Beating the Winter Blues

Capt Richard Sprouse
Group 2 PAO

Finding fun ways for the whole family to beat the winter blues wasn’t hard for 200 Minnesota Wing members of the Civil Air Patrol on March 7-8.

Wing members and their families had too many choices for entertainment on what turned out to be a sunny spring weekend during the annual Lock-In and Volleyball Tournament held in St. Cloud.

Starting with a bevy of teams competing in a volleyball tournament in the morning, the day led to an evening and overnight of food, rock climbing, flight simulators, movies, games, swimming, dodge ball and shooting hoops at St. Cloud State University’s state of the art student recreation center.

Smiling faces could be seen throughout the event dedicated to building camaraderie among Wing members and families, and it appears that this mission was accomplished.

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More News and Features about the members and activities of Minnesota Wing In this issue of Wing Tips!
“Beating the blues” Continued from Page 1

The goal of the event is to provide cadets, seniors members and families from across the Minnesota Wing an opportunity to socialize and interact with each other in a safe, holistic environment,” said 1st Lt Steven Parker, organizer of the Lock-In portion of the event. “It seems everyone had a positive experience.”

In the volleyball competition, cadets from Viking Squadron took top honors, with a cadet team from St. Croix Squadron finishing second. The Wing Headquarters “Wing Nuts,” a team of senior officers, finished third.

Congratulations to the more than 160 cadets who participated in the 19-team volleyball tournament,” said Captain Laura Broker, organizer of the volleyball competition, “and thank you for all of your infectious enthusiasm!”

At the conclusion of the event on Sunday morning, it was a tired but happy group.

“Awesome.” “Excellent.” “It rocked” were some of the words cadets used to summarize their experience, as well as “We’ll be back again next year!”

More pictures from this year’s competition and lock-in can be found at:

http://www.mncap.org/pictures/2009/VBall_LockIn.cfm

Government Relations

Col Thomas B. Theis
Minnesota Wing Commander

During this year’s Winter National Board meeting held in Washington, DC, during the week of 23 February 2009, all 52 Wing Commanders were tasked with contacting their state’s government officials.

This year, C/Col Charles Cox and C/Capt Katherine Jones, who attended the Civil Leadership Academy, also contacted their respective legislators as part of their week-long activity.

Col Kevin Sliwinski has been assisting our Minnesota Wing Commanders in accomplishing this task for the past 12 years. Preparation for the trip included making arrangements to visit all nine of our government officials. Although it would have been nice to actually have some face to face time with each of them, visits were made with their respective schedulers, aids and assistants.

Government Relations Continued on Page 3
Government Relations Continued from Page 3

Visiting with aides is a common practice, as the officials are extremely busy. Once briefed, these aids represent the briefing to their bosses when it’s convenient. On Wednesday, Col Sliwinski and I visited the offices of Representatives John Kline, Betty McCollum, Keith Ellison, Michelle Bachmann and Erik Paulsen. On Thursday, we visited the offices of Representatives Jim Oberstar, Collin Peterson, Tim Walz and our one and only Senator, Amy Klobuchar.

Some of the aides and interns knew of our program because of the previous year’s efforts of Col Sliwinski. Others were being exposed to our program for the first time. Some squadrons are doing an excellent job in getting their local government officials involved in award presentations and official functions throughout the state. These activities have been a tremendous aid in gaining and maintaining their support for what we do. Some officials even remembered some of the awards they participated in from previous years.

These activities make a tremendous impact on these people and are always appreciative of the opportunity to participate in these special occasions. If you have not yet invited your local mayor or representative to your award presentations and or unit activity, please do.

This year, there were four main objectives in meeting with our government officials. One was to personally provide the Civil Air Patrol’s Annual Report to Congress.

The second was to solicit support to reinstate the $4.4 million which is expected to be cut from the 2010 Defense Department’s Budget, which if not replaced, will have a profound impact on our ability to perform our missions.

The third objective was to obtain support by having HR 1178 reintroduced to Congress, which asks for a study of the functions of the CAP and how we support homeland security missions at the local, state and federal levels including the Department of Homeland Security.

Our fourth task was to encourage each member of Congress to join the Congressional Squadron and participate in CAP actions back in their home state.

