



# WING TIPS

The Newsletter of Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol

March 2007

## Commander honors the past and looks to the future at Time Capsule Ceremony



Photo Courtesy of CAP National Headquarters

At the recent CAP National Board Meeting, Minnesota Wing Commander Col Steve Miller contributed items to Civil Air Patrol's 65 anniversary time capsule during a dedication ceremony held on Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup> in Washington DC.

These items were an Encampment Patch which represents the cadets of the Civil Air Patrol and their development as future leaders. The Minnesota Wing Patch represents our history. Walt Disney Studios designed a patch for Minnesota Wing and after many years Minnesota switched back to the original design to honor our history as well as the original Disney design. The final item placed in the capsule was a picture of the new Operations and Maintenance Facility to represent Minnesota Wing's commitment to the future.

Each Wing and Region Commander contributed items to the time capsule that will be on display at CAP National Headquarters and will be opened on the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Civil Air Patrol in 2072.

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- Encampment Cadet Leaders Chosen
- Volleyball Competition and Lock-In Results
- Member Recognition
- And "Around The Wing"





## Commander's Column

**Col Steve Miller**

**Commander, Minnesota Wing**

With the spring and summer seasons quickly approaching I encourage all of you to renew your commitment to the missions of CAP. Doing so will make our Wing stronger and more focused on completing our missions.

Aerospace Education – A huge portion of AE is our Cadet Orientation Flight Program. Two years ago, due to a lack of funding, I had to suspend Cadet O-Flights. This year we were authorized more Cadet O-Flight funds than ever before. We need to get cadets into those O-Flights. Cadets – bug your commander for O-Flights. O-Flight pilots – be available for those flights. With good flying weather this season, I would be happy to request additional funds for O-Flights.

Cadet Programs – With the ebb and flow of members in CAP there is a varying interest level in cadet activities. Now is the time to focus and get active again. The recent volleyball tournament was an excellent opportunity for both officers and cadets to get some exercise and have some fun. It was also a recruiting event. Some squadrons brought potential members.

This spring and summer have some excellent opportunities for cadets and officers. Those opportunities include the flight academy, encampment preparatory school, the encampment, the region encampment, the color guard competition, Black CAP ES School, to name a few.

Emergency Services – This fiscal year Minnesota Wing has received more ES training funds than ever before. The Operations and Emergency Services departments have put together a very full schedule to include four major SAREX's, unit based exercises, homeland security exercises, pilot training, and more. You just have to take the time and effort to get involved.

The upcoming Wing Conference is another way to get up to speed and date on all the opportunities available to our members. Additionally it is a time for us to recognize our peers for their work supporting the missions of Civil Air Patrol.

These sorts of activities should invigorate your squadrons and get your members charged up. I look forward to seeing you at these activities.

Semper Vigilans

## Barsness to begin Air Force officer training



Group IV Commander, Major John Barsness said farewell to his son Captain Benjamin Barsness (pictured left) on March 16th, 2007. Ben was departing Mankato, Minnesota for Montgomery, Alabama and Officer Training School at Maxwell AFB.

Benjamin was a former Mankato Squadron Mitchell Cadet who earned his solo wings at the Minnesota Wing Flight Academy from Major Carl Hallum and his private pilot wings from Captain JoEllen Peters at Mankato Squadron following solo encampment. Ben graduated from West High School and Minnesota State University in Mankato with a BS degree in Aviation. He has been a CAP member for 12 years and plans to continue his membership as a member of Mankato Composite Squadron. Ben started his 12 week Basic Air Force Officer Training on March 20th.

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The views expressed, either written or implied, are not necessarily those of the U.S. Air Force, the Civil Air Patrol or Minnesota Wing.

Submissions should be sent to the above email address.

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# Emergency Services Updates

## Mission supporting State of MN HSEM



Images taken by CAP Aircrews of the Browns River Flooding taken on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

On March 14<sup>th</sup> Minnesota Wing was requested to support the State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) with our imaging capability in response to the floods in Browns Valley, MN.

