



WINGTIPS

The Newsletter of Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol

November 2010

The end of summer found Minnesota Wing Squadrons assisting with a multi-agency disaster relief mission and teaming up on several multi-agency exercises to hone their skills as individuals and as a group.

Southern Minnesota Flooding

1Lt Colleen McArthur, Viking Squadron

Photos from WIMRs

During the last week in September, Air Crews and Ground Teams were dispatched to Southern Minnesota following late September flooding. Ground team members from 130th, Northland, Rochester, Mankato, and St Cloud Squadrons converge on New Richland to assist with sand bagging.

Air crews flew missions to assist local ES management and law enforcement damage assessment and clean up planning. Cottonwood County Emergency Services Manager, Kim Hall was taken on an aerial tour of her county with the help of Pilot 1Lt James Jepsen and Maj Merlyn Smeenk.



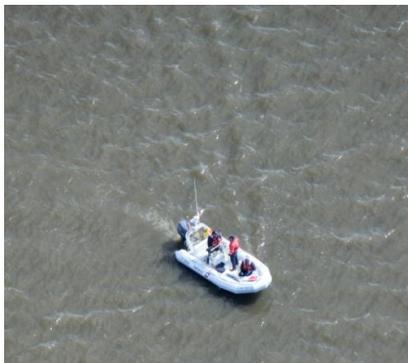
Pilot 1Lt John Brindley, John Vanderhoof and Lt Col John Barsness flew a DI mission for St Peter's Chief of Police Matt Peters. Images included the areas north and south of St. Peter along Hwy 169 including Hwy 22 and Hwy 99 bridges.

Pilot Capt Mark Shorter, Lt Col James Williamson, and 2d Lt Paul Wannarka provided the Beltrami County Emergency Services Manger with state and county road assessments.

Operation Greycloud

1LT Colleen McArthur, Viking Squadron

Photos: 130th Squadron aircrew



On 18 September, sixteen members of the Civil Air Patrol from 130th, Owatona, Red Wing, North Hennipin, MN Wing and the NCR joined the Dakota County Sheriff's Department-Emergency Preparedness, the US Coast Guard, MN Department of Homeland Security and several other area emergency responders in a multiple agency exercise. The agencies worked to find ways to work interactively, across

multiple agency levels and disciplines. The groups worked with each other to forge new relationships.

For one Civil Air Patrol air crew, the exercise turned into a true search.. As the agencies searched for a “missing” aircraft, the US Coast Guard’s mannequin broke loose from its placement along the Mississippi River and went missing down the river. 130th Squadron Mission Pilot Capt Paul Van Brunt, and Observer Lt Tom Fitzhenry were credited with the “find” as they located the mannequin and directed the Coast Guard for its retrieval.



SRRRM - Duluth Exercise

From report by Paige Calhoun, WDIO-Duluth

Cross agency training continued for the Civil Air Patrol as they work with Search Rescue and Recovery Resources of Minnesota on a planned missing person exercise Saturday, 9 October to practice what to do when someone really does go missing in a state park.



Seven different agencies ranging from Civil Air Patrol to the K9 Search and Response Team took part in the simulation. Lt Col Chet Wilberg with the Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol said that by knowing each other's strengths, they hope to speed up the time it takes to find a missing person.

"It is good practice for us so that we can learn to work together and work well with each other because on a real search we do have to work together. A lot of times we'll have different agencies

showing up to the same search and the more we can work together, the better."

Minnesota Wing Members Aid in Disaster Relief Exercise

C/2d Lt Lydia I. Wiff, Viking Composite Squadron

Photos: April Eilers, Visual Information Specialist, Medical Media (4S-124)



What happens when 25 members of the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol and 100+ other members of various disaster relief organizations get together to train? You get the Minneapolis VA Medical Center National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) Federal Coordinating Center (FCC) Patient Reception Area (PRA) 2010 Exercise.

Members of several Emergency Medical Service organizations including the VA Medical Center, local hospitals, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, and the Minnesota Disaster Medical Assistance

Team established casualty reception operations at the 133rd Airlift Wing, Minnesota Air National Guard in the event of a real disaster. Minneapolis is one of 80 cities in the U.S. that host medical relief to disaster patients that cannot be hospitalized in the immediate area of the disaster.



