



## “THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for OCTOBER 2019

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

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## WING TIPS

### **REDCAP – MISSING AIRCRAFT SEARCH (MISSION 19-M-0622A)**

Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich, South Dakota Wing Director of Operations sends: On 10 November the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center at Tyndall AFB, Florida tasked South Dakota and North Dakota Wings to join the search for an aircraft reported missing on a flight from Aberdeen, SD to Oakes, ND. The Leadership of South Dakota and North Dakota Wings, and the senior incident staff that worked to find the lost aircraft for 10 days have come to the consensus that with the end of flying today (20 October), we will have sufficiently covered the search area. The areas that we think were most likely for the plane to be found were searched three or four times, and not only with CAP Airplanes, but CAP Ground Teams, Ground Teams from the local government agencies and volunteers, and even USAF and Avera helicopters. The outer areas of the search area were covered at least twice. We feel that if the aircraft was out there, we would have found it by now. That leads to the question, “Where is the plane, then?” While there’s still a small possibility the plane crashed in an area we covered and we just didn’t see it, and a small chance that it crashed in an area that we’re not likely to find it (at a bottom of a lake) even though area lakes were searched by air-boat, we think that’s a question that would be better answered by local Law Enforcement. Even if we were to continue searching, the increase of the probability of detection over what we have now would be negligible.

As of 20 October the South Dakota and North Dakota wings flew 43 air sorties and had 43 ground sorties. That doesn’t include the flights done by the USAF, Avera, and several individuals that offered to help, and all the miles that the local official put on their vehicles. We searched approximately 3,700 Square Miles of terrain, at least twice. That’s a HUGE feat!

Thanks to everyone who put in a lot of time in this search. One of the things we discovered is that we need to get more proficient with our sUAS program, and get more people qualified for sUAS operations.

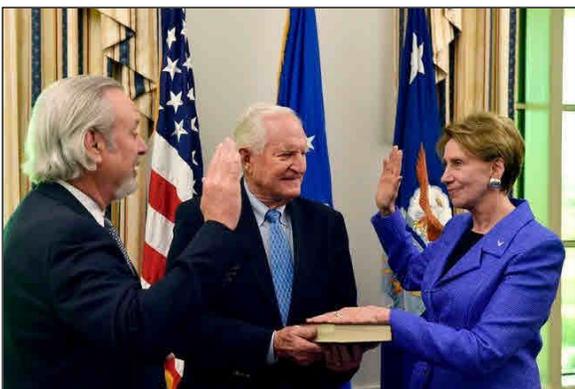
**FOOTNOTE:** The aircraft was ultimately found. We had flown over it nine times but didn't find it due to a combination of snow cover, the expectation that it was further from the airport than it was and the total destruction of the aircraft. Note the skidmark on the field - had there not been snow when we were searching we should have seen it.



### **REDCAP RELATED SAREX – MISSING HUNTER**

Col. Small sends: The November SAREX is just a few days away. As many of you know we participated in a search for a missing hunter in the Black Hills a few weeks ago (Mission 19-M-0607A, 02-06 October). The hunter still hasn't been found. Lt. Col. Goodrich has planned a SAREX in the same area where we will continue the search. Also during this search a drone was lost. We could never come up with a more realistic training scenario than to continue an open search. Please join us for this training. We want to be able to find missing people very quickly after they become lost and we can't do that unless we train together. Arrangements have been made for lodging not far from the search site for both Friday and Saturday nights. Sunday we will conduct field sUAS (drone) training. In order to participate in the hands on training you will need to complete the SQTR prerequisites (contact me if you don't know what they are)

Sign on Eventbrite at: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/november-9th-sdwg-come-all-sarex-tickets-79014028085>



- **NEW SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE:** Barbara Barrett began her term as the Air Force's 25th secretary with a swearing-in ceremony 18 October. President Trump formally nominated the former US ambassador to Finland, aerospace research executive, and deputy administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to serve as the next Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) on 9 September. The Senate confirmed Barrett on 16 October. Heather Wilson, her predecessor, left the post at the end of May. Matt Donovan, who filled the role of acting secretary in the interim, has returned to his prior job as Under Secretary of the Air Force.

