



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Civil Air Patrol Newsletter for November 2020

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

Publishers: Wing Commander Colonel Nick Gengler / Wing Vice Commander Lieutenant Colonel Craig Goodrich
Editor: Lt. Col. Michael Marek



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WING TIPS

SDWG Supports ANG F-16 Intercept Training

South Dakota Wing pilots have been flying with F-16s as they support a training mission of the SD Air National Guard (SDANG).



During the training flights, CAP Cessnas serve as intercept targets for the F-16s. The scenario is that an unidentified aircraft is not responding properly to authorities and must be identified. Cessnas fly much slower than F-16s typically operate, so the training allows the National Guard pilots to practice the kind of slow intercept flying that might be needed to prevent an airspace restriction violation or terrorist attacks.

As of the Skychaser deadline, five sorties have been flown in two CAP aircraft, totalling 17.5 flying hours. CAP aircrews included Capt. Kurt Johnson, 2d Lt. Aaron Giddings, Lt Col. Howard Steiner, Maj. Tim Modde, Maj. Jonathan Owen, and Lt Col. Jeremy Langrock, ADANG F-16 pilot 1Lt Michael Breshears also flew in a CAP plane during one sortie.

Wing Activities Reset to COVID Phase Zero

The increase in COVID-19 cases across the state has led South Dakota Wing to revert to Phase 0 of the wing COVID-19 remobilization plan. Under Phase 0, the wing and member units do not hold in-person meetings, but continue to meet and train online.

“The positive outlook is now that all meetings are being held virtual, anyone from around the Wing can attend each other’s meetings,” said Col. Nick Gengler, SDWG/CC. “I encourage all CAP members, and especially the Wing Staff, to coordinate with a Squadron Commanders on attending a Squadron meeting and helping teach a class virtually. We may be separated but we can still train together.”

Gengler also encouraged squadrons to consider having some virtual socializing time.

“Don’t make every minute of the meeting all about training,” he said. “We need to still socialize and build our comradery. Allow for some time to discuss CAP and non-CAP topics alike.”

Gengler noted that the SAREX originally scheduled for November has been moved to 5 December in hopes that the wing will be able to return to Phase 1 by then, allowing more in-person training.

Under Phase 0, the wing commander may approve limited flying activities, including Flight Evaluations, Crew Proficiency, Dual Instruction (including cadet flight instruction such as in the Wings Program), and Individual aircrew training.

The Civil Air Patrol COVID-19 Information Center has information on waivers for promotions, things to work on while in Phase 0, and much more:

<https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/covid-19-information-cena>

Wing Compliance Inspection Scheduled

South Dakota Wing’s next Compliance Inspection will be held 4 April 2021. Wing staff members are already preparing. Wing CIs are a joint CAP and CAP-USAF activity where representatives of both headquarters attempt to determine how well a wing is managed and whether it is meeting its mission.

“Col Mike Beason will be our point man for the inspection said,” Col. Nick Gengler, SDWG/CC. “We, the wing staff, will be using Teams to collect documentation and he will upload it to eServices. Due to Covid-19, most of the inspection will be done by phone or online.”

Leading up to the official inspection date, wing staff members have until 20 December to gather documents for uploading into Teams. The process also includes reviewing past CI and Staff Assistance Visit reports to ensure any past discrepancies are addressed. Inspectors will hold phone interviews with staff directorates starting in February.

SDWG Trains for More GTLs

Several members of the South Dakota wing took a day to receive some much-needed Ground Team Leader (GTL) training on Oct 3rd. We were able to review GTL tasks that are rarely covered during SAREX’s. Thank you to the Mitchell Composite Squadron for providing a place for us to learn.

Ground Team Leader trainees learned about basic map reading, land navigation, site surveillance and security, witness interviewing and other skills. While we may not

have to use this knowledge on a regular basis, these are abilities that need to be practiced to stay proficient. And as the old saying goes, “practice makes perfect”.

