



“THE SKYCHASER”

South Dakota Wing Civil Air Patrol Newsletter for January 2021

*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



www.facebook.com/SDWingCAP



[@SDWingCAP](https://twitter.com/SDWingCAP)

WING TIPS

COVID FLIGHTS DRAW NATIONAL ATTENTION

South Dakota Wing completed two air transport of COVID-19 vaccination doses and supplies December 15-16, and news of the mission was reported across the country.

The air sorties went without a hitch, except for a weather delay, but due to security concerns, there were restrictions about what could be published about the missions.

Nevertheless, the initial SDWG news release about the mission found its way into many major daily newspapers, broadcast stations, and networks across the country.

The flights were performed under a memorandum of agreement with the South Dakota Department of Health. Additional vaccine transport flights are likely.



Aircrew members (l-r) Lt. Col. Jeremy Langrock, Maj. Karla West, and Capt. Matt Meert

WING RECEIVES RARE UNIT CITATION

South Dakota Wing has received a rare award for excellence. The Unit Citation Award, given by the organization's national headquarters, recognized unprecedented growth and accomplishments during 2019.

In the online presentation ceremony, Lt. Col. John O'Neill, CAP North Central Region Commander, praised South Dakota CAP members. He noted that the award is so rare that he has never seen one presented.

"You very clearly earned this award in 2019, but you haven't stopped," he said. "2020 has been a really crazy year and you in South Dakota Wing have clearly stepped to the forefront, still, and continued this tradition."

The award recognizes exceptionally outstanding achievement which clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units, including:

- Recruitment – increase in squadrons in the wing
- Aerospace Education – outreach in rural communities
- Legislative Squadron – huge increase in membership
- First CAP use of a small unmanned aerial vehicle (drone) on an actual search mission

Col. Nick Gengler, South Dakota Wing Commander, commended the state membership for continuing to serve the state well, in spite of COVID-19 restrictions.

"You guys have been meeting online weekly," he said. "It's great to see that. I've jumped into a few meetings. It's great to see you guys are training, still progressing. As South Dakotans we don't slow down and I appreciate that."

Gengler noted that everyone who was a CAP member in South Dakota during 2019 is entitled to wear the unit citation ribbon on their military-style dress uniforms.



Col. John O'Neill

WING CONDUCTS TWO MISSING PERSONS SEARCHES, EARNS SAVE, FINDS

South Dakota Wing participated in a missing-person search on November 29 that yielded a Find Ribbon for the wing, and a search on December 13 that earned both a Save and a Find.

November 28

The wing was alerted to a missing-person search near Manderson, SD, on November 28. The local emergency manager had already contacted AFRCC to request assistance from the CAP cell phone forensics team, as well as air and ground assets. Lt. Col. Todd Epp served as IC and immediately started forming a team and a plan of action.

By the morning of the 29th, 29 members from across the wing had volunteered to serve as aircrew, ground team and mission staff. An aircrew from Spearfish began a search with another aircraft in Pierre on standby. Members from several units were on-scene in Manderson serving in communications, sending sUAS units to the field, and

getting ready to go out on ground-team sorties. Things happened very quickly regarding the search. With cell-phone data from CAP's forensics team, local resources were able to locate the missing youth.

December 13

The wing sent one aircraft and one ground team to Wanblee, both from Rapid City, to assist a missing person search on the Pine Ridge Reservation on December 13th. The wing was credited with one SAVE and one FIND for the mission by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC).

Col. Mike Beason was Incident Commander for the mission, Col. Nick Gengler was Ground Branch Director to coordinate ground teams. Capt. Richard Rezac was Plans Section Chief. Capt. Ryon Skaggs was Comm. Unit Leader. The aircrew was Lt. Col. Howard Steiner as Mission Pilot, SM Chris Banks as Mission Observer, and Maj. Jonathan Owen as Scanner. The ground team was led by SM Jacob Roth from Rushmore Composite Squadron.

