



Right Face



Central Iowa Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol

March/April 2003 Newsletter

Words of Inspiration

"One way to become enthusiastic is to look for the plus sign. To make progress in any difficult situation, you have to start with what's right about it and build on that. "

-Dr. Norman Vincent Peale

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Safety Tip of the Month

Don't forget sunscreen!



Survival School

By Capt Doug Jansen



C/SrA Drew Schlosser Shows He's Ready For The "Death March" At The 2003 Survival School.



The Survival School Students Pose With The Methodist Hospital Life Flight Helicopter In The Background.

What does building a natural shelter, navigating through the woods, eating MRE's, tying knots, carrying a patient on a stretcher, and landing a rescue helicopter all have in common? All happened at the 2003 Survival School. Fifty members from Iowa and Nebraska Wing participated in the school at Camp Dodge.

Classroom and field instruction was given to train students to complete the skills to become CAP Ground Team Members. Survival School, the second of the two schools focuses on the outdoor skills required to become a Ground Team Member. Students were broken up into five ground teams to complete the skill stations where they demonstrated everything from knot tying to fire building.

"The Survival School focused on classroom and field work for survival, land navigation, and first aid skills for our ground teams" said Captain Doug Jansen, the activity commander. "This was the first time many of the students experienced working outdoors for a prolonged period of time."

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The Color Guard Lowers The Flag At The Survival School Base At Camp Dodge.

Mission Aircrew School

By 2Lt Anita Elliott

On 26-27 April 2003, twenty members of the Iowa Wing attended the second half of the Mission Air School at the Ankeny Airport. The classroom portion of Mission Air School was held in February at the same time as the Search and Rescue School.

This portion of the school focused on getting members into the aircraft to perform and practice the skills they learned in the classroom portion of the school. Members trained as Mission Pilots, Mission Observers, Mission Scanners, Mission Radio Operators, and Air Branch Director. The sorties consisted of air navigation, patterns searches and learning to work the CAP radios and GPS equipment. Over 20 sorties were flown in the course of the two day training exercise.

2Lt Ann Colvin and 2Lt Anita Elliott finished all of the tasks to become Mission Observers.

Members in attendance from the Central Iowa Composite Squadron were: Lt. Col. Ralph Tomlinson, Capt. Suzanne Tomlinson, 2Lt Anita Elliott, 2Lt Ann Colvin, and C/Capt. Ryan Jahnke.

Monthly Trivia

Who is the highest cadet award named after?

(Answer on Page 3)

Bivouac

By C/MSgt Jackie Elliott

March 14th through 16th Central Iowa Composite Squadron and Noble Eagle Flight held a Bivouac in Sac City. The best question a person could ask about it would be, "What did we not do?" 1Lt. Gary Colvin found us accommodations at a gym where, for the first night, we had free time. The cadets wore themselves out playing pool, basketball, "walleyball" or volleyball in a racket-ball room, swimming, gymnastics, and other various activities. A few competitions broke out during these friendly games. What started out as a one on one basketball game soon grew into an all out match. As did the same with the walleyball. Four cadets decided to start hitting a ball around and within an hour we had all of the participants except 4 in the small racket-ball court playing for the gold.

During the course of the weekend we traveled to Hagge Park where the cadets and senior members got to practice their ELT skills and their missing persons searches. It was a full day but there was one main lesson learned. Don't stare at the dead fish when you're supposed to be searching for a missing person. After a long day of hiking through the "vast woods" of Hagge Park and having to deal with the hassle of using compasses for land navigation, the cadets and senior members retired back to the gym area. What better to do after sweating all day besides swim? Except one more thing had to be done. Water Survival.

Normally, this wouldn't have been bad, until SFO Ruffin demonstrated what exactly it was that we would be doing. Six cadets at a time put on BDU pants over their swimsuits and jumped into the deep-end water. The goal was to remove your pants, tie the legs, get air into them, and create a flotation device. Easier said than done. However, every cadet completed this task and some even went back to do more. Then came the fun part. One at a time the cadets strapped on a 24 hour pack that was provided for them the were released backwards into the pool, where they then had to remove the pack and bring it back to the edge of the pool. Everybody survived, and everybody had a lot of fun doing it.

