Dillon and C/MSgt Anthony Dillon.

- **WAA ACTIVITY:** We are continuing our support with the Battle Mountain Legion riders on the WAA wreath sale. Our wreath count is now up to 312.

- **RUNNING CRAZY:** We assisted the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron with the “RunCrazyHorse Marathon” on Oct 9. The members passed out water and electrolyte beverages to the many runners. We also provided an enthusiastic cheering section as we encouraged them on in their goals.

- **ROCKETRY:** We have started the model rocketry program. Two teams worked on two-stage balloon rockets and had a competition between them to see which rocket went further. But, as it turned out they were both full of hot air.

- **NEW CADET:** Welcome to Dalton Streff, our newest cadet. We are pleased that you decided to join CAP and proud to have you in our squadron.

- **OPEN HOUSE:** The squadron is hosting an open house on 5 November from 0900-1200 at the Custer Airport. The event is advertised on the local information channel, an electronic billboard and the newspaper.

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

(Items and photos submitted by C/Lt Blake Hayden and C/CMSgt Zeke Klosterman)



- **FESTIVAL OF BANDS:** The 29th Annual Festival of Bands USA parade was held in Sioux Falls on 1 October. The squadron’s Cadet Color Guard had pride of place as they led the parade. The festival consisted of 43 high school marching bands from Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota, including marching bands from Sioux Falls’ Lincoln, O’Gorman, Roosevelt and Washington High Schools and other local marching bands. The marching band competition was at Howard Wood Field immediately after the parade. C/CMSgt Zeke Klosterman: “C/Lt Jaden

Roblewsky, C/SrA David Willison, C/A1C Isaiah Klosterman, C/A1C Peter Willison and C/Capt Devon Brown presented the colors while marching in the Festival of Bands presentation in downtown Sioux Falls in early October. The cadets had a lot of fun doing this and are excited to do more events like this in the future.

- **ROCKETRY**: By C/1stLt Blake Hayden. This month, the cadets participated in a rocketry program event that was held on Saturday, 1 October. At this event, the cadets learned about rocket mechanics and then built and successfully launched the rockets they built. The cadets had a lot of fun and there will be more rocketry classes being held monthly at the regular meetings for cadets to further their knowledge and achieve their rocketry badge, which is awarded upon successful completion of the rocketry program.



- **UCC / TLC**: The UCC (Unit Commander's Course) and TLC (Teaching Leaders of Cadets) courses will be held in Sioux Falls. Col. Mary Donley and Lt. Col. Linda Buechler will conduct the courses on Saturday, 5 November. The classes will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Signature, with one class in the upstairs conference room and the other in the downstairs. Meet in the Signature lobby. We can't get in the rooms until 8 a.m. and the instructors will need time to set up the projectors and get things ready.

- **MINI-SAREX**: We will be holding a radio mini-SAREX at the Squadron HQ on Saturday, 5 November from 0800 to 1300.

- **NEW SAFETY OFFICER**: Capt. Kurt Johnson has been appointed the new Squadron Safety Officer. He will replace Maj. Justin Johnson who is moving to the position of Aircraft Maintenance Officer on Wing staff.

- **NEW OPERATIONS OFFICER**: 1st Lt. Jerry Hayden has been appointed as the Squadron Operations Officer. He will replace Capt. Neil Schmid who is moving to a position on the Wing staff.

- **NEW CADETS**: Cadet Andrew Smith, Cadet Ivan Shizhkol and Cadet Haven Larson are the newest members of the Squadron! We are pleased you decided to join CAP and proud to have you in our unit.

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

Senior Member Promotion



Congratulations to Bruce Kipp, Wing Director OF Public Affairs, on his promotion to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel!

Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Hunter Rice of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Jacob Lawrence of the Rushmore Composite Squadron in Rapid City on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Isaiah Klosterman of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and to Robert Hewitt of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Caleb Hofer and to Austen King of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the General Hap Arnold award!



Congratulations to Sydnie Cloutier of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the General J.F. Curry Award!



★ ★ KUDOS ★ ★



Congratulations to Capt. Neil Schmid of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who recently became the Wing's newest Certified Flight Instructor. Earning a CFI rating takes a lot of dedication and work. We appreciate Neil's willingness to help out CAP with his expertise.



Congratulations to Ronald Evenson of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on receiving the permanent grade of Lieutenant Colonel. You may not know that the initial promotion to Lt. Col. is probationary for one year. After that year has passed and with recommendations from your squadron and the wing, Col Aye as Commander of the North Central Region confirms your rank as permanent.



Congratulations to Maj. Todd Epp of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who, after a great deal of hard work, has achieved "Senior" level in Professional Development Specialty Track – Public Affairs!

★ ★ BARNSTORMING ★ ★

Harry Barr landing his Piper Cub on top of a suburban.



This photo is from the article entitled “Lincoln Guardians of the Freedom Airshow” of the Fall 2016 issue of the Nebraska Wing magazine. The text states, “Harry Barr also landed his J3 Cub on top of the Midwest’s smallest airport, a Chevy Suburban with a platform on top. Harry had to make several attempts Sunday afternoon to fly the Cub onto the platform because of the high winds, but he got it done safely.”

★ ★ WING CALENDAR ★ ★

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

NOV 4 Fri	all-day UCC and TLC
NOV 5 Sat	all-day Tach Sheets Due all-day Vehicle Reports Due to Wing VMO ...
NOV 18 Fri	8:00 pm Aircrew Training on PLB and RT-6...
NOV 19 Sat	all-day COME-ALL SAREX -- Brookings
DEC 2 Fri	all-day SD Wing Color Guard Academy
DEC 3 Sat	all-day FSD Tabletop AP Exercise
DEC 4 Sun	all-day Squadron Commanders Meeting
DEC 5 Mon	all-day Tach Sheets Due all-day Vehicle Reports Due to Wing VMO ...