The aircrew flew to the search area and accomplished an expanding square search at 1000 ft above the ground, flying 1/2 mile spacing between legs. After about an hour of flight in the search area, the emergency manager notified CAP that the missing person had been located. The ground team was just arriving at the search site. Both aircrew and ground teams were notified to return to base.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR SDWG VIRTUAL CADET LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A reminder that SDWG will be hosting our Virtual Cadet Leadership Academy on Monday, December 28 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm CST. Here's the Eventbrite link to sign up:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2020-south-dakota-wing-virtual-cadet-leadership-academy-tickets-130881105911>

The academy will include classes ranging from History and Evolution of the US Flag and Flag Protocol to Advanced Uniform Appearance and Air Force and civilian aviation career opportunities.

WING HOLDS SAREX AMID COVID RESTRICTIONS

SD Wing held a Search and Rescue training exercise on Dec 5, with training conducted in Spearfish, Pierre, Custer, Rapid City, and Sioux Falls.

Due to COVID restrictions, most training was aircrew only, flying search patterns and communications relay flights. With approval from National HQ, the Wing also conducted "first in the nation" drone (sUAS) training while under COVID Phase Zero restrictions, following waiver guidelines written by Col. Mike Beason, sUAS director of operations assistant for the wing.

Twenty members flew 25 aircrew sorties out of Spearfish, Pierre, Sioux Falls and Rapid City on Saturday and Sunday, conducting training of mission pilots, observers, and scanners. They conducted searches and photography missions.

"I believe this is the most sorties flown on a SAREX in the past year," Beason said.

The sUAS teams flew under a corporate mission, practicing missing person searches and stitching of photos to make a mosaic map of their areas. The 13 team members flew 12 flights on three sorties. Two pilots in Sioux Falls also accomplished their annual flight check rides.

The mission training was coordinated by Lt. Col. Craig Goodrich and Capt. Richard Rezac. Mission staff for the SAREX included Col. Beason as Incident Commander, Col. Mary Donley requalifying as Plans Section Chief, and Lt. Col. Jeremy Langrock training as Air Operations Branch Director. Lt. Col. Langrock performed the bulk of the work, coordinating air sorties all day. 1st Lt. Ryon Skaggs was Comm. Unit Leader.



Drone search west of Rapid City on missing hiker exercise.
Taken by Lt. Col. Goodrich with SkyDio2 drone.

SD WING MEMBERS ATTEND VIRTUAL ICS 400 CLASS

Three South Dakota Wing members advanced their ES education by attending a virtual ICS 400 class on Nov 21st and 22nd. These and other virtual classes were offered by NESA's Mobile Training Team.

Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, Lt. Col. Jeremy Langrock, and Capt. Richard Rezac completed the virtual ICS 400 course.

ICS 400 course expands on information covered in previous FEMA courses. It emphasizes large-scale organizational development; roles and relationships of the command and general staff; and planning, operational, logistical, and fiscal considerations related to large and complex incident and event management. It is a critical class for those who want to eventually serve as a CAP Incident Commander, Mission Safety Officer, Liaison Officer and other mission staff jobs.

MEMBERS ATTEND VIRTUAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACADEMY

Three members of South Dakota Wing joined CAP PAOs, PAO Trainees, PIOs, Recruiting & Retention Officers, and Commanders from across the country for the RMR/COWG Virtual Public Affairs Academy.

Annual training is required for all PAOs, and attending this Virtual PAO Academy fulfills that requirement. 180 CAP members from across the country registered and 142 actually attended – Arizona, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, North Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming wings all were noted as having multiple members attending.

Three South Dakota Wing members attended – Maj. Karla West (Sioux Falls Composite Squadron), 2d Lt. Rudy Trias (Big Sioux Composite Squadron) and 2d Lt. Destiny Jorenby (Big Sioux Composite Squadron).

Sessions covered working with the media, writing articles and news releases, use of social media, promoting CAP and CAP branding, recruiting and CAPR190-1, CAPP201 PAO Specialty Track, and Mission PIO SQTR. The presenters also got to hear about the National Cell Phone Forensics Team, which often plays a role in CAP search missions.

Prizes were awarded throughout the event and during the game of PAO Jeopardy that many attendees participated in. Overall, the event was engaging and the SDWG attendees said they learned a lot.

