



## “THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for FEBRUARY 2020

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

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### WING TIPS

- **CYBERPATRIOT XII - ROUND 4:** From 6,760 teams registered for the 2019 competition season, the CyberPatriot field is divided into three divisions – the Open Division for public, private, and home school teams; the All Service Division for JROTC, Civil Air Patrol, and Naval Sea Cadet Corps teams; and the Middle School Division for middle school-aged students.

Led by Coach Capt. Tyler Gross the teams from Big Sioux Composite Squadron excelled in the CyberPatriot XII State Round held in December by demonstrating teamwork, critical thinking, and technical cybersecurity skills. The teams’ performances earned South Dakota’s 1st and 3rd Place Award in the Platinum Tier and Team-1 earned a spot in Round 4 (Semifinal Round) held on 24-25 January. Their team will have to be one of the top two Civil Air Patrol teams in the Nation to advance to the CyberPatriot XII National Finals Competition in Maryland in March. They wait for the official results to be released in February.

**FLASH UPDATE:** There is a strong possibility Big Sioux Composite Squadron’s Team-1 has won an all-expenses paid trip to the CyberPatriot National Finals. 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Mimi Klosterman commented: “Unofficially, they are most likely going to the National Finals.” That would mean that Team-1 finished in the top two of all CAP teams in the competition. At the National Finals Team-1 would compete against 12 other teams, the top two teams from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps JROTC, Sea Cadets and a wildcard team. The National Finals will be held 19-23 March at Bethesda, MD.

Big Sioux Team-1 consists of C/SrA Jeremiah Jorenby, C/Capt Austen King, C/Lt Col Annabelle Klosterman, C/Capt Isaiah Klosterman, and C/CMSgt Lydia Klosterman. Big Sioux Team-2 consists of C/SrA Abigail Williams, C/A1C Mitchell Trias, and C/AB Gabriel Risty.



TEAM-1 STATE ROUND



TEAM-2 STATE ROUND



TEAM-1 SEMI-FINAL ROUND

- **GROUND TEAM TRAINING:** Because the January SAREX was cancelled due to bad weather we took the opportunity to do some basic ground team training in the Black Hills on Saturday, 11 January. 18 members showed up, including nine cadets who had never participated in a SAREX. Most completed nearly all of their pre-requisites for GTM3 and got some field training to boot. More advanced members were able to check off the few remaining tasks to complete GTM3, GTM2 and GTM1 operations qualifications. Col. Small acted as "IC" and gave the safety briefing and overview of activities. Maj. Collister spent time with more experienced ground team members helping them complete needed tasks. Col. Small worked with the first timers to go over GTM3 prerequisites. A very beneficial, snowy, winter day! Lots of learning and no mishaps. Just in case eagle-eyed critics note the lack of orange vests on the line it can be pointed out that this was on gated private property and just training a task, not a full mission.



- **(NEW) SAFETY MEME CONTEST:** Please share this with all your squadron mates! The contest is open to any CAP member (cadet or senior) in North Central Region. Create a safety/risk management poster, meme, or slogan that reflects the month's theme and sent it to [SafetyContest@ncr.cap.gov](mailto:SafetyContest@ncr.cap.gov), along with name, rank, unit, and CAPID. Submissions are due on the last day of the month. Each member can enter as many items as they wish, and every month if desired! A panel of judges will choose three winners from each month's submissions based on quality and relevance to the theme, and judging will be completed by the seventh of the next month. Monthly winners will receive a risk management themed t-shirt specially designed for the contest, be entered into the "Best of the Best" scholarship selection pool, and have their idea showcased on a Region Safety Saturday and at the Region Conference. Monthly winners will be judged by a separate panel in May to determine the "Best of the Best" submissions. The top three items will each receive a \$100 scholarship to be applied to a CAP activity. Scholarship winners will be announced at region conference in May to celebrate and reward as part of the new SMS. So if you are hoping to attend a CAP activity this summer yet are short on funds, get your ideas submitted and you just might win a scholarship!