• **2019 CADET LEADERSHIP ACADEMY:** The South Dakota Wing is proud to announce the 2019 Cadet Leadership Academy on 27-29 December in Sioux Falls, SD. The South Dakota Cadet Leadership Academy is a weekend course designed to help cadets advance their leadership and team-building skills. The academy will be a mix of classroom and hands-on activities created and instructed by experienced cadets and senior members. There will be two tracks - the Airman and the Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO). It starts on Friday, December 27 at 7:00 pm and ends Sunday, December 29 at 10:00 am. Billeting will be provided on Friday evening until Sunday morning. Food is covered all day on Saturday and Sunday breakfast. Registration is open and details can be found on the Eventbrite page - <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/south-dakota-wing-cadet-leadership-academy-tickets-74039896323>. If you have questions, contact C/Lt Col Annabelle Klosterman ([annabelle.klosterman@sdwg.cap.gov](mailto:annabelle.klosterman@sdwg.cap.gov)) or 1st Lt Mimi Klosterman ([mimi.klosterman@sdwg.cap.gov](mailto:mimi.klosterman@sdwg.cap.gov)).

• **SDWG PHYSICAL TRAINING COMPETITION:** Members from the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, Pierre Composite Squadron, and Mitchell Flight participated in the first-ever South Dakota Wing (SDWG) Physical Training Competition. The event was hosted by the Pierre Composite Squadron. The competition was held on 19 October and encompassed multiple aspects of physical training. The events consisted of a PT test, kickball, ultimate Frisbee, dodgeball, tug of war, and steal the bacon. The first place team consisted of C/Capt Austen King from the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, C/SrA Isabella Pollman from the Mitchell Flight, C/SrA Joshua Vermundson from the Pierre Composite Squadron, C/MSgt Brayden Parke and C/SSgt Austin den Hoed, both from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. This competition was a fun event that built team morale and allowed for networking with those around the South Dakota Wing. Thank you to Capt Tyler Gross and C/Lt Col Annabelle Klosterman for organizing and running the event. We hope to have more fun events for the South Dakota Wing in the future.



**SDWG PHYSICAL TRAINING COMPETITORS**



**TUG-OF-WAR COMPETITION**



**FIRST PLACE TEAM!**

# STAFF NOTES



## WING COMMANDER

Col. David Small Jr., CAP

- I am pleased to announce that Lt. Col. Frezil Westerlund has accepted the position of Wing Chaplain. Some of you may remember Chaplain Westerlund's previous service as Wing Chaplain in the early 2000's. We are pleased to have her return and look forward working with and learning from her about the Chaplain program and all that it encompasses. Thank you Lt. Col. Rae for your service as Wing Chaplain for the past eight and a half years. Chaplain Rae will continue to be active in our wing and has volunteered to be an assistant to Chaplain Westerlund.

- Thank you to the hundred or so wing members who have helped with the five active searches that we have been involved with over the past few weeks. From missing hikers and hunters in the Black Hills to lost aircraft in the south and north of our state we have had a tremendous response from you, our members. Nearly a third of wing membership has helped with these searches in one capacity or another. That is a phenomenal turnout and a testament to your dedication. Included in these searches were the first use of SUAS (drones) by any unit of CAP in the entire nation.

- Thank you to Capt. Tyler Gross for conducting the first ever PT weekend event for cadets. This event had over 25 cadets participating from across the state in Pierre this past weekend. From the level of enthusiasm this will likely be an annual event.

- Thank you to Col. Mary Donley, Lt. Col. Linda Buechler and several assistants for conducting a Squadron Leadership School and Corporate Learning Course at Camp Rapid over this past weekend. It is great to see the development of new leaders in our wing.

- Scott Meints, Director of Brown County Emergency Management forwarded this to us as it appeared in a local newspaper. It concerns our REDCAP mission for a missing aircraft: *Thank you: Help during search for plane, pilot appreciated. There are many people that I would like to thank in the search and recovery of Jerry Seliski. First, the Brown County Sheriff's Department and the Emergency Management team, in particular Deputies Lemke and Graff, who showed tremendous compassion to my son during a difficult investigation. Thanks to the Civil Air Patrol, friends and strangers, farmers that scoured their fields and the hunter who found Jerry. Nicole Jahnig and sons were especially helpful and supportive to the family. Salt of the earth doesn't begin to describe the people of South Dakota and North Dakota. The item was signed by Deborah Seliski.*



## DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

- **REGION STAFF COLLEGE:** Civil Air Patrol presents North Central Region Staff College - Friday, December 27, 2019 to Tuesday, December 31, 2019 at 3010 Arnold Ave, Salina, KS.