Currently, there are over 300 current and former members of Congress who have joined CAP.

Our state’s representatives were very welcoming and interested in what we have to offer and very appreciative of the 14,938 volunteer hours and 824 aircraft hours we provided in 2008 and understand the value of our volunteerism.
FRIDAY, 1 MAY 09

Special **Training**
Opportunities begin 1 pm on Friday.

**Free socializers** begin at 1800 hours. Soft drinks and snacks! Seniors and cadets will have their own areas to meet and greet. Renew old friendships and make a few new ones! Stop by and see what’s shakin’!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>• Renew friendships</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>• Learn a few new things</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Sharpen up some old skills</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Visit with VIPs</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Do a little networking</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Meet the shakers and the doers of in the Wing.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Interact with Wing staff.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Support our annual Award Winners</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Share an excellent supper with some of the best volunteers in the world!</strong></td>
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<td><strong>• Curmudgeons not provided. Bring your own!</strong></td>
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SATURDAY, 2 MAY 09

Saturday begins with a General Assembly at 8 am with **guest speakers** and VIPs from North Central Region, CAP-USAF, and National Headquarters. Many **awards** will be presented in the morning.

Join us for lunch and do a little socializing.

A variety of **training and presentations** are offered by Wing staff to assist in the performance of your jobs. Operations, Emergency Services, Public Affairs, Recruiting, Communications, DDR and many more.

Cadet training, presentations and opportunities to interact with Wing staff will be offered to cadets and seniors.

Join us for our annual **banquet** and major **awards** presentations for 2008. Special guest, **Col (Ret) Ken Wofford**, a Tuskegee Airman, will provide us with a presentation as keynote speaker.

Top off the night with a **dance** by a professional DJ. Seniors and cadets are welcome! Free beverages!

**Additional special activities are being planned for those who prefer not to dance.**

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SUNDAY, 3 MAY 09

**A Commander’s Call** for unit commanders and a **Cadet Advisory Council** (CAC) meeting is scheduled for Sunday morning from 8 am to 12 noon.

Unit commanders will meet the executive staff of the Wing to discuss current issues regarding the management of the Wing.

Cadet Primary Representatives will have the opportunity to present issues to the Cadet Program staff from a cadets’ perspective through discussion and analyses of current cadet program operations, policies and activities.

This interaction assists the Director of Cadet Programs and the Wing commander in the management of the cadet program.

**Flight Simulators available most of the day, Saturday.**

| **Save $20 by registering by 9 April 09** |

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**Sign up for the conference on the Minnesota Wing website …**

http://www.mncap.org/xp/wingconf.cfm

Make your own room reservations by Arrowwood direct, TOLL FREE at 866-386-5263. Reference CAP!
A 62-year member of the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol and World War II hero has died.

Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Krause (pictured) a member of the Mankato Composite Squadron, passed away on February 24, 2009. He was 87.

Lt Col Krause joined CAP in 1946 after serving in the China-Burma-India (CBI) Theater of operations during WWII. He was one of the C-47 pilots that flew critically needed supplies over “The Hump,” a dangerous 530-mile long passage over the Himalayan Mountains where nearly 1,000 men and 600 planes were lost.

The planes were often loaded to twice their normal capacity.

“We always think of the P-51 fighters and B-17 bombers as planes that won WWII,” said Lt. Col John Barsness, Minnesota Group 4 commander. “What would we have done without the C-47 cargo planes and the brave men that flew them?”

Lt Col Barsness had the honor and privilege of hearing Krause share his wartime experiences during an Experimental Aircraft Association Banquet 2004.

“Ken held the audience spellbound as he told us how his plane was shot down and how he attempted an emergency landing to save a wounded crewmember’s life. Unfortunately the crewmember died. Only at the end of the story did Ken mention he did all of this after being badly injured and wounded himself.”

First Lieutenant Earl Isaacs, a long-time member of Mankato Squadron, said CBI is largely an unknown part of a much larger war to most Americans and CAP members.

“Flying ‘The Hump’ required perfect navigation; plenty of C-47’s and their crews were lost carrying provisions to the Chinese army fighting the Japanese,” Isaacs said.