STAFF NOTES



Wing Commander

Col. Nick Gengler, CAP

- Lt. Col. Bill Strandell is now the new SD Wing Director of Development. Lt Col Strandell will be helping the Wing and the Squadrons look at grants and fundraising opportunities. Please do feel free to reach out to Lt Col Strandell with any questions. bill.strandell@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.
- The SD Wing is looking to host a Virtual Cadet Leadership Academy at the end of the year on December 28th. This is a free event. Please sign up here: [2020 South Dakota Wing Virtual Cadet Leadership Academy Tickets, Mon, Dec 28, 2020 at 9:00 AM | Eventbrite](#)
- COVID-19 cases are dropping and we are looking at moving back to Phase 1 in the near future. Please remember to stay safe during the holidays and have a Merry Christmas.
- National Cadet Special Activity Applications are open. Cadets, please go in eServices to the Event Administration module to apply for a NCSA. For more information on NCSA's, please check them out here: [National Cadet Special Activities | Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters \(gocivilairpatrol.com\)](#)



Wing Chief of Staff (Outreach)

Lt. Col. Todd Epp, CAP

Thank you to everyone who made our first sorties delivering the coronavirus vaccine the week of 14 December 2020 a great success!

We had great teamwork. Col. Nick Gengler and Lt. Col. Jeremy Langrock worked tirelessly with our state government, CAP NHQ, CAP-USAF, and the First Air Force to make sure we were among the first to deliver the vaccine.

Besides helping to save lives and keeping people healthy, these deliveries also provided hope to our fellow South Dakotans in smaller communities. Gov. Kristi Noem, the S.D. Department of Health, and the state's big health care systems ensured that the vaccine was distributed equitably in the fight against COVID-19. It didn't matter if you live in a big or a little town, the vaccine was there.

As the first sorties' incident commander, it was humbling to know that our organization was stepping into a similar role that we did in the 1940s during World War II. Then, we patrolled the Black Hills for fires and made sure aircraft parts and mail made it to the many far-flung Army and Army Air Corps bases in the region. In the 1950s, we helped deliver the first polio vaccines.

We stand on the shoulders of those giants. And someday, future SDWG members will stand on ours with their important missions that serve their state and nation during their time of need.



Wing Command NCO

TSgt Shawn Bawden, CAP

Professional Reading List

Part 3 of 3

History & Heritage

At the top of everyone's reading list should be *Beyond the Wild Blue: A History of the U.S. Air Force* written by Col. Walter J. Boyne, USAF (retired). This work is a fascinating look at USAF's first fifty years and includes a section on the NCO Corps. These pages (pp. 223-233) are **a must-read for anyone wanting to know more about NCOs, our contributions, and some of the challenges we've faced**. Col. Boyne also highlights how the Air Force has embraced innovation from the very start of the organization, and there are clearly some parallels in CAP. Examples from the past decade include the restructuring of CAP's NCO Corps, cell phone forensics, the use of sUAS, pilot training for active-duty Airmen (both officers and enlisted) by CAP instructors, and flight training for our cadets such as Cadet Wings and the Take-Off Program. aka TOP Cadet. These examples are great reminders of how CAP has also incorporated innovation and continues the tradition established by USAF.

Col. Boyne's book noticeably overlooks one group: the Airmen of USAF's special warfare. Fortunately, *Brothers in Berets: The Evolution of Air Force Special Tactics, 1953-2003*, fills this gap and tells the story of the remarkable individuals who perform special reconnaissance, tactical air control, and pararescue (i.e. combat search and rescue or CSAR). Their exploits are an inspiration especially since CAP is part of the SAR community. This book, written by Forrest L. Marion, was published by Air University Press in 2018. **All works from Air University Press are free to CAP members.**

Focusing on our own organization, CAP's accomplishments during World War II have finally been given the attention they deserve. Written by Col. Frank A. Blazich,

CAP, *An Honorable Place in American Air Power: Civil Air Patrol Coastal Patrol Operations, 1942–1943* tells the true story of the efforts to combat Nazi U-boats. Although chronicled previously, Col. Blazich, curator of modern military history at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History, provides important corrections to CAP’s actions during the war. Based on his extensive research, Col. Blazich also gives us many important insights regarding the use of CAP that should be considered doctrinal in nature. These conclusions, such as auxiliary Airmen (i.e. CAP members) functioning as military professionals to supplement active duty personnel in certain domestic roles, will certainly give our leaders something to discuss. This book, also from Air University Press, was published in December and, at the time of this writing, is only available as an ebook. Hard copies will be available in early 2021.