27 Dec: mainly travel day, begin at 5 pm welcome and classes

28 Dec-30 Dec: Classes

31 Dec: Morning classes and travel day to return home

POC: SMSgt Rick Franz [rfranz@ncr.cap.gov](mailto:rfranz@ncr.cap.gov)

Tentative cost (finalizing a couple events) is \$100. That will include three meals (pizza for movie night, one working lunch, one graduation dinner). Other meals will be on your own locally. There are many restaurant options in Salina. Barracks (rates announced soon) will be available for those who wish for free lodging. For those who wish to have single rooms or a roommate, they are working on making Nickell Hall available. It is within walking distance of the HQ. The 10 hours of course work will be done online in advance via Blackboard Coursesites. (Things like developing your CAP resume, working on a speech that will be presented in person, etc.) The online will be available about 1 October. The link will be sent to all those who are registered when it is ready.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/north-central-region-staff-college-tickets-72464217425>

- 19 October: A Squadron Leadership School was held Saturday, 19 October at Camp Rapid, Rapid City, SD. Four Senior Members from Lookout Mountain, Crazy Horse and Rushmore Composite Squadrons attended. They learned how a squadron functions, staff positions, volunteer service and how to make their squadron successful. Those attending were: Jody Weiland and Alfred Heinrich from Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Shawn Bawden from Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron and Loyd Tracy from Rushmore Composite Squadron.

- 20 October: A Corporate learning Course was held Sunday, 20 October at Camp Rapid, Rapid City, SD. The Corporate Learning Course covers information on how Civil Air Patrol operates at the wing, region and national levels. It also discusses the CAP-USAF relationship, the three missions of CAP and how to work within the different echelons of the program. Those in attendance were: Sylvia Small and Shawn Bawden from Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, Jody Weiland and Alfred Heinrich from Crazy Horse Composite Squadron, Loyd Tracy and Keven Gross from Rushmore Composite Squadron and Ashley Ehret from North Dakota Wing.

- 26 October: A Squadron Leadership School was held Saturday, 26 October in Miller, SD. Those in attendance from the Miller Flight were: Judith Apley, Nel Apley, Pandey Rezac, and Tonia McGeorge. Also in attendance from Big Sioux Composite Squadron was Jodi Williams and Dennis Williams.



## **WING COMMAND NCO**

SSgt Shawn Bawden, CAP

October was a busy month for all of us. As I traveled to various missions and meetings, I was often asked about our nascent Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) Corps, especially by our non-prior service members. NCOs are rightfully called the “backbone” of any military organization. Although not commissioned and thereby not entitled to be in command positions, they perform leadership roles across all organizational levels and are highly respected members of their leadership teams. NCOs are true to a professional calling and possess a wealth of technical and tactical expertise, a service orientation, and a distinct subculture (e.g. the NCO Support Channel, the NCO Creed). Not surprisingly, the Air Force recognizes the significance of NCOs by acknowledging that “Commanders *depend* upon Non-Commissioned Officers to lead Airmen to accomplish the mission” (AFPAM 36-2241, Professional Development Guide).

CAP has also affirmed the importance of NCOs. Created in 2013, one of the aims of our NCO Corps is to provide CAP commanders with access to the professional military skills, training, and experience of former NCOs. Additionally, NCOs can train and advise non-prior service members in the methods and procedures of military organization, leadership, and management. These concepts are best summed up in the beginning of CAP's NCO Creed: "No one is more professional than I. I am a Non-Commissioned Officer in the Civil Air Patrol; a leader of Airmen." Questions or comments? Please email me [shawn.bawden@sdwg.cap.gov](mailto:shawn.bawden@sdwg.cap.gov).

## SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

### **BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058 – BROOKINGS)**

- **CYBERPATRIOT XII - ROUND 1**: CyberPatriot Round 1, the first of four remote online rounds, was held over the weekend of 25-27 October. The squadron has two high school teams in the All Services division. The first team consists of C/SrA Jeremiah Jorenby, C/Capt Austen King, C/Lt Col Annabelle Klosterman, C/Capt Isaiah Klosterman, and C/CMSgt Lydia Klosterman. They placed 14th out of 1885 teams in the All Services Division. The second team consists of C/SrA Abigail Williams and C/Amn Mitchell Trias. They placed 597th out of 1885 teams in the All Service Division.