- **AERIAL WILDLIFE SURVEYS:** SDWG flew four aerial surveys of terrestrial wildlife over four 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 mountain lions, bobcats, swift foxes, white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, bighorn sheep, and mountain goats. The result was 12.8 hours

flying over western South Dakota and the Black Hills and 2.8 hours flying over eastern South Dakota for a total of 15.6 flight hours. CAP pilot Lt. Col. Gary Hewett flew three sorties and Capt. Neil Schmid, one 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

- **NEW WING COMMANDER**: Col. Aye, North Central Region Commander sends: "NCR recently facilitated the selection process for the position of South Dakota Wing Commander. The Selection Advisory Committee met 11 January, and I am pleased to announce the next South Dakota Wing Commander will be Col (select) Nicholas J. Gengler. He will take command in May at the South Dakota Wing Conference.

- **WING CONFERENCE**: Sign up for the Wing Conference to be held 8-10 May in Spearfish. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cap-south-dakota-wing-conference-2020-tickets-73175015441>"



### **WING DIRECTOR OF FINANCE**

Lt. Col. Tom Bass, CAP

**New WEX Card procedures – effective immediately.** When using your WEX vehicle card for NON-AF missions

- Create a WMIRS Sortie
- Upload the receipt into WMIRS
- Use the "remarks" section in the debrief area to make notes
  - o *Who is paying pay (i.e., Wing or Squadron)*
  - o *Notes on what the event was (i.e., Legislative Day, Parade, errands, etc)*

*EXAMPLE: under SD-Misc – Sortie 123 remarks section:*

*Big Sioux drove to Sioux Falls to pick up members and then traveled to Legislative day and returned to Sioux Falls to drop off members and back to Big Sioux – Wg paid per Col. Small*

Please note this is NOT authorization to pay. This just lets us know who is going to pay. We still need authorization to pay as usual. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Kuecker.



### **WING DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

- **TRAINING**: The weekend of January 25 and 26, 2020 was a busy one for new senior members working on their professional development and growth in the Senior Program. Several members of the Lincoln County

and Sioux Falls Composite Squadrons attended the Squadron Leadership School and Corporate Learning Course held at the EAA Building at Lincoln County Airport near Tea, SD. Those who completed the SLS were: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Sam Huntington, SM Rebecca Ingebretsen, SM Troy Huls, SM Brad Lofland, SM Edmund McHale and 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Rick Senner. Those who completed the CLC were: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Matt Tennant, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Travis Robinson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Meta Langrock, SMs Troy Huls, Brad Lofland, Rebecca Ingebretsen, and Edmund McHale.



SLS COHORT



CLC COHORT

- **SPECIALTY TRACKS**: Senior members who are wanting to promote please be aware---Specialty Track Ratings hold up more promotions than anything else!! You need to be working your way through whatever Specialty Track or tracks you have chosen. Most Specialty Tracks are requiring a year at each level. So before you wait too long and have met the time requirement for promotion make sure you are moving up on at least one of your Specialty Tracks! For a chart of the Levels in the Senior Program go to CAPM 50-17 and read what is required at each level and look for the chart at the end in attachments. Call me or email with any questions Level Awards or promotions!!



## **WING COMMAND NCO**

SSgt Shawn Bawden, CAP

In December I had the honor of watching (online) CMSgt "CZ" Colon-Lopez become the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman (SEAC) of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the first Airman to hold this position. The SEAC is the top enlisted post in all the branches of the US military. I was inspired by CMSgt Colon-Lopez's example of speaking truth to leadership, commitment to excellence, and selfless service. I'm sure I speak for us all in wishing him a successful assignment as SEAC.

During the ceremony, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff -- GEN Milley, USA -- said NCOs "are literally the backbone of the joint forces and no one is more professional than...an American NCO. They are the keepers of the standard. They are the keepers of knowledge and expertise. NCOs are our subject matter experts. They teach us and lead our junior Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen."

CMSgt Colon-Lopez later explained that he serves as "the commander's sensor, synchronizer, and integrator" on all matters and that he will work to ensure the readiness of all members of the military. This is very similar to my role in our Wing: my mission is to advise the Wing Commander on matters concerning mission effectiveness as well as focus on the professional development, training, and utilization of the Wing's NCOs. I can also represent the Wing when the Commander isn't available.