In managing our SAR functionality, we have to remember this. We could have an over-abundance of Ground Team Members (mostly cadets) trained to go in the field. But what we also need are trained Ground Team Leaders who will lead teams on spur-of-the-moment missions. If we don't have GTL's who are trained and willing to deploy, our GTM's will just sit on their hands all the time. The goal should be for every squadron to have at least one currently-qualified GTL in their ranks. More would be better.



The consensus from this session is that it was very productive. Trainees were able to cover tasks and learn skills in an environment that didn't have the “rushed” schedule of a SAREX. If there are potential GTL's that would attend a session like this, please let Capt Rezac know.

Annabelle Klosterman featured in CAP national *Props* Email newsletter

The “Tweet of the week” was from Dakota State University in Madison, SD.

Tweet of the Week @CivilAirPatrol



DSU student Annabelle Klosterman had an early start in cyber sciences with @DSUGenCyber, @CivilAirPatrol, @CyberPatriot. All have helped her earn benefits in knowledge, opportunity, and scholarships.

Read more at ow.ly/aZTW50BA51J



9:22 AM · Sep 24, 2020 · Hootsuite Inc.

Rushmore Cadet Earns his CAP Solo Wings



C/CMSgt Alexander Heinrich shakes hands with Capt. Brandon West from Tea, after successfully earning his CAP Wings.

C/CMSgt Heinrich is planning to continue his aviation training by applying for a flight scholarship through the CAP WINGS program.

Congratulations Alex.

STAFF NOTES



Wing Commander

Col. Nick Gengler, CAP

- Todd mentions (below) that Rudy Trias is the new Wing R&R Officer. Thank you Rudi!
- Karla West is now the new Personnel Officer for the Wing. Thank you Karla!
- 2d Lt Ed McHale assumed command of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron on 10-22-20. Congratulations Lt McHale!
- I wish to thank all members of the SD Wing that have helped out with the annual inventory. We are stewards of Air Force property and entrusted to be accountable for all the equipment. Counting everything every year isn't easy. Sometimes we have to spend a few days tracking items down. But knowing what equipment we have to utilize is critical. Losing equipment means the AF loses faith in us. We need to continue to be good stewards and show the Air Force and each other that we are accountable and can be entrusted with government property. Thank you all.
- Every SD Wing member with a @sdwg.cap.gov email address has been given a phone number to utilize with your Teams meetings. Before we only had a few numbers to utilize because of cost. Now, our Director of IT, Capt Tyler Gross, has figured out how to get free numbers for everyone for the next year. Now when you create a Teams meeting, it will populate a phone number people can call into if they can't use the Teams software.
- Rachel Kuecker, our SD Wing Administrator, is working from home now. If you need access to the Wing HQ, please contact Rachel via email rkuecker@capnhq.gov. Or you can contact the Wing Commander, Col Nicholas Gengler, at nick.gengler@sdwg.cap.gov.



Wing Chief of Staff (Outreach)

Lt. Col. Todd Epp, CAP

2nd Lt. Rudy Trias from the Big Sioux Composite Squadron has accepted the position of Assistant Director of Recruiting and Retention. Rudi has been a recruiter during his U.S. Army career and has done an excellent job recruiting new members for Big Sioux. I look forward to the experience, excitement, and new ideas Rudi will bring to our recruiting and retention efforts.

The 2021 Wing Conference will be held 9-11 April 2021 in Mitchell, weather, the coronavirus, and planning details provided. The Mitchell Composite Squadron will be the host and they promise not just a great meeting but fun for both seniors and cadets. Please save the dates!

I'm still looking for a Director of Public Affairs. Please let me know if you're interested at: todd.epp@sdwg.cap.gov



Wing Command NCO

TSgt Shawn Bawden, CAP

Professional Reading List Part 1 of 3

In September I reviewed Chief Dandridge's ten recommendations for our NCO Corps which included professional reading (Number 9: Read at home and take a break from digital distractions). Here's a summary of some of the books/articles I've read this year.

