



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Civil Air Patrol Newsletter for December 2020

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

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WING TIPS

Glaser Presented Eaker Award

C/LtCol Glen Glaser, of Big Sioux Composite Squadron, received his prestigious Ira C. Eaker award during a formal presentation ceremony October 29.

Due to restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ceremony was held online.

Over 30 members and guests attended, including NCR commander Col. John O'Neill, NCR/CC; Col. Nicholas Gengler, SDWG/CC; Capt. Tyler Gross, Big Sioux Squadron Commander; and Air Force Capt Bethany Gross, an assistant professor of Aerospace Studies at South Dakota State University. All four spoke during the ceremony.



SAREX Planned for 5 Dec

South Dakota Wing will hold its first operational exercise of the fiscal year on Saturday, December 5. The Distributed SAREX will have members participating from their homes due to COVID restrictions.

“Even with COVID-19, we have a commitment to the Air Force, our leadership and our communities to continue our training,” said SDWG/CS for Operations Capt. Richard Rezac.

Aircrews will train according to COVID guidelines. Ground team members will have online preparatory training. Participants will also have remote communications training, conducted at the same time as a region communications exercise.

“It would be great to see everyone that is ICUT qualified with a handheld radio at their house, communicating during the SAREX,” said Col. Nick Gengler, SDWG/CC. “We can’t meet in person, but we can still train. Seeing a dozen radios communicate in town or across the state would be amazing to hear. Work with your squadron commander to sign out a handheld radio temporarily in the next week.”

Members may sign up to participate in the SAREX event using this link:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/5-december-2020-sarex-tickets-129215614381>

Two SDWG Units Compete in CyberPatriot XIII Round #1



C/MSGT Mitchell Trias is a competitor on Big Sioux's middle school team this season.



C/SSgt Sibi Manian is one of three new competitors on Big Sioux's high school team.

Three South Dakota Wing teams competed in the first round of CyberPatriot XIII, the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association, on Sunday, November 15th. Two teams from Big Sioux Composite Squadron and one from Sioux Falls Composite Squadron represented the wing.

CyberPatriot puts teams of high school and middle school students in the position of newly hired IT professionals tasked with managing the network of a small company. Through a series of online competition rounds, teams are given a set of virtual operating systems and are tasked with finding and fixing cybersecurity vulnerabilities while maintaining critical services. The top teams in the nation earn all-expenses-paid trips to Maryland for the National Finals Competition where they can earn national recognition

and scholarship money. Last season's National Finals Competition in March was adapted to a virtual competition and it remains to be seen what this season's National Finals will be like. The CyberPatriot Program Office has, however, adjusted this year's rules to allow team members to participate remotely in the three qualifying "online" rounds and communicate with their team members via calls and video chat.

Big Sioux's high school team consists of C/Capt Isaiah Klosterman, C/2dLt Lydia Klosterman, both of Brandon; C/CMSgt Emily Williams and C/SMSgt Abigail Williams, both of Egan; and C/SSgt Sibi Manian of Brookings. Big Sioux's middle school team consists of C/MSgt Mitchell Trias of Estelline; and C/Amn Tysen King of Volga.

Sioux Falls Composite Squadron team was a High School team in the All Services Division. Cadets who competed were C/CMSgt Kaleb Sarchet of Valley Springs; and C/CMSgt Grace Ingebretsen and C/SSgt Leif Ingebretsen, both of Luverne, MN. The SFCS team also includes C/MSgt Zephyr Tolliver of Lennox and C/SSgt Madison Stroud of Salem, who did not compete in this round.

The official scores have not been released, but the unofficial scoreboard places the Sioux Falls high school team was 285th out of 745 All Service Division Round 1 teams. The Big Sioux high school team was 346th out of 745 All Service Division Round 1 teams and the middle school team at 216th out of 386 Middle School Division teams that competed in Round 1.

Round 2 will take place the weekend of December 11-13.

Units Earn Aerospace Award

Congratulations to Capt. Ruth Carley and the Pierre Composite Squadron, and 1st Lt. Pandey Rezac and the Miller Flight, on their units earning the Squadron Aerospace Education Achievement Award. This award recognizes squadrons who have excelled in AE during the preceding fiscal year.

To earn the achievement award, a squadron must perform eight tasks related to management of the AE program in the unit, to internal AE, and to external AE. The tasks are tracked automatically in CAP's eServices system. The annual awards are announced at the end of each federal fiscal year based on criteria accomplished throughout the previous year.

The award is important because Aerospace Education is one of the three formal missions of CAP and includes promoting interest in aerospace, aviation and STEM.