Over the course of the weekend everybody got a chance to learn and work with new equipment and new scenarios, and everybody had fun doing it. It proved to be a positive, laid back, and educational event, which I wouldn't mind going to again.

Iowa CAP Suffers Loss
By 1Lt Brandon Hanson
Iowa Wing Public Affairs Officer

On Saturday March 22, Iowa Wing suffered a tragic loss when Chaplain Major Christie Battle. Major Battle was killed in the crash of an Iowa Wing Cessna C-182.

Battle was serving as the instructor pilot for 2Lt. Jim Johnson of Oskaloosa, Iowa. Johnson, a private pilot, was flown by Air Car helicopter to the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in Iowa City, Iowa with broken ribs and a broken arm. Battle was pronounced dead at the scene by local authorities.

The flight was a routing visual flight rules training flight, which originated in Ankeny, Iowa. The crash occurred around 4:00 p.m. about 300 feet from the White Pigeon Airport taxiway near North English, a private field used for training.

Battle joined CAP in 1995 and was serving as the Iowa Wing's Chaplain and an instructor and check pilot. She also held multiengine and commercial ratings.

"Chaplain Battle was an outstanding member of the Iowa Wing," said Iowa Wing Commander Col. Russ Smith. "Like all of our CAP volunteers, she contributed so much of her own time and resources to helping people in her community. We are all deeply saddened by this loss."

The National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Aviation Administration are investigating the cause of the accident.

CICS Personnel provided scene security, agency liaison, and public information functions for the first 24 hours. CICS Members who participated included: Capt John Halbrook, Capt Doug Jansen, 1Lt Justin Pedersen, 2Lt Roger Elliott, SFO Troy Ruffin, C/Lt Col Casey Schroeder, and C/1Lt Erin Lowry.



CICS Personnel Guard The Crash Site of N6211E.



C/AB Elizabeth Lee takes a dip in the pool with full 24 hour gear on at the Bivouac.

Firearms Training Simulator

Ever wanted to learn how to use military small arms? Ever wished your computer screen was bigger and the game more realistic? CICS Cadets got to learn how to use military arms and have fun doing it. CICS traveled to the Firearms Training Simulator (FATS) at Camp Dodge to learn how to use weapons like the M-16 Rifle and M-9 Pistol. The FATS is like a big video game with real weapons that run on compressed air rather than bullets. Students shoot at a large video screen where they see live action video of different combat scenarios.

Capt John Halbrook, Capt Doug Jansen, and SFO Troy Ruffin taught the cadets how to operate the weapons in a safe manner. Then after learning how the weapons operate, the cadets got to fire against the enemy in a variety of scenarios ranging from urban sniper combat to a vehicle ambush.

And in true CICS fashion the cadets didn't go home hungry either. CICS provided plenty of pizza for all, because you can't train on an empty stomach.

Answer to Monthly Trivia:

The award honors the late General Carl A. Spaatz, who became the first U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff on September 26, 1947. General Spaatz (pronounced "spots") was also CAP's first National Board Chairman, a position he held from May 26, 1948, to April 27, 1959.

Noble Eagle Flight Update

Survival School Experience

By C/A1C Josh Egesdal

During Survival School we went on a night mission. Our mission was to find a downed helicopter. We also had to be very cautious of the wookies and OPFOR.

We were dropped off at a site and used the LPer to track down the Emergency Locator Transmitter and the down helicopter. As we came through the trees we found two of the OPFOR members. We continued a search out in an open field, where we found one wookie. After finding him we searched further and found a canteen. We started to approach the helicopter when we found the second wookie. When we finally reached the helicopter we helped the pilot and searched for any other missing people, because in our briefing we were told there were two pilots. We called for an "ambulance." We were taken back to the campsite where we talked about the things we did good at and the things that needed some work.

