



Right Face



Central Iowa Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol

January/February 2002 Newsletter

Words of Inspiration

"LEAD means Learn, Educate, Appreciate, and Develop. "

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Safety Tip of the Month

Watch out for Poison Ivy because it won't watch out for you!



Another Month of Firsts

By Capt Doug Jansen



C/Amn Erekw Wright gets ready for takeoff on his first CAP Orientation Flight in January at the Ames Airport.



Capt Doug Jansen (left) pins an Airman stripe on newly promoted C/Amn Nick Sand from Storm Lake prior to his first orientation flight in Ames in January.

The first two months of 2002 have been filled with firsts for our squadron. In January we promoted the first cadet in Storm Lake to C/Amn (C/Amn Justin Colvin). We also flew the first orientation flights for our cadets in Storm Lake, C/Amn Colvin and Sand. Also, C/Amn Elliott, Schlosser, and Wright got to fly their first CAP Orientation Flights that day in Ames. These orientation flights in our CAP Aircraft last almost an hour and teach cadets how an aircraft is prepared for flight, how a flight is planned, and then teaches hem how an aircraft moves in flight. This is the culmination of several weeks of classroom instruction during weekly squadron meetings to help prepare them for this flight. That same weekend several cadets from Ames and Storm Lake took their General Emergency Services Training in Ames to make them ready to perform on our operations exercises as members of the CAP Team. This training covers an introduction to the incident command system, CAP operations procedures, agency liaison, search management, and basics do's and don'ts for CAP mission operation.

In February some of our cadets and seniors participated in their first operations exercise. Cadet and seniors participated in the squadron's first ever Search and Rescue School at Camp Dodge and several of our seniors became qualified as mission scanners. This training has made our unit even more prepared to respond to missing aircraft, missing persons, and to respond to natural and man-made disasters.

Search and Rescue School



Members of Alpha Team learn how to use the L-Per to look for Emergency Locator Transmitters at the SAR School at Camp Dodge from SSgt. Kemp in February.

Central Iowa Composite Squadron continues to lead the way for the Iowa Wing in implementation of the new CAP Emergency Services Curriculum. The squadron has added a Search and Rescue School to compliment the Survival School that is held later in the Spring. Between these two schools most attendees can demonstrate the skills to become qualified CAP Ground Team Members.

Capt. John Halbrook and Capt. Doug Jansen directed the first SAR School on 16-17 February 2002 at Camp Dodge. Over 50 members of Iowa Wing took part in this first of a kind training environment. Students participated in classroom training for aircraft and missing person search, witness interview, search management, and communications. TFO Ruffin, SSgt. Kemp, C/Amn Colvin, Elliott, Richardson, Sand, Schlosser, and Wright attended. At the same time in Ankeny, aircrews had a back-to-basics training exercise. Lt Col Tomlinson, Capt Tomlinson, and SM Myers took advantage of this training to hone their skills as scanners, observers, and pilots.

Storm Lake Update

Storm Lake continues to grow and succeed. The last two months have been filled with their first orientation flights, CPR and First Aid Training, drill and ceremonies, and a good healthy aerospace education program. Cadets are looking forward to hosting a "GI Party" soon so that they can get together and watch a movie while working on their uniforms.

Special Visit From Former POW

On February 13th members of the Central Iowa Composite Squadron and Des Moines Composite Squadron were honored with a visit and speech from Lt Cmdr Larry Spencer. Commander Spencer was a Radar Intercept Officer in a Navy F-4 Phantom jet during the Vietnam Conflict. On the 18th of February 1966 Spencer's F-4 was escorting an EC-121 in North Vietnam. Commander Spencer's flight was abruptly interrupted by a Surface To Air Missile (SAM) that disabled his jet and forced him to eject over the coast of North Vietnam. Commander Spencer was captured and spent the next seven years as a prisoner of war in the Hanoi Hilton in Vietnam.

Commander Spencer discussed how prisoners survived terrible conditions in the prison. Communications between prisoners kept us alive," he said. Prisoners used a "tap code" on the walls to communicate the news of the day and to relay information about other prisoners. Prisoners lived in miserable conditions and did not receive good treatment during their stay in North Vietnam. On February 29, 1973 the government of North Vietnam released Lt Cmdr Spencer. On the flight home the C-141 that flew them back to freedom had an 8-ship escort with 4 Air Force fighters on its left wing and 4 Navy fighters on its right wing. Returning soldiers were treated to the food of their choice for their first meal back on US territory. Most soldiers enjoyed their first meal back with some type of breakfast that included eggs, hash browns, and bacon, topped off with banana splits.



CICS Cadets learn how to do CPR and use Automatic External Defibrillators (AED's) at the squadron CPR class in February.



Maj. John Hawkinson is promoted to Lieutenant Colonel at the Commander's Call in Waterloo in February.