Do you have a favorite book about CAP or USAF history? Send me your recommendations and I’ll add them to my professional reading list! I can be reached at shawn.bawden@sdwg.cap.gov. *Semper Vigilans!*



Wing Director of Safety

Lt. Col. Mark K. Huntington, CAP

Outlook for COVID and CAP: A safety and health perspective

At the time of this writing, SDWG is at Phase 0. The pandemic will continue to rage for quite some time to come; it is our new normal. What does the future look like? CAP, and specifically SDWG, will resume activities in pursuit of each of our missions. But now more than ever, risk management (ORM) will matter. ORM is balancing risks, both with benefit as well as competing risks.

COVID is a tricky disease. For many it is mild, or even asymptomatic; for others, it is *lethal*. As SDWG resumes its activities, it will be important to engage in ORM at both an organizational and an individual level. Even if SDWG conducts a specific activity, it does not mean it is appropriate for every member to participate! *It is important for every member to evaluate their own risk level for infection.* One valuable resource that I recommend – a recommendation that the taskforce of CAP HSOs has shared with *national* CAP leadership – is the individual risk calculator found at <https://south-dakota.covid-age.com/>. By entering a few relevant bits of data, it shows your statistical risk of severe disease, including hospitalization, ICU admission, and death. This allows us to take individual responsibility and decide whether or not to participate in CAP activities, regardless of decisions made at the organizational level. Everyone is a safety officer, and it is each of our obligation to call a “knock it off” – including a personal “knock it off” if unsafe actions occur.

Your unit SE and HSO are available to provide individual guidance if you have questions, and they have ready access to Wing resources if they need additional information.

Stay safe!
“Doc”



Wing Director of Education and Training

Col. Mary Donley, CAP

As time goes on with our training being virtual, I worry that some of our newest senior members are feeling bewildered and neglected. I found out, though, that we have one squadron that has found a great way to engage their senior members in training. The Big Sioux Composite Squadron—Brookings—has been offering Level I and Level II training for their seniors and are seeing great success in seeing them progress and stay engaged. This is crucial because nationwide the numbers for retention are not looking good. South Dakota has maintained but we need to do more.

I am putting together some virtual training for our newest members and hope to start off in mid-January. (I have to learn the technology to do this first!) I plan to start off with meeting with the Squadron Commanders or Professional Development Officers of each squadron to outline what I will be doing and getting their input. Then my goal is to spend 2-3 weeks with those members that need to accomplish Level I. I want to give them the tools to navigate eServices and how to accomplish the training needed. Then I will move on to the members in Level II that need to accomplish many of the modules to finish that level. Many of the modules in Level II can be done on their own but there are a few that have to be moderated –or led by an instructor. So, any of you that are instructors in VOLU I may be calling on your services to help!

As always—knowledge is power! We need to give our senior members the knowledge to succeed in this program so look for these upcoming training opportunities. I would like to stay away from your regular meeting nights so am possibly going to do this on Wednesday nights to start with—unless we find this night does not work! That's why I need your input! Contact me at: mary.donley@sdwg.cap.gov or 605-321-8056!

SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-63 – SPEARFISH)

Our operational tempo saw a big increase compared to much of 2020. In addition to the COVID-19 vaccine being delivered by our teammates in the East River area, members of our squadron participated in two Search and Rescue (SAR) missions and one exercise (SAREX) in recent weeks.

The first mission (Manderson SAR 20-M-0719A) occurred over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend. Four members of our squadron assisted with the search for a missing teenager on the Pine Ridge Reservation. Lt. Col. DeWeese, Lt. Col. Bill Collister, and 2nd Lt. Cynthia Collister took to the air while TSgt. Bawden was the mission's Public Information Officer (PIO). The missing person was soon found and everyone who participated in this mission will receive the Rescue Find Ribbon!