After an opening briefing, CAP members were bused to the C-130E they would be flying in. After a short flight briefing, eleven volunteers were strapped into stretchers for the flight. The mission simulated picking up wounded soldiers from Iraq or Afghanistan and transporting to Balad, Iraq. Each "patient" was given paperwork with his/her medical information and had their vitals taken during the flight.

After landing, CAP members were walked to two hangars where patient reception was set up for the second part of the day. After a lunch break, members were ready to go at it again.



CAP members were loaded onto stretchers on a static C-130 and were given a piece of paper with their injury and personal information. The point of this exercise was to practice taking stretchers off the aircraft, transporting them to the patient reception area and triage. Patients were given cots and treated for their various injuries while their personal data was being entered into the database. Soon after, patients were loaded into ambulances and transported to the hospital.

The primary goal of the exercise was to ensure that each organization was prepared "to respond, receive and care for potential victims of future catastrophic natural disasters or terrorist events." Overall, the exercise went well and has furthered prepared sister organizations to work together in the event of disaster.

Minnesota Wing Statewide SAREX

Maj Richard Sprouse, Group II PAO



Minnesota Wing conducted a statewide SAREX from September 10-14. The Hutchinson Squadron provided a number of air crew and ground crew training opportunities to the 40 Minnesota Wing members attending the event.



Group III SAREX

1Lt Colleen McArthur, Viking Squadron

The Group III SAREX, hosted by the Viking Squadron, Flying Cloud got rolling early Saturday, 21 August with a ground crew dispatched for a live mission to Sterns County. Things really got flying as the fog cleared late in the morning and air sorties were released. During the two-day event over 100 CAP members from eight squadrons participated in over 30 air sorties and 10 ground sorties.

A highlight of the opening briefing was an appearance by Congressman Erik Paulsen, a member of the Congressional Squadron, R-Third District. Congressman Paulsen thanked the members in attendance and complemented them on their volunteer service to the community and nation.



Three brothers complete Minnesota Leadership Academy

Maj Richard Sprouse, Group II PAO

Three brothers, each Cadet Chief Master Sergeants with the Southeast Minnesota Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol, recently completed the Minnesota Leadership Academy (MLA) together, two graduating with honors.

Elias and Parker Rosedahl attended the Noncommissioned Officer School (NCOS) at MLA, while older brother Luke attended the Basic Commissioned Officer Course (BCOC).

“The three of us going together was a really great chance to not only bond a little more and spend some time together, but also maximize how much we as a group learned. Because we each picked different things out of the classes, and took different notes, we learned a lot more as a group than we would have individually. We also identified different aspects of the training which stood out to us individually, so we are each prepared to give classes on different subjects to further the knowledge of our squadron as a whole,” said C/CMSgt Luke Rosedahl, BCOC distinguished honor graduate.



The MLA is part of the Minnesota Wing’s “Integrated Leadership Program,” which provides cadets continuous training and development from cadet basic to cadet colonel.

Character development, project management, ethics, and leading by example are major components of BCOC, while the NCOS addresses elements such as drill and ceremony, human behavior modification, verbal and written communication, and conflict resolution.

“I had an awesome time at BCOC! Thank you to all the great staff and my fellow students for making it such a great learning experience and so much fun,” said Luke Rosedahl.

Cadets Elias and Parker Rosedahl gave high marks to NCOS: “It was an amazing experience from a leadership and squadron perspective, and, going as brothers made MLA even more fun and special.”

MLA prepares cadets to become leaders through academic study and practical excises focusing on improving communications and interpersonal skills, affirming the leadership skills the cadets already possess, as well as providing cadets with ready resources that will help them deal with the challenges confronted by most young leaders.



Each class had a number of honor graduates selected for overall academy performance and leadership excellence. The cadets were presented their awards by Colonel Tom Theis, Minnesota Wing commander.

While Luke Rosedahl was named the BCOC distinguished honor graduate, other BCOC cadets recognized for excellence included C/CMSgt Joe Brown, Anoka Squadron, Alpha Seminar, and C/CMSgt Grant Bauer, Anoka Squadron

The NCOS seminar distinguished honor graduate was Cadet Staff Sergeant Zophia Raleigh of Anoka Squadron.