Commander's Corner

2002 has been a whirlwind so far. It looks like 2002 will keep us as busy as 2001 did, if not more. We have so many great things going for us right now that we should not forget to enjoy our success while we operate. I'd like to thank TFO Ruffin for the OUTSTANDING job he has done in training the Central Iowa Color Guard. These dedicated cadets have been practicing 4 hours every Sunday to be ready to represent Iowa at the NCR Competition in March. I'd also like to thank 1Lt Calhoun for all of his hard work with our cadet program and in helping us keep the vehicles running and the troops equipped with nothing but the best gear. We wish 1Lt Calhoun luck as he re-enters active service with the US Army. Also, I'd like to thank Lt Col John Hawkinson for his hard work and dedication in helping us update our admin files and helping to train several of our new seniors during our time of growth. We wish Lt Col Hawkinson good luck in his new job in Montana, hopefully this will be a brief assignment and he will be back to work with us again in the fall. Again, thank you all for your dedicated service to our squadron.

Promotions

Jackie Elliott to C/Amn
 John Hawkinson to Lt Col
 Justin Pedersen to 2Lt
 Nick Sand to C/Amn
 Paul Smith to C/Amn



CAP Training Continues

The winter and spring training season is in full swing we continue to see lots of training. So far in 2002 we've done first aid/CPR training, radiological sample transport training, damage assessment, and search and rescue training. In the next few months there will be mission aircrew training, survival training, and leadership training of all kinds. Recently we've been getting asked "So what training do I need to go to?" Well the answer is....drum roll please.....as much as you can. So much of this training is important to the development of you as competent and qualified CAP cadets and CAP senior members. Much of this training is introductory training to begin to make you qualified to participate in the emergency services fields and to teach you the basics to how CAP operates. By completing this training we will establish a common ground of experience for ourselves that will enable us all to function as a cohesive team. Thank you for your patience and dedication through the training so far. I encourage you to keep going in your training, the rewards will be soon following. Thanks!

Radiological Sample Transport Training

On January 19th, Central Iowa Composite members, Lt Col Ralph Tomlinson, Maj John Hawkinson, Capt John Halbrook, Capt Doug Jansen, 1Lt Kelly Calhoun, and TFO Troy Ruffin completed Radiological Sample Transport Training in Cedar Rapids. This training sponsored by Duane Arnold Energy Center and Linn County Emergency Management taught students how to safely transport possibly contaminated samples to research labs for analyzing.

New Members

James Deemer
 Roger Elliott

Anita Elliott
 Sandra McLaughlin



Total Members:

45!

| Upcoming Schedule | | | Squadron Staff | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Date | Activity | Location | Position | Name |
| 2-3 Mar | SLS/CLC | Camp Dodge | Commander | Capt. Jansen |
| 2-3 Mar | Cadet Leadership School | Camp Dodge | Deputy Commander for Cadets | 1Lt. Calhoun |
| 5 Mar | Meeting: LL, ML, AE | Ames | Deputy Commander for Seniors | Lt. Col. Tomlinson |
| 9-10 Mar | Train the Trainer | S. Sioux City, NE | Deputy Commander for Storm Lake | SSgt. Kern Kemp |
| 12 Mar | Meeting: Safety, LL | Ames | Cadet Commander | Vacant |
| 16 Mar | Mission Aircrew School | Des Moines ANGB | Admin | Lt Col. Hawkinson |
| 16 Mar | CD Downlink | Des Moines ANGB | Aerospace Ed. | Capt. S. Tomlinson |
| 19 Mar | Meeting: Color Guard | Ames | Communications | Lt Col. Hawkinson |
| 23 Mar | NCR Color Guard | Camp Ashland, NE | Emergency Services | TFO Ruffin |
| 26 Mar | Meeting: PT, AE | Ames | Finance | Lt. Col. Tomlinson |
| 2 Apr | Meeting: ML, LL, AE | Ames | Historian | Capt. Halbrook |
| 6-7 Apr | CICS Bivouac | Ledges State Park | Logistics | 1Lt. Calhoun |
| 9 Apr | Meeting: Safety, LL | Ames | Moral Leadership | Capt. S. Tomlinson |
| 10 Apr | Firearms Training Sim | Camp Dodge | Operations | Lt. Col. R. Tomlinson |
| 12-14 Apr | Survival School | Camp Dodge | Personnel | TFO Ruffin |
| 13-14 Apr | Check Pilot Course | Davenport | Public Affairs | Capt. Jansen |
| 16 Apr | Meeting: LL | Ames | Recruiting | C/Maj. Robinson |
| 23 Apr | Meeting: LL | Ames | Safety | Capt. Halbrook |
| 27 Apr | Operations Exercise | Davenport | Testing | Capt. S. Tomlinson |
| 30 Apr | Meeting: PT | Ames | | |

Reminders:

- ❑ Check out the wing website for the latest changes to the proposed 2002 Wing Calendar.
- ❑ Don't forget to apply for the upcoming activities!



Projects In Progress:

- ❑ Training New Volunteers!!!
- ❑ Planning for the Survival School in April and Dining Out in May.
- ❑ Preparing the Color Guard for Competition in March in Nebraska.
- ❑ Installing the new radios we just received.

<http://www.iawg.cap.gov/ames>