An aircrew flying out of South St Paul Airport consisting of Captains Cliff Tamplin and Doug Ployhar responded initially. They were followed by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Jim Jeppsen and Major Merlyn Smenk of Pipestone Squadron. Both took images of the ice jams and the flooding inside the town which were carried to the ground and transmitted back to HSEM via email.

9 members were involved in this mission and our air crews flew a total of 7.2 hours.

## Mission supporting National Weather Service



Photos of Ice Jams near Montevideo.

On March 17<sup>th</sup> the wing was asked to survey and photograph the Minnesota River for Ice Jams from southwest of the Twin Cities to Montevideo for the National Weather Service at the request of the State of MN. An aircrew from Viking consisting of Capt Dan Jorgenson, Lt Jason Suby and Capt Bob Swearengin flew the sortie and the images were provided to the National Weather Service.

5 members were involved in this mission and our air crews flew a total of 3.1 hours.

Major Chet Wilberg was the Incident Commander for both missions.

## “Old Blue” Retires



Having been assigned to Worthington Composite Squadron after a successful regional SAR competition, and chosen by Major Barney Harstad in 1982 from among several used Air Force vehicles because "this one didn't have a hitch," faithful "Old Blue" continued to "run without a hitch" through the next 25 years.

She was decommissioned and turned in for disposal on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

Old Blue was a 1976 Chevy step van that had been rigged to be a fully operational mission base on wheels. She was unique to this squadron, in some ways defining the squadron and its members, and thus will be greatly missed as valued resource of the Worthington Squadron.



C/1st Lt Andrew Puckett inspects a participant in the 2007 Encampment Staff Selection Exercise.

## Key leaders chosen for Minnesota Wing summer encampment

When cadets of the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol arrive at Camp Ripley on June 23 for the 2007 Encampment, they will begin the process of advancing their experiences as leaders. Nothing exemplifies that process more than the cadets chosen for this year's key CTG leadership positions.

Forty-six cadets participated in the selection process. Eventually 30 were selected February 4 for a variety of support and command staff responsibilities.

Candidates were evaluated on uniform appearance, presentation and responses to a series of questions about their leadership philosophies.

"It is a very invigorating process to go through because you are talking to some extraordinarily talented young people who care an awful lot about Civil Air Patrol," said Captain Josh Puhl, the Commandant of Cadets of the 2007 Encampment. "The 46 young people that we talked to are the tip of the iceberg of the 450 plus cadet members in Minnesota."

The 30 cadets, from now until encampment, will be involved in a series of weekend training sessions at Camp Ripley preparing for the annual event.

According to Capt Puhl, the preparation process for CTG staff candidates to becoming a leader actually begins year's prior when a person first becomes a cadet and progresses through Phase I of the CAP cadet program and Minnesota Wing's three-step cadet Integrated Leadership Program.

"Those selected have already been placed in leadership positions and have shown us that they have the capacity to succeed in the challenging encampment environment," he said.

"They are going to set the example and tone during encampment in terms of attitude, discipline, standards, motivation and inspiration," Puhl explained. "You can't just have somebody talk about it, you have to have somebody who embodies it, and the CTG staff that we have selected have all shown and demonstrated that they are living examples of that."

The **Executive Staff** includes 9<sup>th</sup> CTG Commander, C/Lt Col Brian Anderson, 130<sup>th</sup> Composite Squadron; Deputy, C/Capt Pat Vinge, North Hennepin; Executive Officer, C/Lt Col Laura Broker, Viking; SDS Commander, C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Ryan McKeen, Viking; and Command Chief Master Sergeant, C/MSgt Rebecca Waddell, Viking.