Leadership

A must-read is Carnivore Leadership, a five-part series written by SEAC "CZ" Colón-López, USAF. Chief CZ offers blunt but honest guidance on leadership, intolerance of mediocrity, and exceeding standards. His twenty "silver bullets" can be applied by anyone and will make you a better leader. As an example, Chief CZ points out, "Amateurs train until they get it right, professionals train until they can't get it wrong." You can read the first part of Carnivore Leadership and the twenty silver bullets on the Air Force Special Warfare webpage.

See: <https://afspecialwarfare.com/pararescue-chief-czs-carnivore-leadership-vol-1-silver-bullets/>

Written by General McChrystal, USA (retired), Team of Teams: New Rules of Engagement for a Complex World gives the inside story of one of the military's elite units and explains how trust, common purpose, shared consciousness, and empowered execution were applied to create success in dynamic and complex environments. Much of this will resonate with anyone who is familiar with emergency management, the Incident Command System (ICS), and terms like operational leadership, management by objectives, leader's intent and end state, and common operating picture (COP).

General Lorenz, USAF (retired), presents his insights in the eponymous Lorenz on Leadership: Lessons on Effectively Leading People, Teams, and Organizations. The book is a collection of articles about leadership; in fact, Gen Lorenz explains that he first started writing about leadership while stationed in South Dakota at Ellsworth, AFB. It's published by Air University Press and is available to CAP members for free (as are all the works from this publisher)! Among the many recommendations, Gen Lorenz notes that we should study our profession and read!

Do you have a favorite book on leadership? Send me your recommendations and I'll add them to my professional reading list! I can be reached at shawn.bawden@sdwg.cap.gov.

Next month I'll review books about search and rescue (SAR) and incident management. Semper Vigilans!



Wing Director of Education and Training

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

We are now nearly 3 months into the new Education and Training Program (formerly known as Professional Development) and things are coming along. I know the change has been hard—as most change is—but we are moving forward.

For the squadron commanders----the journey into Level I has changed. When you get new members who need to get started it is imperative that you engage them as quickly as possible and get them going. My goal is to train at least one member in each squadron to handle that and take the burden off you, the commander. Please look around your squadron and find that person. Sometimes all it takes is to ask them for their help!

The journeys into Levels 2-5 are different also. The new program is made to be more flexible and accommodating to members in terms of time and availability. I would love to come to one of your virtual meetings with the seniors in your squadron and go over how to navigate these changes. Please feel free to email me or call and let me know if and when you would like me to join in so I can go through it with you and answer any questions you may have.

This is also a reminder to members who were close to finishing a level before the August 4 change over to the new program. You had a grandfather time to finish your levels. Level 2 your grandfather time was 3 months and that is quickly coming up. I have been trying to personally contact those this affects but if you know that means you—contact your Squadron Commander or me so we don't miss the deadline. Level 3 members who needed to finish just one or more things have six-month grandfather time frame and Levels 4 & 5 have a nine-month grandfather time frame. Please check out the NEW Education and Training Regulation CAPR 40-1. It outlines the new program, discusses the grandfather clause and it also explains the PME (Prior Military Education) that is credited to the member who has previous military experience.

I know this is a lot to absorb but little by little and piece by piece we will do this! Again—do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, concerns and we will get the job done!

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-68 – CUSTER)



Crazy Horse Composite Squadron placed an entry in the inaugural Scarecrow Garden at Custer State Park Visitor Center. The visitors to the park can vote on their favorite scarecrow from October 24-31. Pictured is “Amelia Scareheart” and her CAP plane.

While under Phase 0, the unit has been conducting regular meetings via Microsoft Teams.

Capt. Donald D. Weiland, CAP
Crazy Horse Composite Squadron Squadron Commander

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38 – PIERRE)

Interest in Joining CAP

In mid-October, F-16s were flying over the Hughes county area with CAP aircraft being a “target” for the South Dakota National Guard training. Many people both in the squadron and in the community took notice. This brought some phone calls from possible new members. They wish to visit the squadron as soon as the Phase 0 restrictions are lifted. We look forward to meeting them.

Cadets Play football



Pierre cadets play a rousing game of flag football during a squadron meeting as part of the cadet fitness program before Covid brought CAP back to Phase 0 and before snow arrived early in the state.

