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Minnesota Wing Cadet is North Central Region Cadet of the Year

Capt. Richard Sprouse



C/Col Charles Cox receives his North Central Region Cadet of the Year award from Minnesota Wing Commander, Col Thomas Theis.

2008 has been a trifecta year for C/Col. Charles Cox of Edina, MN.

Earlier this year C/Col. Cox was honored with the prestigious Gen. Carl A. Spatz Award and named Minnesota Wing Cadet of the Year. Cox added North Central Region Cadet of the Year to list when he was honored on Monday, June 9 at Ft. Snelling Cadet Squadron.

"It was quite the surprise," Cox said. "It's a huge honor and motivates me to do the best I can to develop other cadets."

A 2007 graduate of Edina High School, Cadet Cox became a member of Viking Squadron in 2003 where he held every position from element leader to Cadet Commander before joining Ft. Snelling

Cadet Squadron in Minneapolis last September.

C/Col. Cox transferred to Group Two Headquarters as the Cadet Programs Officer and served as the Deputy Cadet Commander during the 2008 Minnesota Wing Encampment held at Camp Ripley.

C/Col. Cox credits his Civil Air Patrol experience for his four-year Army ROTC scholarship at the University of St. Thomas, where he recently completed his first year of college.

Congresswoman Celebrates Blaine Aviation Weekend

2nd Lt. George Supan

Minnesota's 6th District Congresswoman, Michele Bachmann, composed a letter that identified the Civil Air Patrol Anoka Composite Squadron as playing a key role in both the Minnesota State Celebration and Blaine Aviation Weekend.

Minnesota's Sesquicentennial (150 years) Celebration was taking place at the State Capital. WWII airplanes were to do two flyovers at the State Capital that originated at Blaine Airport on May 17th.

Congresswoman Bachmann could not be there in person and sent Mr. Jack Tomczak her chief staff member to read the letter to the large crowd.

Saturday, May 17, 2008 was a most unusual day at the Blaine Airport. Twenty-eight WWII aircraft, along with nearly a hundred other aircraft arrived and were marshaled by the Civil Air Patrol. Anoka Composite Squadron received help from squadrons throughout the Wing for the large event that was sponsored by Chapter 237 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA).

The Anoka Composite Squadron Color Guard presented the colors for the event.

All aircraft arrived and were marshaled to their parking locations. A couple airplanes left for the first flyover at the State Capital and then returned. The flight line became very active as the 28 WWII airplanes left to create a large formation for the second flyover at the State Capital. While some returned to their home base, a number of them returned and were again marshaled to their parking locations.

Thousands of people came to get close to and take pictures of the great airplanes. The P-38, P-40, B-25's, T-6's, Stearmans and many other aircraft were there to view. People crowded around the aircraft and took pictures from every angle. The younger attendees enjoyed the bottle rocket game, provided by Anoka Squadron, more than the aircraft

CAP members from several Minnesota Wing squadrons worked together to accomplish this activity. CAP provided marshaling, crowd control, games for the kids (bottle rockets), and CAP recruiting during the EAA Chapter 237 Blaine Aviation Weekend. A big Thank You goes out to all those that helped!

Anoka Composite Squadron members trained for six weeks to be prepared for the event. It involved

classroom, safety and live airplane movement training on the taxiway. This was the first time on a taxiway for some of the Officer and Cadet members. To have a big B-25 come your way or the opportunity to keep the crowd controlled next to a P-38 (one of only four left in the world) or a P-40 was a great rush. It was an awesome experience for the CAP Cadet and Officer members who did a great job.

When asking Congresswoman Bachmann's staff for a copy of the letter, they arranged a U.S. House of Representatives folder with Congresswoman Michele Bachmann's personally signed letter in it and came to the Anoka Composite Squadron weekly meeting. Mr. Jack Tomczak brought the folder with the letter. He wanted to meet and thank all of the Squadron members for a great job representing the Civil Air Patrol.



1Lt. Shelly Supan on the flight-line at Blaine Aviation Weekend.



T-6s departing Blaine Airport for a fly-over of the Minnesota State Capital.

Ft. Snelling Cadet Earns the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award

Lt. Col. Tony Tarpy

On Monday, June 9, the Minnesota Wing Group III Commander, Lt. Col. Mike Moen, presented the General Billy Mitchell Award #6761 to Cadet David Kendall of Ft. Snelling Cadet Squadron.

Cadet Kendall was also promoted to Cadet 2nd Lt.