2021 Joint Dakota Encampment Update

by Capt Richard Rezac

Hello all. Planning for the 2021 Joint Dakota Encampment is underway. Our time slot at Camp Rapid for 9 – 18 July, 2021 has been secured. We are working with the North Dakota Air National Guard for food service. The Advanced Training Flight planning includes an NRA event at the Fall River Shooting Range as well as Model Rocketry. We are also interviewing for executive staff positions.

Thank you to those who have already committed to a staff position. If you are thinking about attending encampment as senior-member staff, please let me know as soon as you can. Do you need previous encampment experience? No. Do you need to serve in a Cadet Program position? No. All you need to be is an active senior member

who wants to serve cadets. Encampment is a venue for adult CAP members to grow as leaders of cadets. It is the #1 CAP cadet activity in terms of total participation.

If you want more info on what encampment is and how it works, you can check out CAPP 60-70, "Cadet Encampment Guide." If you have specific questions regarding the 2021 Joint Dakota Encampment, just let me know.

SDWG Continues Support for ANG Intercept Training

Several members of the South Dakota wing got to play with the Air National Guard this month. On Nov 17th and 18th, two of our aircrews participated in the operation referred to as Felix Keynote, supporting the 114th Fighter Wing during its Air Intercept Training. This training allows fighter pilots, controllers and NORAD personnel to coordinate rapid intercepts of aircraft that show signs of distress or fail to obey air traffic controller instructions.



"Our mission was to make sure our local Air Guardsmen are ready to perform their mission," said Capt. Richard Rezac, SDWG/CV for Operations. "This is vital training for our air intercept forces. The nature of air combat is always changing. It is now more crucial than ever for the Air Force to be able to effectively engage targets that behave like our CAP aircraft. The 114th Fighter Wing greatly appreciated our efforts. We hope to be able to provide support for this training in the future."

Lt. Col. Duncan Keirnes, Capt. Kurt Johnson, Capt. Richard Rezac and SM Roger Jepsen participated in Felix Keynote during the last month.



McIntosh Passes Form 5

Cadet Airman Raymond McIntosh successfully passed his first CAP Form 5, aircraft checkout check-ride.

His evaluator, Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich said that Cadet McIntosh did exceptionally well and looks forward to him flying with CAP more.

Cadet McIntosh was selected for the CAP Cadet Wings Program and did his initial flight training in Florida.

STAFF NOTES



Wing Commander

Col. Nick Gengler, CAP

- I recently attended the Virtual Wing Commander's College in November. It was 3 days of virtual meetings with NHQ staff. There were 20 Wing Commanders from around the country that attended. We were able to have one on one conversations with several NHQ staff members as well as talk to fellow Wing Commanders. We shared ideas and our troubles. It was good to see the problems we face are not unique. Wings all across the country tackle the same problems and come up with different solutions. NHQ is readily available to help us as we call upon them. I hope to continue working with the other Wing Commanders and the NHQ staff in the coming years.
- Every SD Wing member is entitled to a @sdwg.cap.gov email address. With that comes access to an online version of several Microsoft Office programs. All for free! If you are interested in obtaining one, please request one here: <https://sdwg.cap.gov/email>
- We are unfortunately still at Phase 0. COVID-19 is not going away and cases are as high as ever around us. I ask you take this time to stay vigilant & safe. There will be an end to the pandemic and we will come out of this ready to get back to action. For now, please remember our core values and continue to treat everyone with respect. There is still a lot of training that can be done virtually. Looking for Squadron activity ideas? Take a virtual tour of a museum, NASA, or hundreds of other options available online.
- 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.
- It is almost the end of the year and that means it is time to start looking at awards! We will be looking for commendations and "of the year" awards alike. Everything is due by January 15. Please submit them via eServices in the Awards module. I will quote our NCR Awards Chairman, Lt. Col. Anna-Marie Bistodeau:
- The year 2020 has been a very challenging year. This year may also be a year where some of our members have really stepped up in their participation to meet the challenges of this year. Our members have been creative, diligent and dedicated in continuing with the CAP program even though we have gone virtual and have been "zooming" into homes to continue with our meetings. Let us honor these members. Let us recognize these members with the Volunteer Paycheck of an award nomination.
- The SD Wing is looking to host a Virtual Cadet Leadership Academy at the end of the year. More info is coming to stay tuned!



Wing Chief of Staff (Outreach)

Lt. Col. Todd Epp, CAP

I am pleased to announce the appointment of retired USAF Col. Bill Strandell to the position of Wing Director of Development.