“CBI is a part of WWII that is not heard much of these days. We were honored to have had Ken Krause around to tell the story of these brave airmen.”

Krause flew 72 missions over “The Hump”. Among his many military awards are two Distinguished Flying Crosses and the Purple Heart.

He served as Commander of the Mankato Squadron as well as a Group Commander in Minnesota Wing.

His wife, Dolores of Mankato; two sons; seven grandchildren; and one sister survive Ken. His parents, first wife and other family members preceded him in death.

The Standard Oil Company employed Krause for 31 years. He and Dolores owned and operated the Nor-V-Gen Oil Company for 20 years.

Lt Col Krause was also a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association, CBI Veterans Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, the Air Force Association, and Rotary Club of Mankato.
New Group Three Commander Installed

1st Lt George Supan
Public Affairs Officer, Group 3

The hanger at North Hennepin Composite Squadron on March 3, 2009 was filled to capacity. CAP members were standing in the hallway leading to the hanger.

Lt Col Michael Moen relinquished command of Group 3 and Lt Col Richard Johnson was given command of Group 3 during the ceremonies.

Family, friend and CAP members arrived early at the Squadron in Crystal, MN. Filled the seating area, stood along the walls in the hanger and others were in the hallway leading to the meeting area.

Lt Col Tom Hollenhorst, North Hennepin Squadron, Commander, who hosted and was the MC for the event welcomed family; friends and CAP members along with a number of distinguish guests.

Lt Col Moen thanked the Group 3 members for their support over the years of his time as Commander. He congratulated Lt Col Johnson on accepting the position along with assuring the group of Lt Col Johnson’s leadership abilities to carry on.

Lt Col Johnson accepted the command along with asking for continual support of the members to accomplish our three missions of Aerospace, Emergency Services and the Cadet program.

Another very important part of the night was for Cadets to earn a new grade and be promoted while having Col Theis, other CAP members and their families in attendance.

The Squadron had promotions within the Cadet program. Lt Col Hollenhorst, honored and with assistance by family members who changed grade on 10 Cadets. One Cadet was so small in size, but big in pride, that Lt Col Hollenhorst bent down low to return the Cadets salute.

Seeing the progression of the Cadets in one of the six squadrons that Lt Col Johnson is now in Command of in Group 3, we know they will all achieve the CAP missions.
Brovold assumes command of Minnesota Wing's Group II
Capt Richard Sprouse
Public Affairs Officer, Group II

Maj. Ryan Brovold (pictured) has been named commander of Group II of the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP).

Group 2 includes 245 CAP members from Anoka, Crow Wing, Hutchinson, St. Cloud, and Wesota squadrons.

Brovold, who resides in Becker, had been serving as commander of the St. Cloud Composite Squadron before accepting the Group II command.

According to National Headquarters a group commander represents the wing commander in their group and is responsible for ensuring that objectives, policies, and operational directives are effectively executed within the group.

In addition to exercising command over the five units in Group II, Brovold will be expected to promote the objectives and purposes of CAP by encouraging the achievement of established goals and programs by all units and by establishing new goals and programs within the group in support of the objectives.

Brovold, 35, has been a CAP member since December 2001. He was named Minnesota Wing's squadron commander of the year in 2008. Also that year he received a community service award from the Air Force Association.

Brovold is a certified CAP Mission Pilot and Ground Team Leader. His CAP specialty tracks include Operations, Aerospace Education and Professional Development.

Brovold grew up in Erskine, Minn. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in technology/career technical education from Bemidji State University.

He also has a master's degree in space studies from the University of North Dakota where he's now pursuing a PhD in educational leadership. He's currently the academic dean at Rasmussen College in St. Cloud.

St. Cloud Squadron gets new commander

“Sir, I relinquish command.”

“Sir, I assume command.”

With those words, Major Ryan Brovold relinquished command of the St. Cloud Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol to Captain Blame Pierson in a change-of-command ceremony March 2 at the St. Cloud Armory.

Lt Col Mike Moen, Minnesota Wing vice commander, presided over the ceremony.

“One of the finest CAP traditions we have is the seamless passing of command from one squadron commander to another,” said Lt Col Moen.