The **Group Staff** includes: Administration, C/Capt Patricia Friese, 130<sup>th</sup>; Commander of the Guard, C/2d Lt Jacob Otterson, North Hennepin; Logistics, C/Capt Annie Dally, Owatonna; Information Technology, C/SMSgt Josh Woodard, Crow Wing; Leadership, C/Capt Cory Titus, Viking; Stan/Eval, C/Maj Charles Cox, Viking; Stan/Eval Asst, C/2d Lt Haylee Fosterling, St. Croix; Public Affairs, C/2d Lt Angela Shields, Viking and the Duty NCO, C/MSgt John Whitcomb, Anoka

17<sup>th</sup> CTS Commander, C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Emily Vinge, North Hennepin; First Sergeant, C/CMSgt Matt Nelson, Viking  
Alpha Flight: Commander, C/CMSgt Jason Anderson, 130<sup>th</sup>; Sergeant, C/SMSgt Corey Lundy, Viking  
Bravo Flight: Commander, C/2d Lt Scott Lewis, 130<sup>th</sup>; Sergeant, C/SMSgt Travis Parker, Southeast Minnesota  
Charlie Flight: Commander, C/2d Lt Bethany Stepanek, North Hennepin; Sergeant, C/TSgt Brett Bonine, Viking

18<sup>th</sup> CTS Commander, C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Andrew Puckett, Hutchinson; First Sergeant, C/SMSgt Stefan Hall, Viking  
Delta Flight: Commander, C/2d Lt Kelsey Brennan, North Hennepin; Sergeant, C/A1C Elias Wiff, Viking  
Echo Flight: Commander, C/2d Lt Alex McGillick, Hutchinson; Sergeant, C/SMSgt Caleb Norman, St. Croix,  
Foxtrot Flight: Commander, C/2d Lt Andy Haus, Anoka; Sergeant, C/SrA Nate Wingo, Hutchinson.

## Registration Open for the 2007 Cadet Encampment

Registration for this year's Cadet Encampment has begun. To participate a cadet must have been a graduate of an Encampment Preparatory School or hold the earned grade of C/SSgt or be 14 years of age. Cadets must be approved by their parents and Squadron Commander.

Online Registration is available at <http://www.mncap.org/cp/9ctg/>

Questions about this year's encampment can be directed to: [encampment@mncap.org](mailto:encampment@mncap.org)

# Awards and Promotions

## Cadet Awards

### Gen Cara A. Spaatz Award

Joshua Waddell, Viking

### Lt Gen Ira Eaker Award

Benjamin Piehl, Valley

### Amelia Earhart Award

Mark Cross, Valley

### Brig Gen Billy Mitchell Award

Denise VanEngen, Grand Rapids

Jeff Mellgren, Viking

Kenneth Fearon, Red Wing

### Wright Brothers Award

Nicholas Demuse, St Paul

Peter Ryden, St Paul

Rebecca Potter, St Paul

Elias Wiff, Viking

## Senior Awards

### Senior Member Certificate of Proficiency (Level 2)

Andrew Bosshart, Anoka County

Thomas Lucey, Wing HQ

Shawn Warneke, NorthStar

Blane Pierson, NorthStar

Daniel Warneke, NorthStar

### Grover Loening Award (Level 3)

Paul Adams, Wing HQ

Kim Johnson, Wing HQ

Joshua Puhl, Wing HQ

Rahn Workcuff, North Hennepin

### Paul Garber Award (Level 4)

Janelle Gates, Valley

## Senior Promotions

### Second Lieutenant

Bryce Larson, Viking

Chris Zempel, Northland

David Andrews, St Paul

Edwin Culbert, Duluth

Jacqueline Watt, North Hennepin

James Fallon, North Hennepin

Janelle Heinonen, Northland

Marjorie James, Northland

Michael Cseresznye, Northland

Nate Stoeckel, Mankato

Nicholas George, St Paul

Todd Castner, North Hennepin

Walter James, Northland

### First Lieutenant

David Winters, Viking

George Anderson, North Hennepin

### Captain

Andrew Bosshart, Anoka County

Bradley Larson, Wesota

Daniel Warneke, Northstar

David Myers, Northland

Kim Ketterhagen, Wing HQ

Shawn Warneke, Northstar

Thomas Lucey, Wing HQ

### Lieutenant Colonel

Michele Bachmann, Legislative Sqdn

Roderic Broome, North Hennepin

## St. Cloud CAP members have far out experience



About 30 cadets and senior officers in St. Cloud had a far out experience, nearby, during a recent visit to the St. Cloud State University Planetarium

Captain Russ Portele organized the visit, as planetarium director, David Williams, provided a constellation tour of the sky. Multimedia and group participation are incorporated into an exciting learning experience. Following the presentation, cadets braved the cold night to utilize telescopes for viewing actual celestial objects.

