



## “THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for JUNE 2019

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

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### WING TIPS

***SOUTH DAKOTA WING GROWS AGAIN:*** Col. David Small, commander of the South Dakota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, reports that the Wing has activated a new unit – the Mitchell Flight, unit designator SD-069, in Mitchell, SD. This brings the number of CAP units in South Dakota to 9. Congratulations to flight commander 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Matthew Healy who laid the groundwork for the new unit over the past year with activities including an open house and a remote base Search and Rescue Exercise in Mitchell. The Mitchell Flight will be under the tutelage of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron led by Lt. Col. Todd Epp.

- ***SEARCH AND RESCUE EXERCISE:*** On 1 June more than 40 Civil Air Patrol volunteers from across South Dakota gathered at the Black Hills Airport to hone their skills as aviators and first responders. Among the activities were search and rescue (SAR) training for aircrews and ground teams and orientation flights for cadets. The SAR training involved air crews searching for electronic targets similar to the emergency radio beacons activated when an airplane crashes. They then directed teams on the ground to the notional crash sites in order to practice securing the scene and searching for survivors. Three CAP aircraft were put to use throughout the event. In addition, though not part of the SAR training, the Wing conducted hands-on training with small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS). Commonly called drones, these aircraft can be used to rapidly search an area. For example, they could be operated by ground teams to quickly locate lost hikers or hunters.

- ***SERENITY DENARD UPDATE:*** On 8 June, experienced SDWG ground team personnel joined over 100 volunteers from Pennington County Search and Rescue, Air Force personnel from Ellsworth AFB, the Minnehaha County Sheriff's Office, Pennington County Sheriff's Office and Box Elder and Rapid City Police Departments to search for any sign of Serenity Dennard, a 9-year-old girl who disappeared on 3 February from the Children's Home Society facility near Rockerville in the Black hills. The weather that day was below zero and she was not wearing a coat. The searchers were organized into five groups that walked arm's length apart

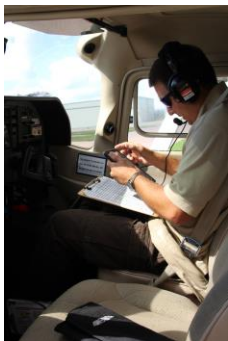
searching for any evidence of the girl in five key areas. The Pennington County Sheriff's Office says authorities will meet later to review the search and make a plan going forward. The department says it will continue investigating all leads and will not give up until they bring Serenity home.

- **AEROSPACE OUTREACH:** Lt Matt Tennant and Lt Col Nancy McKenney flew to Aberdeen on 8 June to attend the fly-in at the Aberdeen Airport. Despite the weather a good time was had showing youngsters the inside of the airplane. Lot of children got a chance to sit inside of the airplane and had a chance to “fly” in their minds. Parents had the opportunity to get some great pictures with a lot of smiles. Unfortunately the weather finally did us in and the fly-in had to shut down. Thanks to the airport they tucked our plane inside the hanger till we were sure it was safe to fly back to Pierre. Thanks to the Aberdeen airport staff for a great time

- **AE WEEKEND IN PHILIP:** Learning and fun were on the schedule 21-23 June as 22 cadets and 18 senior members gathered in Phillip to take part in the Wing’s awarding-winning Aerospace Education (AE) program. The City of Philip granted us use of the facility, home of the former Philip Composite squadron, for glider rides, powered aircraft orientation rides, model aircraft flights, and model rocketry. Several Cadets were able to progress in earning their CAP Model Rocketry Badge. The Cadets in Phillip were able to participate in powered aircraft orientation flights, built and launched single-stage and multi-stage model rockets, and practiced flying sUAS, commonly known as drones.

- **REGIONAL CADET LEADERSHIP SCHOOL:** Minnesota Wing is hosting the 2019 Region Cadet Leadership School, July 20-24, in the Twin Cities area. The RCLS format is a day school. Local cadets will go home, hopefully with a new cadet friend from the region. The Eventbrite registration: <https://bit.ly/2KylrIf> On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1292286517621639/>.

- **NEW STATE ADJUTANT GENERAL:** In an 8 June ceremony in Rapid City, Maj. Gen. Jeffrey P. Marlette took command as the new Adjutant General of the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard. He succeeds Maj. Gen. Timothy A. Reisch, who served in the position since April 2011.



- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew six aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over six days in June in support of the state’s Department of Game, Fish & Parks (GF&P) and South Dakota State University (SDSU). Both organizations have ongoing research projects surveying mountain lions, bobcats, swift foxes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats. The result was a total of 18.5 hours flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills and 4.4 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 22.9 flying hours. CAP pilots were: Lt. Col. Gary Hewett, 5 sorties; and Capt. Neil Schmid, 1 sortie. Depending whom the sortie supported the pilot was accompanied by a representative from SDSU or from GF&P.

## STAFF NOTES



### **WING COMMANDER**

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

- **WING STAFF:** Col. Mike Beason has been appointed as Wing Inspector General after Lt. Col. Gary King resigned for personal reasons. Thanks both to Mike for stepping up in this important role and to Gary for his service as Wing IG for the past year.