“We celebrate the achievements of the outgoing commander and we also know the dedicated senior officers, cadets, and family members of the St. Cloud Composite squadron will carry on the tradition of excellence under the new commander.”

Captain Pierson, a CAP member since age 12, had previously served as deputy commander of the squadron's senior members. He has also served as the squadron's deputy commander of cadets, emergency services officer, and information technology officer.

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St. Cloud Change of Command continued from page 7

“It takes a team to be a successful squadron so I ask for the support and cooperation of every senior officer, cadet and parent in this squadron,” Pierson said.

"I realize the importance of responsibilities and duties of the position I've been appointed to. As your commander, my responsibility and my promise to you is to provide an environment that allows every member of this squadron to succeed. It is an honor to assume command of this squadron."

New cadet commander at St. Cloud Composite Squadron

Cadet Luke Zahm has assumed the position of cadet commander of the St. Cloud Composite Squadron of the Minnesota Wing of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP). He replaces outgoing cadet commander, Jessica Stone, who served in that position for the past year.

Last night, Cadet Zahm introduced his platform for the coming year to cadet staff and senior officers, as well as placed new cadets in staff positions.

"In the next two months our organization is going to be improved by creating an information table that includes Wing event dates and details, ES requirements and links, squadron staff and color guard applications, uniform item request form, and stats on promotions and inspections (and requirements)," Zahm said.

He also asked that the command presence and professionalism of the squadron be increased, as well as a much stricter meeting environment.

"Drill evaluations, promotion boards, and inspections are going to be implemented and the results will carry increased weight and importance. As soon as our organization, communication, and professionalism have improved (I'm looking at 3-5 months), our focus will shift to recruiting," Zahm said.

Zahm, 17, a cadet second lieutenant, is from Kimball and is home schooled. He has been a member of CAP since November 2006. In addition to serving as cadet commander, Zahm has attended the Minnesota Wing's annual cadet encampment at Camp Ripley, the Minnesota Wing Flight Academy held at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Mennen, and the Minnesota Wing Leadership Academy.

In 2008, Zahm received the prestigious Jacob Pfingsten Memorial Flight Training Scholarship during flight academy.

Jacob Pfingsten was a long-time member of Minnesota’s Crow Wing Composite Squadron of Civil Air Patrol who died in February 2005 while serving with the U.S. Army in Germany. The scholarship's goal is to encourage all Civil Air Patrol cadets graduating from the Minnesota Wing Flight Academy to continue their flight training and obtain their FAA Private Pilot Certificate. The scholarship provides up to 30 hours of flight training. Cadet Stone received the initial scholarship in 2007.
Minnesota Wing members attend Squadron Leadership School
1st Lt George Supan
Public Affairs Officer, Group 3

In the early morning on February 28, 2009, with the temperature –22 degrees, 6 members of the Duluth Composite Squadron headed south 160 miles to Lake Elmo Composite Squadron, located east of St. Paul, MN, for a two-day Squadron Leadership School.

“The scope of the program is leaders are individuals who possess a freedom of mind enabling them to think creatively. This seminar begins with a discussion about what constitutes creative thinking”.

20 Civil Air Patrol members from squadrons throughout the state came together for the professional development program. The members were from Anoka, Duluth, Mankato, North Hennepin, St Cloud, St Croix, Valley and Viking Squadrons. Having a diverse group from different areas and backgrounds added to the value of the two-days.

“Leaders rely on their staff to manage programs and help them make decisions. CAP officers perform important missions for America. Sometimes peoples’ lives are on the line”.

The presenters were the best in the State and shared their experiences along with the course material throughout the days. Col Steve Miller, former Minnesota Wing, Commander, shared information about being wing commander. Lt Col Charlotte Miller, Wing Chief of Staff for Mission Support, added information from her employment. Lt Col Tom Kettell, former Wing, Vice Commander, who does professional development across the country enlightened us. Lt Col Mike Moen, Group 3 Commander and Wing Director of Professional Development, identified how each CAP member is impacted through what we do and say. Capt David Yost, Commander, St. Croix Composite Squadron, identified how squadrons fit into and are the heart of CAP. Capt David Mansheffer, Anoka Composite Squadron, Professional Development Officer, shared how important senior members are. Not just volunteers, they are officers in CAP.