Other NCOS cadets recognized for excellence included C/CMSgt Parker Rosedahl of Southeast Squadron, Alpha seminar; C/SrA Daniel Hall, Viking Squadron, Bravo seminar; and C/TSgt Franco Luciano, Hutchinson Squadron, Charlie seminar. Cadet Hall also took top honors in the presentation category.

These said as leaders, the 13 BCOC graduates and 21 NCOS graduates are expected to return to their squadrons and impart the knowledge, skills, confidence, and leadership qualities developed through the MLA.

Viking 5K

C/CMSgt Matthew Johnson, Cadet PAO, Viking Squadron

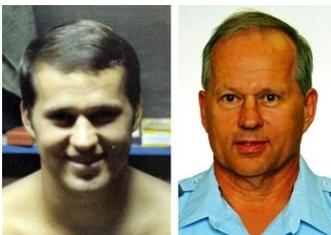
There was a competitive spirit in the air as Civil Air Patrol members from multiple squadrons assembled at the Normandale Lake Park bandshell on September 4th for the 1st annual Viking 5K Run. After a briefing on the course, participants began the 3.1 mile race around the lake. After 18 minutes, the runners began to trickle across the finish line. The top three runners were Jan Ketterson, Zach Dietz, and Nic Trombley. After the run, participants received a t-shirt and a snack bag.



This year's run was exclusive to Civil Air Patrol members, but plans are in the making for opening it to the public next year and possibly including a 10K race as well.

Awards

U.S. Army's Valorous Unit Award
Maj Richard Sprouse, Group II PAO



Decades after his service in Vietnam, Capt. Paul Van Brunt of the 130th Composite Squadron has been honored with the U.S. Army's Valorous Unit Award for valor in combat

Van Brunt served as a gunner on Bell UH-1 Huey helicopters as a member of the 116th Assault Helicopter Company from August 1970-September 1971. In early 1971, the unit was one of dozens of Army aviation units that flew into the teeth of North Vietnamese air defenses during operation Lam Son 719, a mission to cut the supply lines along the Ho Chi Minh Trail bordering Laos and Vietnam.

In part the Valorous Unit Award citation reads:

The unit conducted numerous combat assaults into areas congested with anti-aircraft weapons and armor. Enemy gunners were highly accurate and positioned themselves strategically so as to disrupt the helicopters' flight paths as much as possible. Although harassed by the intense

enemy fire, the unit continued to fly mission after mission into the increasingly dangerous combat zone. As the operation neared completion, enemy fire intensified. Displaying unwavering courage and exceptional skill, the unit began to extract the besieged allied troops. The unmerciful enemy inflicted severe damage to numerous aircraft and continually rained a hail of rocket and mortar fire into the pickup zones. Unit personnel were undaunted by enemy fire and expertly maneuvered their aircraft into the pickup zone to extract the beleaguered friendly troops. The determined aviators repeatedly entered the dangerous battlefield and ultimately extracted the entire friendly force.

The nearly 40-year wait for the honor was worthwhile, Van Brunt said.

“I was very surprised to get this award after so many years. “The Army is not in the habit of awarding honors to people or units after so much time, so it was a very pleasant and an emotional surprise for me.”

Region Awards



Lt Col Blaze Cunningham
On behalf of the Wing
Aerospace Education Program



Maj Ronald MacCarthy
On behalf of the Wing
Counter Drug



Maj Paul Pieper
On behalf of the Wing
Emergency Services



C/Capt David Nelson
Cadet Advisory Board



Capt George Supan
Certificate of Merit
Event promotion/Crisis Mgmt



Lt Col Dennis Yeager
Asst Financial Director



Maj. Jannel Gates
Cadet Programs

MINNESOTA WINGTIPS is the official newsletter of the Minnesota Wing Civil Air Patrol. The views expressed, either written or implied are not necessarily those of the U.S. Air Force, Civil Air Patrol of the Minnesota Wing. Submissions are welcome and can be sent to wingtips@mncap.org



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