Pierre Cadets Present Colors at American Legion

Pierre Cadets C/SSgt Darion Osterkamp and C/SSgt Joshua Vermundson recently presented the colors at the Pierre American Legion Post 8 meeting.

Legion members were complimentary of the cadets doing the presentation and enjoy having them present at their meetings.



RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-31 – RAPID CITY)

Col Mike Beason is in Oregon with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), using the skills he learned in CAP. He's working as a liaison to six counties, some had large fires (a few still burning) and other counties supported fire fighting around them. He's training to be a Task Force Leader within Operations, but was immediately "promoted" to a Division Supervisor with 3 counties due to his background in CAP and previous FEMA positions. Three weeks later, he was promoted to Branch Director and now has 6 counties. (If interested in a job with FEMA, go to www.USAJOBS.com and search for FEMA.)



Rushmore's Color Guard at the Patriots Day Parade in Box Elder:

C/A1C Kaden Anderson-Schafer, C/CMSgt Devin Griffin, C/SSgt Banion Niles, and C/SMSgt Phoebe Kellar.

SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-050 – SIoux FALLS)



On September 18th, the SFCS color guard participated in the POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at Veteran's Park in Sioux Falls. Established in 1979, the third Friday of September is commemorated as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities.

No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those taken as prisoners during war, remember those still missing in action, and join their families to ensure they are never forgotten.

Pictured is C/CMSgt Kaleb Sarchett and C/CMSgt Brayden Parke. Photo from American Legion Sioux Falls SD Post 15 Facebook.

NRA Qualification Event

Nine cadets from the SFCS attended the South Dakota Wing NRA Qualification Event (see October issue). Seven cadets received their Marksman badge, and two cadets received their Sharpshooter badge. Thank you, SD Wing for hosting this event in Fort Pierre. Congratulations, Cadets!

Cadet of the Month

The first SFCS Cadet of the Month was presented to Cadet Alex Newman. Cadet of the Month is nominated by Element Leaders and Flight Sergeants, and chosen by C/First Sergeant and C/Cadet Commander. The Cadet of the Month must have attended a CAP event during the month, best score on inspection, and exemplify the Core Values of Civil Air Patrol of Integrity, Volunteer Services, Excellence and Respect. Congratulations Cadet Newman!



CyberPatriot

For the past couple months, the SFCS CyberPatriot team have been practicing during the Training Rounds working with one Windows image and one Ubuntu image. The upcoming Practice Round will be a challenge for them as they will be working with 4 images and Cisco Networking. Keep up the good work, Team SFCS!

PROMOTIONS

Based on NHQ and unit reports

Cadet Member Promotions

Cadet Officer Promotions



General Ira Eaker Award & promotion to Cadet Lieutenant Colonel (C/Lt Col) - Congratulations to:

- Glen Glaser of Big Sioux Composite Squadron

Cadet NCO Promotions



Robert Goddard Award & promotion to Cadet Chief Master Sergeant (C/CMSgt) – Congratulations to:

- Andrew Alexei Smith of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron



Jimmy Doolittle Award & promotion to Cadet Senior Master Sergeant (C/SMSgt) – Congratulations to:

- Abigail Williams of Big Sioux Composite Squadron



Charles Lindberg Award & promotion to Cadet Master Sergeant (C/MSgt) – Congratulations to:

- Mitchell Trias of Big Sioux Composite Squadron



Wright Brothers Achievement & promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant (C/SSgt) – Congratulations to:

- Sibi Manian of Big Sioux Composite Squadron

Cadet Airman Promotions



General H. H. “Hap” Arnold Achievement & promotion to Airman First Class (C/A1C) – Congratulations to:

- Isaac Mayo of Mitchell Composite Squadron
- Jacob Hadden of Rushmore Composite Squadron
- Kaden Anderson-Schafer of Rushmore Composite Squadron



Cadet Airman (C/Amn) (Achievement 1) – Congratulations to:

- Garrison Heinz of Miller Flight
- Evan Onken of Miller Flight

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4275 Airport Rd, Suite A, Rapid City, South Dakota 57703