Maj David Kenan, host St. Croix, Maj. Don Sorenson, Anoka and Capt Stefan Sylvander, St. Croix Squadrons coordinated the team of talented presenters.

“To Lead, you need the ability to make your ideas clear to others and to arrange your thoughts in a way that persuades subordinates, peers, and superiors”.

Each attendee will be a better Officer and Leader in their respective squadrons.

Lt Col Mike Moen and Maj David Kenan presented certificates to the class on the final day.
CTG Announces Staff for 2009 Encampment

C/Col Charles Cox
Commander, 11th Cadet Training Group

The 11th Cadet Training Group held its Staff Selection Exercise at Camp Ripley. With 46 applicants in attendance and 25 available staff positions, the competition was very tough. The entire CTG staff is as follows:

Executive Staff
Cadet Commander - C/Col Charles Cox
Deputy Commander - C/Capt Haylee Fosterling
Executive Officer - C/2d Lt Mitch McGillick
Command Chief - C/MSgt Mike Weston

Staff Development Squadron
Commander - C/Maj Josh Woodard

21st Cadet Training Squadron
Squadron Commander - C/2d Lt Alex McGillick
First Sergeant - C/SMSgt David Trudeau
Alpha Flight Commander - C/1st Lt David Johnson
Alpha Flight Sergeant - C/Sgt Treye Harrison
Bravo Flight Commander - C/2d Lt David Blessman
Bravo Flight Sergeant - C/Sgt Ryan Mullin
Charlie Flight Commander - C/MSgt Peter Mayhew
Charlie Flight Sergeant - C/MSgt Grady Bell

22nd Cadet Training Squadron
Squadron Commander - C/1st Lt Caleb Norman
First Sergeant - C/MSgt Dane Bjorkman
Delta Flight Commander - C/MSgt Marlan Campbell
Delta Flight Sergeant - C/TSGt Matt Eischens
Echo Flight Commander - C/MSgt Same DiCosimo
Echo Flight Sergeant - C/MSgt Mark Farrand
Foxtrot Flight Commander - C/2d Lt Dainec Stefan
Foxtrot Flight Sergeant - C/MSgt Travis Patterson

Support Staff
Command Staff Duty NCO - C/MSgt Jenna Ernst
Support Staff Duty NCO - C/MSgt Libby Berg
Standards/Evaluations Officer - C/Capt Billy Hoffman
Standards/Evaluations Asst - C/1st Lt Travis Parker
Leadership Officer - C/Capt Joshua Carr
Administration Officer - C/1st Lt Nic Trombley
Commander of the Guard - C/2d Lt David Chanski
Information Technology Officer - C/2d Lt Blake Zafft
Public Affairs Officer - C/2d Lt Lydia Stone
Logistics Officer - C/MSgt Robert Spear

Staff Development Squadron Seeking Applicants

C/Maj Josh Woodard
Commander, 2009 Staff Development Squadron

I would like to personally invite you to be a part of the encampment Staff Development Squadron (SDS). This year’s SDS will be held concurrently with the encampment from 20 June to 27 June at Camp Ripley. By attending SDS, you will have a unique opportunity to enhance your leadership skills and gain hands on experience in challenging leadership scenarios while being mentored by experienced instructors. SDS can be one of the most rewarding and substantial training events in a cadet’s leadership career. The primary goal of the SDS is to prepare cadets to be the future encampment staff.

The program is physically and academically demanding, covering topics such as behavior modification strategies, time management, theory and organization of the Cadet Training Group, proper use of command voice, how to properly conduct the Cadet Physical Fitness Program, and much more. In addition to the numerous classes, SDS students are provided the opportunity to apply the skills and knowledge they learn in an encampment environment by rotating through several flight staff positions where they lead their SDS peers for that day. At the end of each day, the SDS Commander and Director conducts a daily debrief where successes are celebrated and setbacks are analyzed and learned from. Later in the week, SDS students will shadow Command and Support Staff personnel for a first-hand look at how the encampment staff functions.

To be eligible to attend SDS, you must be a graduate of a previous encampment. Those who are thinking about being staff in the future are strongly encouraged to apply to be a part of this year’s Staff Development Squadron.