That was my Survival School experience. I thought it was a lot of fun. C/Amn Aisha Grieme also had a great time. "I learned the basics of searching for a missing person or an activated ELT. It was a great weekend and I had a lot of fun. I only wish it would have been warmer".

Noble Eagle sent five members to the school including: 1Lt Gary Colvin, C/MSgt Justin Colvin, C/Amn Joel Bodholdt, C/Amn Josh Egesdal, and C/Amn Aisha Grieme.



C/A1C Josh Egesdal takes the Rambo pose with his M-16 at the Firearms Training Simulator.

BIVOUAC

C/A1C Aisha Grieme

On March 14-16 we had a bivouac at Sac City. During this weekend we did many things, but my favorite activity was the water survival. We learned what it would be like to fall into water with BDUs and 24-hour gear on.

We first discovered that it is very difficult to move in the water with the BDUs on, unless you know how to use them. We were shown how to take them off and fill them with air. This would enable us to use them as floatation devices. This technique would only work if you knew how to get the gear off first. So we learned this too.

We put on the 24 hour gear and had to stand at the edge of the pool. To get a realistic effect we had to close our eyes. Then we were dropped backward into the pool. It worked well, as we were caught by surprise. At that time we had to get out of the gear while we were under water.

It was a fun activity and I found it to be very informative. I did not know that BDUs could be used to stay afloat in the water. I would be glad to know this in the event of falling into lots of water

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

May 7, 2003 - Meeting (Sac City Airport)
May 14, 2003 - Meeting (Sac City Airport)
May 17, 2003 - Dining-Out (Ames)
May 20, 2003 - LRC (Camp Dodge)
May 24, 2003 - Operation Exercise (Iowa City)
May 28, 2003 - PT (Sac City Airport)

COMMANDER'S CORNER

By Capt Doug Jansen

Two more months have gone by and again a lot has happened. We've held several very successful activities, survived an Air Force inspection, welcomed several new enthusiastic members, and unfortunately lost a member as well.

The Air Force and CAP National Headquarters inspected the wing headquarters. We received an overall Satisfactory rating and only had minor findings. We were only the second wing to receive all satisfactory or above ratings since this inspection program started four years ago. A few weeks later the Air Force Liaison office inspected our squadron. They found few to no problems and it went very smoothly.

Unfortunately in March we had to respond to a CAP aircraft crash. The Des Moines 182 crashed and the instructor pilot perished. CICS responded admirably. Within 30 minutes of notification Capt Halbrook, 2Lt Roger Elliott, and myself headed for White Pigeon to help provide liaison support and scene security. After sizing up the situation, we called in 1Lt Pedersen, SFO Ruffin, C/Lt Col Schroeder, and C/1Lt Lowry to help us watch the site overnight. I am very proud of the professionalism and dedication of our team. They responded quickly, and worked tirelessly to support the mission, despite the terrible circumstances.

This unfortunate accident will force us to look hard at our safety program. We will have to work twice as hard at making sure we are thinking safety, training safety, and most importantly documenting safety. I know you all can rise to the occasion to promote safety in all that we will do. Please take that extra minute to go through your checklist in all that you do.

Survival School

Des Moines Methodist Hospital's Life Flight Helicopter crew conducted classroom training to certify the students to be ground technicians for the helicopter. The training included how to request their support, prepare a landing zone, communicate with them on Mutual Aid, and how to load a patient onto the helicopter. After the training, the students setup an LZ for the helicopter to land on. The helicopter came in and the crew gave the students a tour of the helicopter. The students practiced loading in different simulated patients into the helicopter.

Saturday afternoon the teams marched out to the training areas and setup camp. Afterwards they began rotating through scenarios to help them complete tasks to become ground team members. Due to the dry weather, Camp Dodge instituted a fire ban that did not allow for cooking by fire like the staff had planned. Thanks to the 1Lt Petit from Nebraska Wing, he convinced a local McDonald's and Hy-Vee to donate food to feed the hungry troops.