In the past two months, I have visited two squadrons (Rushmore and Pierre), and I look forward to visiting more units in the coming months. *Semper Vigilans!*

## SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

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



- **FIRST O-RIDE**: It's a moment like no other when a cadet slips into the right-hand front seat of a CAP Cessna aircraft for their first orientation flight.

C/Amn Samuel McClary had his first cadet powered-flight orientation ride in February

By the grin on his face it is clear that he thoroughly enjoyed it. Lt. Col. Justin Johnson of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron piloted the flight.

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

- **CADET PROGRAM**: Our cadet program continued to thrive and grow in January. Among the month's highlights was a field trip to Ellsworth AFB on January 9 to train and collaborate with the cadets of the Rushmore Composite Squadron.

- **LEGISLATIVE DAY**: We also had two cadets, C/A1C Lexie Sukstorf and C/Amn Stephen Kroetch, participate in Legislature Day (although one of them was unable to complete the trip due to bad weather).

- **O-RIDE**: C/Amn Stephen Kroetch participated in his second orientation flight with Lt. Col. DeWeese on January 19.

- **CADET ADVISORY COUNCIL**: C/SrA Wyatt Trohkimoinen and C/A1C Lexie Sukstorf were appointed as our Squadron's representatives to the Wing Cadet Advisory Council.

- **NEW CADET MEMBERS**: We had three new cadets join our ranks, Elijah, Joshua and Kaira Stomprud who reside in Mud Butte. We are pleased you decided to join Civil Air Patrol and are proud that you are serving with our squadron. Welcome Aboard!

- **NEW CADET COMMANDER**: C/SrA Wyatt Trohkimoinen was appointed Cadet Commander, and we look forward to more of the professionalism and dedication this young leader brings to our Squadron!

- **SAR TRAINING**: Four Squadron members attended SAR training on January 11 including SSgt Shawn Bawden who completed GTM3 qualifications and began working on GT Leader tasks. Also in attendance were Maj. Bill Collister, 2nd Lt. Andrew Pisciotta, and C/Amn Stephen Kroetch.

- **COMMUNITY SUPPORT**: On January 27 Black Hills Energy formally presented us with a grant for \$3,600 at a ceremony at the Spearfish Airport. We are very grateful for their support and investment in our Squadron. A similar ceremony will take place on February 12 when we thank the American Legion Riders, Post 164, who recently donated \$500.



- **FAMILY NIGHT & POTLUCK:** January ended with a special event when we invited friends and families to join us for a potluck and promotion ceremony. Twenty-seven people attended despite the snowy weather. The Squadron plans on holding more of these events. The next one will be on April 30, and, weather permitting, will include hot dogs cooked on the Squadron's grill!

## **MITCHELL COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-25 – MITCHELL)**

- **WE'VE GROWN:** It is with great pride that we announce that we are South Dakota Wing's newest composite squadron, the Mitchell Composite Squadron, with the unit designator SD-025. It is also with great pride that we can combine the name Mitchell and the designator 25 to honor the WWII era B-25 Mitchell bomber that played a key wartime role and earned fame as the aircraft used by the Doolittle Tokyo raiders.

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

- **CAP LEGISLATIVE DAY:** Legislative Day was held in Pierre, South Dakota on January 28th. It was a great way to meet our legislators who help fund our program. Cadets provided information about CAP not only to legislators but other lobbyists who were there as well. Many Cadets and Officers from all over the state got to meet and have a photo-op with South Dakota Governor, Kristi Noem. It was great to see how many CAP members participated in this event. (Written by C/Capt Julia Lair)

- **MINI-SAREX:** On Saturday, January 25th, the Squadron held a Mini SAREX. Cadets were signed off on many ground team (GTM3) tasks and even an Urban Direction Finding (UDF) task. Due to the inclement weather most of the SAREX was held indoors. However, cadets still went outdoors to participate in the litter (stretcher) carry. (Written/photos by C/TSgt Grace Ingebretsen)

- **LOGISTICS RELOCATION:** Over the past few weeks, Cadets and Officers worked hard to clean out the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron Annex. Logistics has a new home and we have a new conference room where Cadet Great Start classes will take place for new recruits. Thank you to SM Karen Smith for her work in our Squadron's Logistics! Pictures (Photo credit by C/TSgt Grace Ingebretsen):



LOGISTICS-1



LOGISTICS-2

★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

**OFFICER PROMOTIONS**



Congratulations to Blaise Fogarty and to Jayne Fogarty, both of Hartford and both members of the Lincoln County Composite Squadron, who have received advanced promotion to the rank of Captain based on mission related skills.