Bill has also transferred to Wing from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, where he was instrumental in leading the remodeling of the facilities, developed mentoring programs, and raised funds. He was also the squadron's Emergency Services Officer, where he did extensive work on training plans and tracking members' training needs. A civil engineer, Bill has extensive military and civilian experience.

As Director of Development, he will work on obtaining grants and other funding for the Wing and assist and coordinate fundraising activities with the units. While at SFCS, he was instrumental in obtaining contributions from Thrivent (formerly Lutheran Brotherhood), as well as contributions from other sources.

Unit commanders, you will enjoy working with Bill!

Also on our development team is retired SDANG BG Ron Mielke, who has extensive fundraising experience through the Sioux Falls Air Show and other activities. General Mielke is also well known and respected throughout the state's military establishment and aviation community.

With our top-notch team in place, we are set for an aggressive program of seeking funds for our Wing and units. Money doesn't solve all problems but it solves a lot of them. We'll have more details for you after the New Year.

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I'm still looking for a Wing Director of Public Affairs. See your name and photos in print! Talk to the public! Talk to journalists like me! Promote the Wing and its units! Let me know if you're interested at todd.epp@sdwg.cap.gov.



Wing Command NCO

TSgt Shawn Bawden, CAP

Professional Reading List
Part 2 of 3

SAR & Incident Management

Last year the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) published an updated version of *Fundamentals of Search and Rescue* (second edition). This book is considered the gold-standard for anyone studying SAR operations. The entire work is full of useful information, including the section on CAP, although the third chapter, "Incident Management," should be required reading for anyone interested in being part of the Command and General Staff on an Incident Management Team (e.g. Operations

Section Chief, Planning Section Chief, Safety Officer, etc.). This book can be easily obtained by using the interlibrary loan system at your local library.

Another book available to all CAP members for free from Air University Press is *Combat Search and Rescue in Desert Storm*. Written by Col Whitcomb, USAFR (retired), the book not only explains the difference between CSAR (locate, authenticate, and recovery) and SAR (locate and recovery), but also describes how the USAF devolved its role in SAR in the 1970s although there's no mention of CAP's role in this process. Perhaps the most useful part for us is a series of questions found in the foreword, e.g. Who makes the launch decision? What are the launch criteria for a rescue attempt?

Finally, anyone working as a Public Information Officer (PIO) should have a look at *Working with the Media in Search and Rescue*. This book can be downloaded for free from the Mountain Rescue Association's website, <http://mra.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/workingwithmedia.pdf>. With so much interest in search and rescue operations, it is imperative that SAR organizations have a capable representative that can communicate important information to the public by way of the media.

Do you have a favorite book about SAR or incident management? 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 history and heritage. *Semper Vigilans!*



Wing Director of Education and Training

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

Senior Members---Do you know what your Specialty Track is? Did you know you can have more than one Specialty Track?

As a new member you were asked to choose a Specialty Track from a list offered to you. Most members choose one or two that mesh with their interests in why they joined CAP. How often have you thought of that Specialty Track? Probably not very often!

Most members don't realize--until too late--that their Specialty Track can get them that next Award and Promotion or it can keep them from getting that Award and Promotion. In order to get the next promotion, you have to complete the level you are working in. For instance, you may have the time-in-grade to promote to Captain, but if you haven't finished Level 3 you cannot promote. You need to finish Level 4 to become Major and Level 5 to promote to Lt. Col.

Starting in Level 2, you will need to complete a series of modules, pass the Yeager Aerospace Test and earn a Technician Rating in your Specialty Track. Each Specialty Track has three levels-Technician, Senior and Master. As you progress through the five Levels of the senior program, you need to be progressing through your Specialty Track.

Once you selected a Specialty Track--go to the Member section of the Main page, go to Publications and then click on Pamphlets. That is where you will find the Pamphlet that walks you through your Specialty Track--it is really your On-the-Job Training Manual. There is a checklist for each rating. My suggestion is to print off the checklist for your rating and look at it and work on it often. Next--find a mentor. It could be someone in your squadron, or wing. National is putting together a formal Mentoring

program so that if you need to find a mentor outside of our wing--you can! Or call me and we will work together to find that mentor that will help you navigate the system! Our pay is the awards and promotions for all we do--don't let that one little thing hold you back!

Col. Mary Donley
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605-321-8056

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

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

Squadron Commander Change of Command

On October 22, 2020 Captain Kurt Johnson relinquished command of the Sioux Falls Composite squadron to 2d Lt. Ed McHale. South Dakota Wing Commander Colonel Nick Gengler performed the change of command ceremony.

2d Lt. McHale has begun his tenure during this time of virtual meetings due to Covid-19. He brings experience and enthusiasm to mentor the cadets and grow the squadron.



