The South Dakota Wing is proud to announce that two new Civil Air Patrol units have been activated; one located in Miller the other located in Tea, bringing the number of CAP units in the state to eight. The two new units will begin as independent composite flights directly subordinate to the Wing. The unit in Miller has requested the designation “Miller Flight”. It will be commanded by 1st Lt. Richard Rezac. They will initially meet at the Miller Community Center on Sundays from 1400-1600. The unit in Tea has requested the designation “Lobo Flight”. It will be commanded by Maj. Jerry Foy. The likely meeting place will be at the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) building at the Tea Airport. The unit will meet on Tuesday evenings at 1900. Both flights will immediately begin to participate in all Civil Air Patrol/South Dakota Wing programs and activities. It is anticipated that both flights will quickly mature into full-fledged squadrons.

**CYBERPATRIOT UPDATE:** The State Round of the CyberPatriot XI competition was held on 11-13 January. The Big Sioux Composite Squadron reports that their High School-level Team 1 placed 9th out of 341 teams in the Platinum Tier (989 was the total teams in all tiers, but this round they only competed against teams in their tier). They also were the 2nd place CAP team overall. They will advance to the Semi-Finals. Big Sioux’s other High-School-level team did not qualify to compete in the State Round. Sioux Falls Composite Squadron reports that their two High School-level teams, the Mockingjays finished 272 out of 989, and Team 10-13 finished 562 out of 989. Neither team placed sufficiently high enough to advance to the Semi-Finals. The Sioux Falls/Brookings composite Middle School-level team, the H(A)WKS, placed 374 out of 842 teams in the State Round and will advance to the Semi-Finals which will be held on 1-3 February.

**LOW-LEVEL ROUTE SURVEYS:** Every year USAF has the Civil Air Patrol do some important work for them. The mission is to survey low altitude training routes that fighters and bombers fly. They fly these routes...
as low as 500 feet and at speeds up to 600 knots. At that altitude and speed they approach obstacles quickly. SDWG is tasked with highlighting obstacles such as towers and noise sensitive areas such as stockyards. Many terrain items are already on the maps provided by the government. The South Dakota Air National Guard (SDANG) is responsible for seven low level routes and a large Military Operating Area between Sioux Falls and the Missouri River. SDANG tasks us with flying these low level training routes at 1000 feet and noting any unmarked hazards. Photos are taken as the object would appear from the cockpit of a fighter flying the route. On 4 January, Mission Pilots Lt. Col. Gary Hewett and Lt. Col. Russ Limke flew three sorties to survey Low-Level Route IR-499 that encompasses a portion of Wyoming. The information from the sorties was uploaded and passed to SDANG. This is good flying for SDWG and a great deal for the Air Force.

- **2019 ENCAMPMENT**: Lt. Col. Gengler, the 2019 Joint Dakota Encampment Commander, has selected C/Capt Jaden Petersen of Big Sioux Composite Squadron as the Cadet Commander for the 2019 Encampment. C/Capt Petersen has been in CAP for over six years and brings experience and knowledge that will help make this year's Encampment a success. He also selected C/Maj Mariel Klosterman of Big Sioux Composite Squadron as the Deputy Commander for Support and Minnesota Wing’s C/1Lt Kayla Wayman of the Anoka County Composite Squadron as Deputy Commander for Operations. Both are excellent cadets that will do well in their positions. The dates are 5-14 July 2019 at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, SD.

- The Encampment signup page is now live! Check it out [here](https://www.facebook.com/CAPJDE/). It is full of information regarding Encampment. Early bird registration will start today and go until May 31. After that, prices will go up. Signup early to get the discounted pricing.

- For those that wish to apply for the Cadet Encampment Assistance Program scholarship, check out that information [here](https://www.facebook.com/CAPJDE/). That scholarship is available to apply for starting March 1.

- Cadet Staff Applications are closed. We are still reviewing applicants and conducting interviews. We hope to have everyone selected by mid-February and will announce staff positions at that time.

- We are still accepting Senior Member volunteers. If you are interested in helping out at this year’s Encampment, please do contact me.