# Around the Wing

## North Star hosts sixth annual Lock-In and Volleyball Tournament

"Awesome." "Excellent." "It rocked." Those were some of the words used by about 150 participants to describe the sixth annual North Star Cadet Squadron Lock-In and Volleyball Tournament held February 17-18 at St. Cloud State University.

The goal of the event is to provide cadets and seniors members from across the Minnesota Wing an opportunity to socialize and interact with each other in a safe, holistic environment.

North Star cadets and senior members host, organize and solicit food donations from local vendors for the event. All cadets are charged a nominal fee for a weekend of food, volleyball, rock climbing, flight simulators, movies, games, swimming, dodge ball and shooting hoops at SCSU's state of the art Student Recreation Center.

"Our lock-in gives Minnesota's cadets and senior members, normally busy doing drill, training and testing during regular meetings, an opportunity to participate in a number of fun, stress-free activities," said Captain Ryan Brovold, North Star commander. "Parents, the community and local businesses all support the event."



The fun began when about a dozen volleyball teams from squadrons around the state took to the court in competition. The "White Ts", (pictured) a group of cadets from Hutchinson, Viking, and Anoka composite squadrons took first place for the second year in a row, with the Grand Rapids "Iron Rangers" A Team and the St. Croix "Ninja Cows" coming in at second and third place respectively. The Lock-In immediately followed the volleyball tournament.

"By hosting safe, fun events for cadets, the CAP helps young people make thoughtful and positive choices and, in turn, be better prepared for situations in life that challenge their inner strength and confidence," Brovold said. "For senior members, it's a well-earned thank you for the tremendous work they do at the squadron level each year."

## ON SOLID GROUND - St. Cloud members becoming good ground team 'Ground Pounders'

The St. Cloud Composite Squadron held a ground team training exercise at the St. Cloud Airport on March 17. Cadets and senior officers got training in the use of ELT direction finding equipment, compass reading, communications, basic first aid and litter carrying. After an introduction to the use of direction finding equipment in locating emergency beacons, the group broke up into two teams and began searching for a practice beacon, which both teams successfully located. Following the training, pizza was served, and everyone was invited to tour the airport facility and St. Cloud Regional Airport Fire & Rescue vehicle.

"When people think of Civil Air Patrol they don't think of groups of people on the ground, but often a CAP ground team is the first to arrive at the scene of a downed aircraft," said Captain Ryan Brovold, commander of the North Star Cadet Squadron in St. Cloud, Minn. "'Yes, we're an aviation-oriented organization, but a lot of training is provided in direction finding, basic woodland search skills, and electronic search techniques on the ground.'"

A typical mission will usually have a ground team of 6-12 people led by a team leader.

"You don't have to be a pilot to have a long, satisfying CAP career. Most members are not pilots, they are aviation enthusiasts who wish to serve on the ground rather than in the air," Brovold said.

## Worthington Squadron's Pneumatic Rocketry takes off!!!

The squadron's newest cadets were introduced to the famous paper rockets, which are formed around PVC pipe to be shot off with a blast of compressed air.

The rockets attain some impressive velocity, height, and distance -- turning the event into a little bit of a PT exercise as well, when cadets chase down their rockets to keep down-time to a minimum.

The launcher consists of 3/4" PVC pipe joined to a metal elbow and pipe, terminating in a plain valve and air hose adaptor. At OTG, the set up is put on a portable compressor. Rockets can attain heights up to and beyond pattern altitude, so cadets are vigilant for traffic. Cadets have, however, fortified their paper rockets with tape to launch them from a 300 psi compressor. Those went out of sight while silent cadets strained for the first signs of a rocket's return to view.

The activity always commences with a short discussion of what aspects of aerodynamics affected the performance of each cadet's flight, and how the cadets might improve upon the design the next time.