Cadet Kendall has been a member since 2005 and is serving as the unit Flight Commander. Cadet Kendall has also been awarded CAP Solo Wings and the CAP Model Rocketry Badge.



Lt. Col. Mike Moen presents Cadet David Kendall his Gen. Billy Mitchell Award and promoted him to C/2nd Lt.



Viking Squadron Sends Air Crew to Group 4 SAREX

2nd Lt. Erik Lindquist

Viking Composite Squadron sent a flight crew to the Group 4 Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX) for training.

The exercise was held in Luverne, Minnesota along the South Dakota-Minnesota border. An impressive showing of 14 aircraft with aircrew and six groups of ground team members attended the SAREX from around Minnesota Wing.

C/TSgt. Alex Bee, Lt. Col. John Paul Thompson, and Capt. Jason Suby spent most of their time performing air reconnaissance and airborne imaging. Search and Rescue exercises offer great training opportunities. Simulated emergencies help to sharpen the air and ground team skills as they work together to re-

solve the issues. When real emergencies arise, the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary (Civil Air Patrol) can respond with well-trained individuals.



Viking Squadron flight crew at the Group 4 SAREX. The crew was (L to R) Capt. Jason Suby, C/TSgt. Alex Bee and Lt. Col. John Thompson.

Minnesota Wing Prepares at St. Cloud Airport

Capt. Richard Sprouse

While most Minnesotans were sleeping in the morning of Saturday, June 14, members of the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol took to the skies and ground in a search and rescue exercise (SAREX) from the St. Cloud Airport.

Overall the Group Two SAREX went well according to organizers with nearly 100 Cadet and Officer Members participating. There were 42 air sorties flown, with an actual ELT mission included, resulting in 40 total flight hours.

“A lot of good training was accomplished,” said Capt. Paul Pieper, SAREX Incident Commander, who compared the benefits of the exercise to any type of workout program. “As with any exercise, you find sore muscles that need to be worked on.”

Pieper said there were 15 ground sorties conducted, including ELT and missing person searches. CAP vans and ground teams covered 2,222 miles during the event.

An estimated 600 personnel hours were committed to the exercise.



Maj. Ryan Brovold plots a course at the SAREX held at St. Cloud Airport.



Cadet Treye Harrison of Ft. Snelling Cadet Squadron does some flight line marshalling during the SAREX in St. Cloud.



Cadets (in above and below photos) prepare and go out on an ELT search during the SAREX at the St. Cloud Airport.



History of the Minnesota Wing Patch

Maj. Andrew "Ace" Browning

This is going to be a four part series that will be featured in the WingTips newsletter. Maj. Andrew "Ace" Browning contributed the information that you are about to read.

Part 1 of 4

Minnesota Wing's Gremlin started life in the early 1940s, hand sewn by founding members to be as close a resemblance to Disney's character as they were capable. Once the patches were authorized and produced in greater numbers, they were also probably made by a number of manufacturers and the cartoon-ish Gremlin began to morph.

The large eyes became piercing dots, the nose and gloved hands disappeared, and the boots turned into massive shoulders. What evolved might be described as a stylized-Viking, and although somewhat appropriate for Minnesota, it was not correct to the original emblem design.

During the mid-1990s, the Wing started to use the original Disney character in various ways, most viably on the monthly "Wing-Tips" newsletter, volleyball T-shirts, annual ski trip bandanas, and the 1999-2002 cadet encampment patch.

In 1997, Capt. Andrew Browning of Farmington Composite Squadron had 200 Special-edition collector wing patches manufactured using the Gremlin as it was originally intended.

Then, nearly fifty-eight years after Walt Disney approved use of his Gremlin character, Col. Dale E. Hoium, Minnesota Wing Commander, approved a new and accurate patch design for wear on April 14, 2001. The previous half-century old patch was officially retired from use on December 31, 2001.

Shown here are three examples of how our Wing patch has changed over the years.



A hand made example of the Minnesota Wing patch from the early 1950's.



The Gremlin in the early days before it began to morph.



The Gremlin slowly begins its change from the Gremlin to more of a Viking look.

Pilot Patter-Something for Nothing Lt. Col. Nick Modders

Since sometime back in distant history the FAA has required that a pilot must subject himself to a flight review every 24 months. This burden was imposed when it became apparent that some pilots were not maintaining their flying skills and killing themselves, their passengers, and sometimes people on the ground due to lack of ability to control their aeronautical steed.