Saturday night students found out just how hard it is to look for a missing person, ELT, or complete a compass course at night. One scenario involved a downed UH-1 Huey Helicopter. Students used Direction Finding equipment to locate a downed UH-1 Helicopter and rescue the pilot.

After sleeping in until 0700 hours, the students ate a hot oatmeal breakfast and began rotating through skill stations which included instruction and evaluation in knot tying, stretcher bearing, natural shelter building, orienteering, and fire building. After 24 hours in the field the students were worn out. After tearing down camp, the school held a ceremony to lower the flag and depart camp.

CICS participants and instructors included 1Lt Gary Colvin, 1Lt James McLaughlin, 2Lt Roger Elliott, SFO Troy Ruffin, SM Nick Critelli, C/Lt Col Casey Schroeder, C/1Lt Erin Lowry, C/MSgt Justin Colvin, C/MSgt Jackie Elliott, C/SrA Drew Schlosser, C/A1C Zach Dalaba, C/Amn Joel Bodholdt, C/Amn Josh Egesdal, C/Amn Aisha Grieme, and C/Amn Liz Shehorn

Promotions

Gary Colvin to 1Lt
Justin Colvin to C/MSgt
Joel Bodholdt to C/A1C
Josh Egesdal to C/A1C
Jackie Elliott to C/MSgt
Aisha Grieme to C/A1C
Darius Robinson to 1Lt



New Members

Harley Waldo



Total Members:

56!

Central Iowa Composite Squadron

Upcoming Events

6 May - 1800 hrs Uniform: Civies Location: Emma McCarthy Park
Activities: Squadron BBQ

13 May - 1800 hrs Uniform: Blues Location: Ames Airport
Activities: Moral Leadership, Safety

17 May - 1800 hrs Uniform: Blues Location: Iowa State Memorial Union
Activities: Fourth Annual CICS Dining-Out

20 May - 1800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Camp Dodge
Activities: Leadership Reaction Course

24 May - 0900 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Iowa City Airport
Activities: Operations Exercise

27 May - 1800 hrs Uniform: PTs Location: Ames Airport
Activities: CPFT, Drill, Testing

3 Jun. - 1800 hrs Uniform: Blues Location: Ames Airport
Activities: Moral Leadership,

7-8 Jun. - Uniform: BDUs Location: Davenport, IA
Activities: Quad City Airshow

10 Jun. - Uniform: BDUs Location: Ames Airport
Activities: Safety, Aerospace, Drill

17 Jun - 1800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: National Wx Service
Activities: Tour & Winds Aloft Briefing

21-22 Jun. - 0800 hrs Uniform: Blues Location: Camp Dodge
Activities: AFRCC Search Management Course

24 Jun. - 1800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Ames Airport
Activities: CPFT, Drill, Testing

27-29 Jun. - 1800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Sac City
Activities: Bivouac

6-12 Jul. - 1700 hrs Uniform: Blues Location: Offutt AFB
Activities: Region Staff College

12-19 Jul. - 0800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Volk Field CRTS, WI
Activities: Illinois Wing Summer Encampment

2 Aug. - 0800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Washington Airport
Activities: Evaluated Operations Exercise

15-17 Aug - 1800 hrs Uniform: BDUs Location: Sac City
Activities: Wing Ding

May 2003

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June 2003

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July 2003

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Reminders:

- Encampment Applications are due soon**
- Wing Ding Applications are due soon**
- Check the Website for schedule updates**

Projects In Progress:

- Preparations for the Dining-Out, AFRCC Search Management Course, Bivouac, and Wing Ding**
- Getting Ready to go to encampment**
- Orientation Flights**
- SAC Museum Trip**



Meetings: **Tuesday Night 6 to 8 pm**
 Midwest Flying Service Building
 Ames Airport

Share the CAP Experience! Pass this newsletter along to a friend. For more information, contact **Capt. Doug Jansen** at (515) 291-9625 or djansen@iawg.cap.gov.