- Keep an eye on our Facebook page for continuing updates: [https://www.facebook.com/CAPJDE/](https://www.facebook.com/CAPJDE/)

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS**: SDWG flew six aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over five days in January in support of the state’s Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and South Dakota State University (SDSU). Both organizations have continually ongoing research projects surveying animals. The result was 20 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills and 4.8 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 24.8 flying hours. CAP pilots were: Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, 4 sorties; Lt. Col. Duncan Keirnes, 1 sortie; and Col. Mike Beason, 1 sortie. Depending whom the sortie supported the pilot was accompanied by a representative from SDSU or from GF&P. The photo shows a sage grouse wearing a radio tracking collar.
• **NATIONAL COMMANDER INTERVIEW:** In December 2018, *Airman Magazine* interviewed Maj. Gen. Mark Smith, the Civil Air Patrol's 24th national commander. A 4½-minute video and a transcript of a portion of the interview have been posted on *Airman Magazine’s* website [http://airman.dodlive.mil/2019/01/22/serving-saving-shaping/](http://airman.dodlive.mil/2019/01/22/serving-saving-shaping/). A link to the video and transcript can also be found on [www.CAP.news](http://www.CAP.news).

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**STAFF NOTES**

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**WING COMMANDER**

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

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• **GLIDING SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Michael Wallace Memorial Scholarship Fund provides scholarships every year to young student pilots who have a love for soaring. The Michael Wallace Memorial Scholarship This year, the grant is $1,000.00, to be paid directly to a flight school or club for the benefit of the recipient of the scholarship. Applications for the grant are due by March 15, 2019. Grants will be awarded by April 30, 2019. Students 14 to 22 years of age are eligible to apply and the requirements are fairly easy. Download an application from [www.cypresssoaring.org](http://www.cypresssoaring.org). Click on the “Scholarship” button.

• **AVIATION SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Aircraft Owners and Pilots association (AOPA) has several flight training scholarship opportunities available to its members, totaling over $1,000,000. Not a member? AOPA offers free [AV8RS memberships](http://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/students/flight-training-scholarships) to high school students, free [six-month memberships](http://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/students/flight-training-scholarships) to student pilots, as well as other [membership options](http://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/students/flight-training-scholarships). For information and an application form go to [www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/students/flight-training-scholarships](http://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/students/flight-training-scholarships). The deadline to submit scholarship application materials, including recommendation letters and transcripts, is April 2, 2019, 11:59 p.m. EDT.

**AOPA High School Flight Training Scholarships**

80 exceptional high school students, ages 15 to 18, each will receive a $10,000 scholarship to pursue a private, sport, or recreational pilot certificate. These awards are a major membership benefit, offering our high school members the opportunity to advance into the aviation and aerospace careers they’ve always dreamed about.

**AOPA Primary Flight Training Scholarships**

Current AOPA members, including AOPA AV8RS, who are at least 16 years of age on April 2, 2019, are eligible to apply for a primary flight training scholarship, ranging from $2,500 to $7,500, to be applied to training for a private pilot, sport pilot, or recreational pilot certificate.

**AOPA Advanced Flight Training Scholarships**

Current paid members with aviation career aspirations are encouraged to apply for an advanced flight training scholarship, ranging from $3,000 to $10,000, to pursue one of the following ratings or certificates:

- Instrument (includes the Dare to Fly with AOPA scholarship award up to $5,000)
- Commercial
- CFI (Certificated Flight Instructor)
- CFII (Certificated Flight Instructor – Instrument)
- MEI (Multi-Engine – Instructor)

• **JOINT NCR/MOWG CONFERENCE:** The Joint North Central Region/Missouri Wing Conference will be held 22-24 March at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Convention Center in Jefferson City, Missouri. Register at
WING VICE COMMANDER
Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, CAP

- For FY2019 SDWG authorized $1000.00 towards Cadet Flying Scholarships of $500.00 each. So far nobody has applied. The scholarship committee meets again in May. If a cadet plans to take flying lessons you can apply at the Wing Website: SDWingCAP.gov. Go to the Administration page and select “Scholarships”. Scroll down till you come to “Flight Scholarships” and simply follow the directions. If you have any questions you can contact Col. Mary Donley or me at 605-641-2362 or deweese@rushmore.com.

DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
Col. Mary Donley, CAP

- A combined Squadron Leadership School (SLS) and Corporate Learning Course (CLC) will be held on Saturday, 9 February in Sioux Falls at the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Headquarters. Please contact Col Mary Donley at mary.donley@sdcap.us to register!

ASSISTANT WING HISTORIAN
Lt. Col. Bruce Kipp, CAP

- The Library of South Dakota Wing Logos in the History section of the Wing Website has two new candidate entries. The first new entry discusses the patch worn by the SDWG Composite Cadet Drill Team when they competed in the National Cadet Competition in 2005 and 2007. The second new entry discusses the patch and other accouterments worn by graduates of the SDWG Ranger program in the 1980s. Anyone who has additional information about these new entries is asked to contact me bruce.kipp@sdcap.us.

WING DIRECTOR OF CADET PROGRAMS
Lt. Col. Linda Buechler, CAP

- The 2019 SD Wing Color Guard Competition was held in Pierre at the Community Bible Church. Five teams competed this year - three teams from Sioux Falls, one team from Pierre, and one team from Rapid City. The top two teams were from Sioux Falls with the 3rd Sioux Falls team coming in third, Pierre came in 4th and...
Rapid City came in 5th. All teams were very competitive! C/A1C Kade Vandusseldorp and C/MSgt Alec Crowser from Pierre received top male and female “Fleetfoot” Awards for fastest mile run. C/SMSgt Daniel Willison from Sioux Falls and C/MSgt Alec Crowser from Pierre received male and female Written Exam award for highest scores. Congratulations to all for a great competition and great sportsmanship!! The two top teams move forward to the NCR Cadet Competition at Camp Ashland, NE, April 12-14.

- Rather than hold the 2020 competition during the early part of 2020 (in the winter), we will be having that competition later this year - either in August, September, or October. This was discussed and the consensus is to move this Wing competition to nicer weather on a yearly basis. If you have a squadron that has several cadet color guard teams, you will need to hold a squadron competition and send one team per squadron to the SD Wing competition. Squadrons with extra teams may send their extra teams to the competition but they will be competing only to gain experience and will not be considered for awards. Squadron Commanders please let me know which month would be best for you to do the competition. I realize August has the Sioux Falls Air Show (August 17-18) so we may be looking mostly at September and October. Questions or comments please contact Lt. Col. Linda Buechler at 605-212-7032 or linda.buechler@sdcap.us

- Because no cadet unit can succeed without adult leadership, every cadet unit shall have at least two members who have graduated from a TLC course (any level). Beginning 1 January 2019, TLC graduation credentials must have been earned within the previous 48 months to satisfy this section’s requirement. Thereafter, members renew their graduation credential every 48 months by repeating a TLC, completing a higher level TLC, completing TLC Refresher, or serving as an instructor. Anyone having taken TLC Basic January 1, 2015, in order to stay compliant you must repeat it this year (unless you took a TLC Intermediate in 2016 to 2018) which includes the old TLC or new TLC. If you have taken TLC Intermediate the same way, you will need to take TLC Basic. There will be a Training Leaders of Cadets Basic (TLC) on Saturday, March 16, 2019, at the SD Wing Headquarters in Rapid City starting at 0800. It will be a one day session. The TLC consists of 7 hours of discussion-based learning in-residence, with two short web modules. These two modules must be completed prior to the in-residence class March 16th. This program helps adult leaders become prepared to contribute as Cadet Programs Officers on a squadron staff. We will look at having a TLC Intermediate class in the fall. Contact Lt. Col. Linda Buechler at 605-212-7032 or linda.buechler@sdcap.us to register for the event.

- The NCR Cadet Competition is seeking cadet staff. Interested cadets wishing to apply for staff should send a letter of intent and a CAP resume to the competition email (ncrcadetcomp@gmail.com). There will be additional forms they will need to complete once we receive those items.