The requirement was that you subjected yourself to an hour of ground briefing and an hour of flight instruction and you were good for another two years. This improved accident statistics slightly.

Another attempt to improve pilot skills was the implementation of the WINGS program. This program gave you credit for a flight review if you attended an FAA approved safety seminar and flew for three hours with a flight instructor. An hour of instrument dual, an hour of air work and an hour of take offs and landings and you could get credit for a flight review.

Those that participated went to a seminar and collected flight instructor autographs in their log-book and on a little green card. When the card was full you sent it to the FAA and got back a certificate suitable for framing and credit for the flight review.

Enter the Internet. Someone at the FAA got the idea that the WINGS program could be made a lot better by using something everybody has available--a computer and access to the Internet. This would allow the FAA to better utilize their green card receivers by finding other meaningful work for them to do and the pilot wouldn't

have to wait three months for their certificate.

Enter the WINGS program on electrons. On a dedicated website, FAASafety.gov, the entire WINGS program has been reborn into an instant safety seminar that you can attend in the comfort of your own home, on your schedule, with no gasoline expended to get to a safety seminar two counties away. Added to the program were hundreds of aviation safety offerings on the FAASafety.gov website AND from other providers such as AOPA.org.

Okay, you say, but there are a couple of things missing. I don't have a computer, I don't like the internet and I liked the old way better. Ahhh, not so fast. Everyone has a computer. If you don't have one at home a short trip to your nearest library will find one available for you. Don't know how to operate it? No problem! The knowledgeable librarian will be eager to help you. You still don't like the idea? Try it. It won't hurt and you'll be amazed at the aeronautical information that is available at the flick of a finger. And that knowledge can be yours, for only the effort it takes for you to read and absorb. Nothing to buy, no need to leave home.

Did you know that the FAA NOTAM system was changed in February? Don't raise your hand to admit you had missed that little feature, check out the course "Know Your NOTAMs." It explains it all. Well, maybe I'll try it, but what's this bargain stuff?

The FAA thinks so much of the CAP pilot proficiency system that they give credit for a flight review if you pass a CAP Form 5 flight check. Well almost full credit. You do have to enjoy a short course on "The Art of Aeronautical Decision

Making" The bargain is that you don't have to spend any additional money to get credit for the flight review.

We could fill this issue of WingTips on all of the advantages of the new FAA WINGS program but you'll enjoy it a lot better if you check out the website, register to enroll, and poke around and discover all of the feature available for you to enjoy.

Fly smart! Fly proficient! Let FAA Wings help you achieve your goal of being a Proficient Pilot.

Viking Squadron Holds Successful SLS

2nd Lt. Erik Lindquist

Viking Composite Squadron hosted a successful Squadron Leadership School course in May. Approximately 18 Officers Members from squadrons around the Wing attended the two-day training session. The Squadron Leadership School is a professional development program for Civil Air Patrol officers. SLS's primary goal is to prepare officers to contribute at the squadron level. It is at the squadron level that the CAP officer leadership begins. These officers have the important task of training, supporting, and inspiring fellow squadron members. They also hold the responsibility of being representatives of CAP to the communities that they serve. Squadron Leadership School helps to build confidence and provide the training to perform these tasks on a daily basis. The squadrons are the building blocks that form

the strong foundation of the Civil Air Patrol, and it is this solid foundation that provides the devoted service to the nation.

The senior officers conducting the training had a lot of experience and insight to share with the class of officers. They also shared their own inspirational stories to the class.



Maj. Ronn Winkler gives his presentation at the SLS.



Lt. Col. Tom Kettell presenting at the SLS held at Viking Composite Squadron.

Awards and Promotions

Officer Promotions

Second Lieutenant

Daniel Dawson, North Hennepin
Shane Hjulberg, North Hennepin
Robert Swanson, North Hennepin
Ronald Fox, Saint Paul
Sidney Newman, Fort Snelling
Rachel Robbins, Red Wing
Thomas Farrell, Red Wing

Captain

Frank Jirik, Saint Paul

Major

Gary Workman, MN State Legislative

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Calendar

Schedule of Events

- 16-20 August-Recruiting at Itasca County Fair. Contact: 1st Lt. Nanette Berg
- 18-19 August-Color Guard Presentation at MN Twins game. Contact: 1st Lt. Norine Olson
- 22-24 August-2nd Annual Ground Team Academy at Camp Ripley. Contact: Maj. Chet Willberg

AUGUST 2008

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