- **SUAS PILOTS:** Col. Mike Beason has been approved as a sUAS mission pilot, instructor pilot and check pilot. He joins Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich as a sUAS mission pilot and me as a sUAS mission pilot, instructor pilot and check pilot. We'd like to have at least eight sUAS mission pilots in the wing by the end of this year.
- **CHALLENGE COINS:** At the former Philip Squadron building for our Aerospace Education Weekend I awarded four numbered challenge coins for all of the work that has gone into restoring the squadron building in Philip. Two years ago it was about to collapse, the ceiling was caving in, no water, rodents running around, etc. This year 47 CAP members were able to use it, with working bathrooms, running water, clean facilities, etc. due to the hard work of: Lt. Col. Myra Christensen - #21, Capt. Marsha Sumpter - #23, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Ruth Carley - #24, Maj. Lee Vaughan - #25.

## SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

### **LINCOLN COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-07 – TEA)**

- **UNIT STATUS:** The Lobos have grown! We recently started as a Flight and now we have grown into a Squadron with 16 members and several good prospects on the hook. Thank you to Maj. Jerry Foy and 1st Lt. Denise Clement for their leadership and vision.
- **OUTREACH-1:** On 6 June C/Capt Kyle Clement, C/SSgt Gabriel Eager and 1Lt Denise Clement traveled to Lennox for their Summer Outreach Program to talk to local area youth and adults about Aerospace. About 40 people were in attendance. After a lesson and activity about Aerospace, the cadets launched several rocket.



- **OUTREACH-2:** 15 June LCCS had a booth at the park in Tea for Tea Pot Days. It was to let people know that Civil Air Patrol chartered a new squadron in Lincoln County at Lincoln County Airport, Tea. Pamphlets were handed out and youth enjoyed color/activity pages, building straw rockets and balsa wood planes.

### **MILLER FLIGHT (SD-33 – MILLER)**

- **OUTREACH:** On 20 June the Miller Flight showed the youth of Huron the wonder of aerospace. We participated in the Huron United Way's Day of Action at the Huron Middle School. We took the opportunity to show them how drones work and talk to them about aerospace and CAP. Almost 400 K-7th graders learned about how CAP serves their community.



## **MITCHELL FLIGHT (SD-69 – MITCHELL)**

- **UP AND RUNNING:** The first “official” meeting for the Mitchell Flight was held on the evening of 20 June at the Dakota Flight Center in Mitchell by the airport. The future of youth around this area can be greatly influenced by CAP and there are many opportunities available to those who want to achieve more in life.

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

- **REMEMBRANCE:** John Hines, a former commander in the Pierre Composite Squadron, passed away on 23 June. John was the squadron commander in the early 1980's. During his tenure, the Pierre squadron began to see a significant increase in membership and activity. His son Brian was a cadet in the Pierre squadron for several years. As a pilot, he flew as a first officer for an international cargo carrier, and also flew for three former South Dakota Governors and four former South Dakota Attorneys General. John accrued over 10,000 hours of flight time in his career. John's love of flying and his dedication to the program were a valuable asset to the squadron, and to the wing. He will be missed.

## **★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★**

### **SENIOR MEMBER PROMOTIONS**

#### **Officer**



Congratulations to Tonia McGeorge of Miller, a member of the Miller Flight, on her promotion to the rank of Second Lieutenant!

## Noncommissioned Officer



Congratulations to Shawn Bawden of Spearfish, a member of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on his appointment to the rank of Staff Sergeant.

## CADET PROMOTIONS

### Cadet Officer



Congratulations to Julia Lair of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on her promotion to the rank of Cadet First Lieutenant!

### Cadet Noncommissioned Officer



Congratulations to Matthew Tracy of Summerset, a member of Rushmore Composite Squadron, and to Keon den Hoed of Boyden, IA, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on their promotion to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant and receipt of the General Jimmy Doolittle Award!



Congratulations to Devin Griffin of Black Hawk, a member of Rushmore Composite Squadron, and to Chancey Hall of Highmore, a member of the Miller Flight, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations to Preston Drew and Alexander Heinrich, both of Custer and both members of Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, and to Noah Healy of Mitchell, a member of the Mitchell Flight, on promotion to Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Brayden Parke of Sioux Falls and to Malachi Smith of Mission Hill, both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



### Cadet Airmen



Congratulations to Rose McGeorge of Miller, a member of the Miller Flight, and Connor Herren of Crooks, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Remington McGeorge of Miller, a member of the Miller Flight, and to Clara Giddings of Sioux Falls and Grace Ingebretsen of Luverne, MN, both members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Jordan Beukelman of Mitchell, a member of the Mitchell Flight, on their promotion to Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the Arnold Award!





Congratulations to Ethan Den Hoed of Boyden, IA, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Isabella Pollman of Bridgewater, a member of Mitchell Flight on promotion to Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!



★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★



Congratulations to Capt. Kurt Johnson of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on earning his FAA Commercial Pilot Certificate with Single and Multi-Engine and Instrument ratings on 30 May.



Congratulations to Capt. Matt Meert (left) of Sioux Falls, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on earning his Certified Flight Instructor rating in June.



Congratulations to Capt. Brandon West (left) of Brandon, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on earning his Certified Flight Instructor – Instrument (CFII) rating on 11 June.



Congratulations to C/2dLt Sydnie Cloutier of Sioux Falls, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, who was awarded a \$1,000 flight scholarship by CAP NHQ.



Congratulations to Cadet Captain Kyle Clement of Sioux Falls, a member of the Lincoln County Composite Squadron, and to Cadet First Lieutenant Julia Lair of Sioux Falls, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron who attended the national Cadet Officers School at Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Congratulations also to Cadet Master Sergeant Chancey Hall of Highmore, a member the Miller Flight, who attended the Model Aircraft (MARC) Flight Academy at Oshkosh, Wisconsin.