We are now accepting applications for students. The application deadline is 1 June. You can apply on-line at our website: http://mncap.org/cp/11ctq/sds.cfm
BlackCAP XXV

Twenty-five years of Emergency Services fun and learning!

3-5 April 2009 at the Red Wing CAP Center

http://redwing.mncap.org/blackcap

BlackCAP Emergency Services College:
The most sophomoric collegiate E.S. experience available!

Teaching the fundamentals of Emergency Services, all in one weekend.

Are you prepared to serve?

You can get Emergency Services training in a uniquely fun and amusing environment. You’ll go home with better skills, more CAP friends, and great memories after a weekend of fun and learning.

No two years at BlackCAP are ever the same, so make sure that you are part of this year’s experience!

See you in Red Wing for BlackCAP XXV!

The Details for BlackCAP XXV

Date & Time: April 3-5, 2009. Drop off at 1800 on Friday and pick up at 1300 on Sunday.

Location: Red Wing CAP Center and surrounding area

Cost: $15*
- BlackCAP hats are available for $10!

Uniform: Battle Dress Uniform (BDU) or Corporate Equivalent - bring civilian clothes for Saturday night

Who should participate: EVERYONE! General ES qualifications encouraged, not required. New members are welcome, provided they have a complete uniform.

What do I need to bring:
- CAP ID Card
- Water bottles or canteens for the weekend
- 101 Card (if you have one, not required)
- Parent Permission Slip
- Food for the weekend that doesn't need refrigeration - How you cook it is up to you
- Saturday evening meal is included with tuition
- Something to sleep in and something to sleep on (the hangar floor is hard and cold) - tent camping is allowed.
- As much of a 24 hour pack that you can acquire
- Always dress for the weather - rain gear required!
- 1 set of appropriate civilian clothes to change into Saturday night - beware, they may get dirty!

You may or may not have heard rumors about what goes on at BlackCAP. BlackCAP staffers can neither confirm nor deny these persistent rumors: If you truly want to know what BlackCAP is all about, you will need to attend as quickly as possible. WARNING – the BlackCAP experience is known to be addictive. Once you attend your first BlackCAP, you may find yourself waiting anxiously for your next opportunity to attend. The abundant positive and light-hearted attitudes are highly contagious.

Pre-Register Online:
http://redwing.mncap.org/BlackCAP/
Or you can register at the door!

Tuition: $15

* Tuition waived for all instructors and Senior Members who transport 4 or more members to the activity.
Serving Our Troops
Major James Kline
Commander, Fort Snelling Composite Squadron, Minnesota Wing

The city of St. Paul put together a going away party for 1,034 troops of the Minnesota Army National Guard’s 34th Infantry Division, also known as the Red Bulls.

The Red Bulls will command coalition military operations in eight of 18 provinces or about one-third of the country. “The scope of this mission is unprecedented,” according to Division Commander, Major Gen Richard Nash. The 34th Infantry Division will be in charge of over 16,000 multinational troops helping to secure Iraq. They will be replacing the 10th Mountain Division, which is an active duty division out of Ft. Drum, New York.

Serving both the troops but their families, around 8,000 people showed up at the River Centre in St. Paul on Tuesday evening, February 11th. A full steak dinner was provided following a special ceremony with their infantry Generals and the Governor of Minnesota. Upon completion of the ceremony the troops reunited with their families and joined together for one of the largest single served meal In history of convention service in St. Paul. The meal was nearly 2 ½ times larger than what was hosted here for last year’s Republican National Convention.

A call for volunteers went out months ago and word got to the Ft. Snelling Composite Squadron. Six volunteers from the squadron arrived on Monday, February 10th to assist in the setting up the room for the next night.

Major James Kline, Lt Col Tony Tarpy and his wife Patty, Captain Richard Geis, Cadet Isaac Lancaster and his brother, Gabriel Lancaster helped setting up over 8,000 dinner place settings. “It was a hard chore but with 200 other volunteers that night over 750 tables were set up and dressed for first-class dinner for Minnesota’s BEST” said Lt Col Tarpy.