CYBERPATRIOT TEAM 1



CYBERPATRIOT TEAM 2

- **GEOCACHING**: For this month's fun night, our squadron spent some time geocaching. Geocaching is a real-world, outdoor treasure hunting game using GPS-enabled devices. Cadets and senior members navigated to a specific set of GPS coordinates to attempt to find the geocache (container) hidden at that location. There were several caches in Brookings that we were able to have fun trying to find.

### **CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-068 – CUSTER)**

- Cadet Amn Gillian Shelton, C/MSgt Preston Drew, C/MSgt Alexander Heinrich and C/SSgt Amelia Weiland served as Color Guard during the Custer High School Homecoming Parade. The unit also presented the Colors at the Home Coming game that evening.

- Kudos to both 2Lt Alfred Heinrich and 2Lt Jody Weiland for giving up a weekend of their time in order to complete both the Squadron Leadership School and the Cooperate Learning Course. Furthermore, Capt

Donny Weiland completed both the ICS-400 course and obtained “Technician” rating in the specialty track Administrative Officer.

- This month Crazy Horse Composite Squadron assisted Custer State Park’s Halloween Hike. Members served as hike leaders taking park guests through a “Night at the Museum” themed Halloween Hike through the camp ground.



- This month presented the opportunity for some much needed repairs to the squadron building. 2Lt Alfred Heinrich, Amn Mason Kieborz and Randy Kieborz are pictured here working on the new back steps. Other members helped reorganize the supply shed and do some other fall cleaning.



## **LINCOLN COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-007 – TEA)**

- **REDCAP ASSISTANCE:** C/Maj Kyle Clement assisted in the search for missing hunter Larry Genzlinger in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Five members of our squadron helped in the search for the missing plane & pilot in Aberdeen: Maj. Jerry Foy, C/Maj Kyle Clement, 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Denise Clement, C/Amn Daniel Oye, and Capt. Joe Oye.

- **FAMILY FUN NIGHT:** To celebrate 29 October, the fifth Tuesday of the month, LCCS held a Family Fun Night Potluck. All enjoyed food, family, friends and fun. While some huddled around the campfire telling stories outdoors, others were hanging out indoors.



## **LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-63 – SPEARFISH)**

- **WELCOME BACK / ABOARD:** Our Squadron continues to improve and grow. We were pleased to welcome back Cadet Wyatt "Truck" Trohkimoinen. Additionally, Cadet Stephen Kroetch has joined our unit.
- **REDCAP ACTIVITY:** Members of our Squadron participated in two multi-day SAR missions in October, one in the southern Black Hills and the other in Aberdeen. Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, Maj. Bill Collister, SSgt Shawn Bawden, and SM Andrew Pisciotta each contributed to the efforts.
- **OPEN HOUSE:** Finally, we are planning an Open House for Saturday, 9 November to showcase the exciting opportunities available through our cadet program.

## **MILLER FLIGHT (SD-33 – MILLER)**

- **SQUADRON LEADERSHIP SCHOOL:** On 26 October the Miller Flight hosted a Squadron Leadership School (SLS). Six members from the Big Sioux Composite Squadron and the Miller Flight gained a basic understanding of CAP operations at the squadron level. They also learned more about CAP customs, core values, and communications. SLS is an integral component of Level II of the Senior Member Professional Development Program. Congratulations to 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Judith Apley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Nel Apley, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Tonia McGeorge, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Pandey Rezac, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Jodi Williams and SM Dennis Williams as you continue to develop your skills and abilities in service to your units and to CAP.



**COL. MARY DONLEY POSES A QUESTION FOR THE CLASS**



**CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!**

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

- **ORIENTATION RIDES:** O-Rides were recently given to several cadets of the Squadron. Participating were cadets C/Amn Brayden Yackley, C/Amn Adrianna Osterkamp and Cadet Landon Campbell. They are seen preparing for the ride given by Capt. Jon Becker departing from the Pierre Municipal Airport. They all reported enjoying the ride and are eagerly anticipating the next.