The second mission (Wanblee SAR 20-M-0731A) occurred on December 13 and was also on the Pine Ridge Reservation. An aircrew and ground team staffed by members of the Rushmore Composite Squadron led the search and TSgt. Bawden was

again the mission's PIO. The missing person was later found by officials from the reservation.

A SAREX (20-T-4019) occurred between these two missions on December 5. Only two squadron members participated in the exercise; Lt. Col. DeWeese and 2nd Lt. Raevsky were able to get in the air and continue to hone the skills as pilots. In fact, 2nd Lt. Raevsky is now qualified as a Transport Mission Pilot (TMP), an Orientation Pilot, and is now working on his Mission Pilot qualification!

If that wasn't enough, work was completed to replace the deck and stairs leading to the entrance of our squadron's HQ. Lt. Col. DeWeese led the effort and was assisted by Lt. Col. Collister, Maj. Randy Rhoades, 2d Lt. Jon Raevsky, and Mr. Ross Farber. Thank you to everyone who helped with this important project. Lt. Col. DeWeese is still searching for donations to help defray the cost of building materials.



Kudos

Congratulations to 2nd Lt. Jon Raevsky who earned his commercial pilot's license on December 13! 2nd Lt. Raevsky is also qualified as a Transport Mission Pilot (TMP), Orientation Pilot, and is now working on his Mission Pilot qualification. Well done!

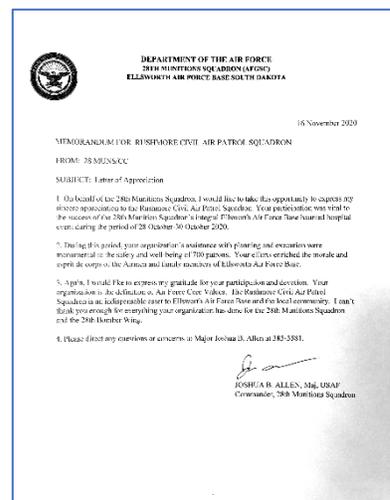
Early this fall, three of our cadets participated in the NRA marksmanship qualification program in Pierre. C/Senior Airman. Elijah Stomprud, C/Senior Airman. Joshua Stumprud, and C/Senior Airman. Kaira Stumprud all earned the high coveted NRA Marksmanship Badge!

And our squadron commander, Lt. Col. Buck DeWeese, recently completed the ICS-400 (Advanced Incident Command System for Command and General Staff) course. ICS-400 is designed for those emergency response personnel who manage large, complex incidents or events, or those personnel who are or would likely be part of a local or regional Incident Management Team during a major incident (see page 4).

RUSHMORE COMPOSITE SQUADRON **(SD-031 – Rapid City)**

Maj. Joshua B. Allen, commander of the 28th Munitions Squadron at Ellsworth AFB has expressed his appreciation to Rushmore Composite Squadron for assisting with his squadron's "Haunted Hospital" event, October 28-30.

"During this period, your organization's assistance with planning and execution were monumental to the safety and well-being of 700 patrons," Allan said. "Rushmore Composite Squadron is an indispensable asset to Ellsworth Air Force Base and the local community.



Rushmore Composite Squadron participated in SDWG's SAR activities near Wanblee in December.
See story on pages 2-3.



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

I would like to report that we received an "EFFECTIVE" on our most recent S.U.I. I am new to Unit - 050 and now am the Squadron Commander. I would just like to personally thank each and every member (CADET & Senior) for their help to attain this "EFFECTIVE" report. It represents to me, the newest Squadron Commander, that I am a part of the best team in the United States Auxiliary, in my opinion.

Our **Cadets** are our future for the United States of America.

Squadron Commander
Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
2nd Lt. Edmund R. McHale Jr., CAP

CyberPatriot

On Saturday, December 12, our SFCS team met virtually for Round 2 of the 13th Annual National CyberPatriot Competition. The cadets who participated were C/Chief Master Sgt. Kaleb Sarchet, C/Chief Master Sgt. Grace Ingebretsen, C/Master Sgt. Zephyr Tolliver, C/Staff Sgt. Madison Stroud and C/Staff Sgt. Leif Ingebretsen.

The team received a preliminary score of 133.44 for the 3 images (Server 2019, Ubuntu, and Windows 10) and Cisco. The team placed 312nd out of 721 high school teams which is the top 43% of all the teams. Final results are pending. The last round will take place January 23.