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058 – BROOKINGS)

- Nothing significant to report.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068 – CUSTER)

- Nothing significant to report.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-63 – SPEARFISH)
**NEW COMMANDER:** On 24 January a traditional time-honored change of command ceremony was held. Lt. Col. Russ Limke assumed command of the squadron from Lt. Col. Jim Hopewell. Lt. Col. Limke is a CAP mission pilot. He has been busy giving lots of cadet orientation flights and helping the SD Game, Fish and Parks Department track collared animals from the air. Lt. Col. Limke retired a couple of years ago from the SDANG where he was an F-16 fighter pilot.

**PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38 – PIERRE)**

- Nothing significant to report.

**RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-031 – RAPID CITY)**

- Nothing significant to report.

**SIOUX FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050 – SIOUX FALLS)**

- Nothing significant to report.

★★ PROMOTIONS ★★

**Senior Member Promotion**

Congratulations to Manny Steele of Sioux Falls on his special appointment to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in conjunction with his duties on the Wing Staff as Wing Government Relations Advisor!

**Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions**

Congratulations to Kaleb Sarchet of Valley Springs, to Lydia Klosterman of Brandon, and to Daniel Willison of Sioux Falls, all members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Dr. Robert H. Goddard Award!

Congratulations to Hunter Rice of Custer, a member of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron on his promotion to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!

Congratulations to Devin Griffin of Black Hawk, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!
Congratulations to Keon Den Hoed of Boyden, IA, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!

**Cadet Airman Promotions**

Congratulations to Trey Stroup of Fort Pierre and to Kade Vandusseldorp of Pierre, both members of the Pierre Composite Squadron, and to Gabriel Healy and Mercy Healy, both of Mitchell and both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Thomas Swier of Marion, a member the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on their promotions to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!

Congratulations to Conner Herren of Crooks, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Jeremiah Jorenby of Brookings, a member of Big Sioux Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the Arnold Award!

Congratulations to Joseph Lasseter of New Underwood and James Ragains of Rapid City, both members of Rushmore Composite Squadron, to Ciara Hansen and Darion Osterkamp, both of Onida and both members of the Pierre Composite Squadron, to Jordan Beukelman of Mitchell, and Kenton Swier of Marion, both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Garrett Weiand of Custer, a member of the crazy Horse Composite Squadron on promotion to Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!

**Errata:** There were two errors in the promotions section of the December 2018 Skychaser. The individual at Crazy Horse Composite Squadron who was promoted to C/SSgt was Preston Drew of Custer. The Pierre Composite Squadron’s C/MSgt Alex Crowsor was misidentified as a male. The editor apologizes for the errors.

★ ★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★ ★

Congratulations to 1st Lt Richard Rezac of the Pierre Composite Squadron who completed requirements for award of the “Technician” level in the Civil Air Patrol Senior Member Professional Development Program’s Emergency Services Specialty Track! In recognition thereof he is entitled to wear the badge shown at left on his uniform.

Congratulations to Maj. Karla West of the Wing Staff who completed requirements for award of the “Senior” level in the Civil Air Patrol Senior Member Professional Development Program’s Administration Specialty Track! In recognition thereof she is entitled to wear the badge shown at left on her uniform.

Congratulations to Maj. Karla West of the Wing Staff who has been appointed as the new South Dakota Wing Historian!!
Asteroid smashes into the moon during Super Blood Wolf Moon eclipse. It turns out the Super Blood Wolf Moon eclipse was a little bit special after all. For what's believed to be the very first time, astronomers have witnessed an asteroid crashing into the moon during eclipse late at night on 20 January. The strike happened just as totality was getting underway - when the moon is fully within the Earth's shadow, and takes on a ghostly dark red color. A few asteroids strike the moon every a week, but they're hard to spot because the moon is so bright. The flash was recorded by the Moon Impacts Detection and Analysis System at Spain’s University of Huelva. Despite its size, the moon is hit by more asteroids than Earth because it doesn't have an atmosphere to burn them up.


Photo credit: Clifton Kern/YouTube.