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



- **CYBERPATRIOT:** The squadron's CyberPatriot team competed in Round 1 of the competition. The team consists of C/CMSgt Kaleb Sarchet, C/MSgt Brayden Parke, C/SSgt Grace Ingebretsen, C/SrA Hannah Decker, C/Amn Zephyr Tolliver, and C/AB Noah Daene. It is the first time for most of these cadets and they are learning a lot. Round 1 took place on 26 October and the teams placed 724 out of 972 teams. Round 2 is scheduled for the weekend of 16-17 November.



- **COLOR GUARD:** On 29 October, our Color Guard presented the colors for an event hosted by the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of South Dakota; Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation; and Avera. The event, the Many Faces of Addiction: Hope and Healing, assembled the leading experts to discuss the prevalence of addiction in American society. The color guard consisted of C/CMSgt Kaleb Sarchet, C/MSgt Brayden Parke, and C/SSgt Timothy Daene.



- **SUAS PRESENTATION:** CMSgt Blake Parke explained the basics of the small unmanned aerial systems and demonstrated several different types to a local homeschool group in Sioux Falls on 30 October. The students had a lot of fun flying them around the gym. We were able to promote the aerospace education membership which included several STEM kits and K-12 curriculum.

- **ELEMENT WINNER PLANS FUN NIGHT:** The winner of our element competition last month had the opportunity to plan our Fun Night for our meeting on 31 October. The cadets decided to plan an Escape Room and a Crucible event in addition to playing board games and snacks. The Escape Room consisted of clues the teams had to search for and navigate to the different parts of the squadron. The team to get to the end in the shortest time wins. The Crucible event tested the cadets in reciting the cadet oath, maintaining their composure in the bearing test and answering trivia questions. Overall, the cadets had a great time. Thank you to the element who organized the event: C/CMSgt Keon den Hoed, C/MSgt Brayden Parke, C/SSgt Timothy Daene, C/SrA Clara Giddings, and C/Amn Carson Eggert.

## ★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

### Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Richard Rezac of Highmore, commander of the Miller Flight, on his promotion to the rank of Captain!

### Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



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 Master Sergeant and receipt of the Charles Lindbergh Award!



Congratulations Conner Herren of Crooks, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Grace Ingebretsen of Luverne, MN, a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on his promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



## **Cadet Airman Promotions**



Congratulations to Hannah Decker of Tea, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Isabella Pollman of Bridgewater, a member of the Mitchell Flight, on promotion to the rank of Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to Anah Barthle of Sioux Falls and to Kendall Fogarty of Hartford, both members of the Lincoln County Composite Squadron on promotion to Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the Arnold Award!



Congratulations Jonathan Hotz of Monroe and Rebekah McClary of Parker, both members of the Lincoln County Composite Squadron; to Charlotte Curirnton of Faulkton, a member of the Miller Flight; Jonathon Sjaarda of Beaver Creek, MN, Connor Taylor of Sioux Falls, and Zephaniah Tolliver of Lennox, all members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron; and to Raymond McIntosh of Box Elder, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, on their promotion to Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!



## ★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★



Congratulations to Maj. Bill Collister of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron on completion of the intensive two-day Inspector General Senior Course hosted by Rocky Mountain Region in Centennial, CO.



Congratulations to Capt. Richard Rezac of Highmore, commander of the Miller Flight, who has attained “Technician” level in specialty tracks Professional Development, Aerospace, and Personnel of the Senior Member Professional Development Program!



Congratulations to C/Maj Kyle Clement of Lincoln County Composite Squadron on two winning entries to the NCR September Safety Contest! The theme was “Safety Nets”.



- ★ Congratulations to SM Jessica Santee and SM Andrew Pisciotta who were married on October 10th at the Chapel in the Hills, Rapid City. Everyone at the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron wishes the newlyweds a lifetime of love and happiness!
- ★ Congratulations to SSgt Shawn Bawden on the recent publication of his article titled "It's Exhausting: Volunteer and Emergency Management at Everglades National Park, 2016-2018." An abstract of the article can be found at <https://www.e-volunteerism.com/VolunteerEmergencyManagement>.
- ★ Capt Richard Rezac of the Miller Flight successfully completed the Unit Commander's Course."