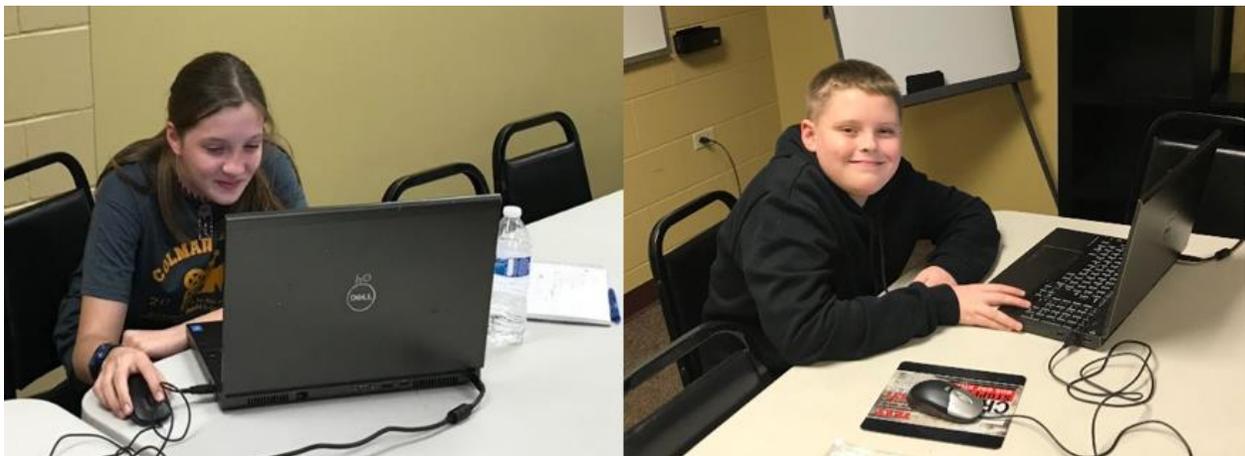
BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-058 – BROOKINGS)

December 5th - SAREX

On Saturday, December 5th, cadets and senior members with the Big Sioux Squadron and across the South Dakota Wing participated in a SAREX focusing on aircrew and communications training. From the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, Capt. Tyler Gross, 2nd Lt. Rudy Trias, and 2nd Lt. Destiny Jorenby participated in aircrew training. SSgt. Dennis Williams, 2nd Lt. Jodi Williams, C/Chief Master Sgt. Abigail Williams, and C/Chief Master Sgt. Emily Williams participated in communications training.

We were thankful for the opportunity to participate in training even though SDWG is in Phase 0 – our members participating in aircrew training even were able to train with members of other squadrons. It was definitely a productive training event!

November 15th - CyberPatriot XIII Round #2



C/Chief Master Sgt. Emily Williams (from Big Sioux's high school team) and C/Amn Tysen King (from Big Sioux's middle school team) both competed on Sunday and are new to competing in CyberPatriot this season.

Two Big Sioux Composite Squadron teams competed on Sunday, December 13th, in the second round of CyberPatriot XIII, the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association. This second round consisted of a Network Security Challenge (Images – Windows 10, Server 2016, and Ubuntu 16) and a Cisco Networking Challenge (a quiz and a packet tracer).

Big Sioux Composite Squadron has a high school team and a middle school team competing in CyberPatriot XIII. Big Sioux's high school team consists of C/Capt. Isaiah Klosterman, C/2nd Lt. Lydia Klosterman, both of Brandon, C/Chief Master Sgt. Emily Williams, C/Chief Master Sgt. Abigail Williams, both of Egan, and C/Tech Sgt. Sibi Manian, of Brookings. Big Sioux's middle school team consists of C/Senior Master Sgt. Mitchell Trias, of Estelline, and C/Airman Basic Tysen King, of Volga.

The official scores have not been released, but the unofficial scoreboard places our high school team at 233rd out of 721 High School All Service Division teams that competed in Round 2 and our middle school team at 323rd out of 378 Middle School Division teams that competed in Round 2.