**CADET PROMOTIONS**

**Cadet Officer Promotion**



Congratulations to Matthew Tracy of Summerset, a member of Rushmore Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Second Lieutenant and receipt of the milestone Billy Mitchell Award!



**Noncommissioned Officer**



Congratulations to Devin Griffin of Black Hawk, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Chief Master Sergeant and receipt of the Dr. Robert H. Goddard Award!



Congratulations to Joseph Lasseter of New Underwood, a member of the Rushmore Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



## **Cadet Airman Promotions**



Congratulations to Benjamin Barr of Brandon, a member of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and to Wyatt Trohkimoinen of Vale, a member of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Senior Airman and receipt of the Mary Feik Award!



Congratulations to the following cadets on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman First Class and receipt of the Arnold Award!

Lydia McClary of Parker, SD	Lincoln County Composite Squadron
Ryan Schultz of Sioux Falls, SD	Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
Jonathon Sjaarda of Beaver Creek, MN	Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
Alexandrea Sukstorf of Deadwood, SD	Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron
Mason Kieborz of Custer, SD	Crazy Horse Composite Squadron
Garrett Weiland of Custer, SD	Crazy Horse Composite Squadron



Congratulations to the following cadets on their promotion to the rank of Cadet Airman and receipt of the Curry Award!

Emma Niles of Hot Springs, SD	Rushmore Composite Squadron
Bethany Niles of Hot Springs, SD	Rushmore Composite Squadron
Hunter Rickard of Box Elder, SD	Rushmore Composite Squadron
Mia Shankle of Hermosa, SD	Rushmore Composite Squadron
Michael Peterson of Steen, MN	Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
Henry Rashid of Sioux Falls, SD	Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
Isabelle King of Volga, SD	Big Sioux Composite Squadron
Reagan Weller of Hermosa, SD	Rushmore Composite Squadron
Stephen Kroetch of Whitewood, SD	Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron



## ★ ★ **KUDOS** ★ ★



Congratulations to Capt Donald Weiland, commander of the Crazy Horse Composite Squadron in Custer who completed Level III (Management) in the Civil Air Patrol Senior Member Professional Development Program. In recognition thereof he has been awarded the Grover C. Loening Award.



## ★ ★ **SPACE FORCE** ★ ★



- On 24 January the President unveiled the first official U.S. Space Force seal. The seal features an arrowhead symbol (also called a Delta symbol) over a globe, encircled by a stylized design of an orbit around the Earth. Twenty-two stars adorn the black background, and along the bottom runs year 2019 in Roman numerals: “MMXIX.” The delta symbol, the central design element in the seal, was first used as early as 1942 by the U.S. Army Air Forces; and used in early Air Force space organization emblems dating back to 1961. Since then, the delta symbol has been a prominent feature in military space community emblems.

Twitter users were quick to point out that the image is nearly identical to the Starfleet logo in “Star Trek,” which uses the arrowhead on everything from uniforms to command imagery. The design is another example of science fiction intertwining with military reality.

## ★ ★ SATTELITE NEAR MISS ★ ★



A drawing of one of the satellites on the near miss course

On 29 January, high over Pennsylvania two satellites came within a gnat’s whisker of crashing into each other. The two satellites, one an inactive NASA space telescope, the other a defunct U.S. military satellite, were on opposition collision orbits rushing towards each other at 33,000 miles per hour some 500 miles above the earth. Ultimately the satellites missed each other by a scant 150 feet. Currently there are some 4,500 satellites in earth orbit, 3,000 of which are inactive. Had the two satellites impacted it would have created an expanding cloud of debris which would endanger other satellites in orbit and could pose a problem for manned space launches.