Back to Virtual Meetings

Much like the rest of the state and country, SFCS is back to virtual meetings due to COVID-19. Despite these unfortunate circumstances, our cadets and senior staff continue to meet weekly.

Cadets participate in Fun Nights, Character Development, PT at home, Aerospace and Leadership lessons. Cadets are also still promoting and reaching their goals!

BIG SIoux COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058 – BROOKINGS)

The South Dakota Wing is back in Phase 0 of COVID restrictions, but this has not stopped the Big Sioux Composite Squadron from having well-attended weekly meetings every Thursday. Physical Training, Drill, Safety, and Emergency Services have all been incorporated into meetings, as well as other activities.

Members from Mitchell Composite Squadron have been in attendance at Big Sioux's virtual meetings during November. We have enjoyed having these members join us in our meetings! We are missing being able to have these meetings in-person.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38 – PIERRE)



Restoration crews moved the Piper J-3C-65-8 into the Cold War Gallery on Aug. 18, 2016 where it is on display near the gallery entrance. This aircraft was donated in 1971 by the Greene County Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, of Xenia, Ohio. (Shown with its big younger brother.) Photo from U.S. Air Force.

Pierre Composite Squadron members continue to work on cadet achievements and senior functions remotely for now. We are looking forward to the resumption of in-person meetings.

Pierre Continues Virtual Meetings

With the huge increase in COVID cases in South Dakota and elsewhere the squadron is continuing with virtual meetings.

A recent meeting included a virtual tour of the National Museum of the United States Air Force narrated by Captain Jon Becker via Teams (see photo).

Captain Becker is a Pierre Squadron member, pilot and former Air Force member.

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-63 – SPEARFISH)

Squadron Highlights

Our very own 2nd Lt. Jon Raevsky is now a CAP pilot! He drove to Brookings twice and flew with Maj. E. W. Filler on several training sorties in a Cessna 182 equipped with G1000 avionics. During one of the sorties he flew to Sioux Falls with Maj. Filler and then met with Lt. Col. Jeremy Langrock in order to take his initial Form 5 examination. 2nd Lt. Raevsky recently met with Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich in Spearfish to take a Form 5 exam in the Cessna 172 now at the Black Hills Airport. "It was really nice to have all three of those guys give their time and help me through the needed tasks. I hope to get to Mission Pilot in the near future," added 2d Lt. Raevsky.

Promotions

Congratulations to Lt. Col. Bill Collister of Sturgis, the Wing's Inspector General, on his recent promotion! Lt. Col. Collister began his CAP career in 1968 as a cadet. He served the US Marine Corps for 8 years and the Wyoming Air National Guard for 33 years. Last year Lt. Col. Collister earned the Gill Robb Wilson Award, CAP's premiere award for Senior Member professional development. The Wilson Award recognizes individuals who have dedicated themselves to leadership and personal development. Lt. Col. Collister said he was motivated by our cadets and wanted to set an example for them to follow as they advance through their promotions and achievements. Among his many accomplishments, Lt. Col. Collister was the squadron commander of Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron from 2014 to 2018.

Kudos

Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Jon Raevsky of Spearfish, a member of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron, who recently completed the requirements for a Civil Air Patrol Pilot Rating and, in recognition thereof, has earned the CAP Pilot Badge (wings).

Congratulations to TSgt Shawn Bawden of Spearfish, Wing Command NCO, who completed Level 3 of the Civil Air Patrol's Senior Member Professional Development program and, in recognition thereof, has earned the Grover C. Loening Aerospace Award.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-68 – CUSTER)

Crazy Horse Composite Squadron was represented during the 26th annual Custer Veteran's Day program on November 11. The program is organized by the Custer High School student council, the local American Legion and the VFW.

Civil Air Patrol member and student, Preston Drew, read a statement from Greg Whitlock, South Dakota secretary of Veterans Affairs. Whitlock urged the community to find ways to give back to veterans.

PROMOTIONS

Based on NHQ and unit reports

Senior Member Officer Promotions



Promotion to Second Lieutenant (2d Lt) – Congratulations to:

- Destiny Jorenby of Big Sioux Composite Squadron

Cadet Member Promotions

Cadet NCO Promotions



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

- Clara Giddings of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
- Ryan Schultz of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

Cadet Airman Promotions



Mary Feik Achievement & promotion to Senior Airman (C/SrA) - Congratulations to

- Lydia McClary of Lincoln County Composite Squadron



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

- Joshua Renner of Lincoln County Composite Squadron



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

- Abigail Mungunkhet of Big Sioux Composite Squadron
- Kenneth Mungunkhet of Big Sioux Composite Squadron

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