Weekly Thursday Meetings/Cadet Programs

We are still in Phase 0 in the South Dakota Wing and we are continuing to have weekly meetings every Thursday for our cadets. Big Sioux Composite Squadron's meetings have continued to be well-attended – the cadets have continued enjoying our virtual meetings that have continued to focus on Physical Training, Drill, Safety, Emergency Services, and Leadership Development.

These meetings have been engaging and our cadets have been actively working on their promotions even though we haven't been meeting in-person. We had six promotions among our cadets this month! Abigail Williams of Egan promoted to C/Chief Master Sgt. Mitchell Trias of Estelline promoted to C/Senior Master Sgt. Sibi Manian promoted to C/Tech Sgt. Simon Risty of Estelline promoted to C/Amn. Lyndel Sanchez of Flandreau promoted to C/Airman Basic and Jonathan Sanchez of Flandreau promoted to C/Airman Basic.

Our cadets have been busy! Like in November, we have continued to have members from Mitchell Composite Squadron in attendance on Big Sioux's virtual meetings. We are glad you are enjoying participating in our meetings – thank you for joining us. It has been great getting to know Civil Air Patrol members outside of Big Sioux Composite Squadron during our weekly cadet meetings! Hopefully, 2021 will be less interesting and our cadets will be able to see each other and have meetings in-person again.

CRAZY HORSE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-68 – CUSTER)

Crazy Horse Composite Squadron had two members participate in the missing person search on the Pine Ridge on November 29. By the same token, seven members participated in the December 5 SAREX with an emphasis on sUAS technician training. The unit continues to meet online weekly. And finally, the Squadron's fundraising efforts for Wreaths Across America for the Custer City Cemetery has netted a total of 211 wreaths.

PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SD-38 – PIERRE)

Capt. Jon Becker is a long-time member of the Pierre Squadron, having started in Pierre as a cadet. He had made plans to take the mission pilot check ride several times, but due to scheduling and weather problems, it didn't work out.

He was recently able to coordinate with CAP Lt. Col. Duncan Keirnes of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron and completed the check ride. This was done during a SAREX held in Sioux Falls as the skills required for the check ride fit into the mission in Sioux Falls.

Capt. Becker expressed his appreciation of Lt. Col. Keirnes for doing the check ride that allowed Capt. Becker to get back in the left seat.

Lt. Col. Keirnes has a great deal of experience, having retired as a SD National Guard pilot and an airline pilot.

Capt. Becker works for the South Dakota Department of Transportation in the Office of Air, Rail and Transit.

PROMOTIONS

Based on NHQ and unit reports

Correction

In the November issue promotion section, we inadvertently said that Abigail and Kenneth Mungunkhet are members of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron. In fact, they are members of Big Sioux Composite Squadron. We regret the error.

Senior Member Officer Promotions



Promotion to Captain – Congratulations to:

- Maria “Mimi” Klosterman of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron

Cadet Member Promotions

Cadet Officer Promotions



Promotion to Cadet First Lieutenant (C/1st Lt) – Congratulations to:

- Keon den Hoed of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron



Billy Mitchell Award & promotion to Cadet Second Lieutenant (C/2nd Lt) -
Congratulations to:

- Josiah Kilburn of Rushmore Composite Squadron

Cadet NCO Promotions



Cadet Chief Master Sergeant (C/CMSgt) – congratulations to:

- Abigale Williams of Big Sioux Composite Squadron



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

- Mitchell Trias of Big Sioux Composite Squadron



Charles Lindberg Achievement and promotion to Cadet Master Sergeant (C/MSgt) – Congratulation to:

- Ethan Den Hoed of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron



Cadet Technical Sergeant (C/TSgt) – Congratulation to:

- Madison Stroud of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
- Sibi Manian of Big Sioux Composite Squadron

Cadet Airman Promotions



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

- Noah Daene of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron



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

- Wyatt Timmer of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron
- Simon Risty of Big Sioux Composite Squadron
- Jonathan Sanchez of Big Sioux Composite Squadron
- Lyndel Sanchez of Big Sioux Composite Squadron

Skychaser

is published monthly by South Dakota Wing, Civil Air Patrol.
4275 Airport Rd, Suite A, Rapid City, South Dakota 57703