On Tuesday, February 11th the day began by volunteer check in at 2:30pm, those in Attendance from Ft. Snelling Composite Squadron: Major James A. Kline and his wife Pam, LTC Tony Tarpy and his wife Patty, Captain Richard Geis, Cadet Isaac Lancaster and his brother, Gabriel Lancaster, Cadet Commander David Kendal and cadet Treye Harrison. We were a small part of a major volunteer operation that lasted until 9:30pm.

At 6:00pm the troops and their families were dismissed from the ceremony and headed for the dinner area. We were ready! Within an hour we had everyone seated and full Steak dinners on their plates. Many local businesses, restaurants and the city of St. Paul Help contribute toward this wonderful event.

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Serving the Troops - Continued from Page 10

Come 8:30pm most of the troops had gone home with their families and we began the huge process of cleaning up, picking up all the chairs and tables again down to a bare floor.

This was a small price of volunteering for what these brave troops will be doing for us. While serving during the height of the rush it was so busy we didn't have time to say thank you to each soldier who came to our table but we tried as much as we could.

But what placed a “lump” in my throat was toward the end when we started to clean up, I kept getting “pats” on my back and when I looked around to acknowledge them, they were Soldiers saying “Thank you for doing this for them”

These soldiers who were leaving their families and going into harm’s way to fight for world peace and freedom were reaching their hand upon us and saying thank you. Left a lot of us with “misty eyes”

As we continued to clean up. This was truly a most reward experience and I would not have missed it for the world.

We wish you the best, our fighting 34th Infantry, the Red Bulls of Minnesota!

St. Paul trains to save lives in the cold
1st Lt Paul Markegard
Emergency Services Officer St. Paul Composite Squadron Minnesota Wing

St. Paul Composite Squadron cadets and seniors again headed out into the cold winter for more emergency services training at the Minnesota National Guard’s Arden Hills Army Training Site.

The mission? An ELT Search with 2 missing and possibly injured pilots.

The teams set out and independently and using direction finders, map and compass shot bearings of the signal. The teams using triangulation were able to narrow the search to a small area near the reservoir. Team 2 was first to arrive. Together they set up rope operations and recovered both "pilots" who were found on steep sandy/snowy terrain. Both ground teams were in constant radio contact with mission base giving regular progress reports.

Again we headed out into the weather and elements to practice our skills. We had a very good turn out. 20 cadets and seniors braved the chill of February to spend 12 hours outside preparing to help people in need. An added element was tossed in at the last minute. 4 inches of new snow.

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Cold Weather Training continued from Page 13

The roads had not been plowed and 4 wheel drive was the order of the day. Poor GT-1 was forced to march about a 1/2 mile to the "scene" because ye old one wheel wonder would not make it up the road. But they did it! I never heard one complaint. We got some tough cadets.

We practiced radio direction finding, lines searches, hasty searches, 1st aid (c/Lt. Fox was most honored to wear a C-collar during his rescue) and our now infamous RADAA skills. We also divided up into teams and built improvised shelter using what we had at the time.

Team DeMuse/Fox managed to construct a small log cabin. Most did the standard lean-too with tarp/poncho style.

This was again very successful. But it could not have been done without the help of seniors who also give there time to help the cadets.

Lt. Leif who always has good ideas and remains positive no matter what. Lt. Phar who is our newest GT leader. And two new seniors. SM. Niemann who brought cooking equipment (something I totally forgot in January) making a dinner that all but disappeared.

SM. Sebesta whose electronic skills saved the day when we "hot wired" the ELT in 10 degree weather. Solving out Technical Difficulties. He also volunteered his expertise in electronics to rehab our equipment. A very special thanks for that!

Summer Survival Weekend coming soon

Hutchinson and St. Paul Squadrons are hosting a Summer Survival weekend from 31 July-2 August at the Arden Hills National Guard Training Area. The IC will be Maj. Paul Pieper, if you have any questions please feel free to e-mail C/SMSgt Andrew Heisel at aheisel@mncap.org

More details will be announced soon

Leadership Academy Commander Sought

Applications are now being accepted for commander of the 2009 Minnesota Wing Leadership Academy CAPF 31 applications along with a brief resume of your CAP experience can be sent to Major Janelle Gates at janellegates@msn.com
St. Croix Members Go on C-130H Orientation Flight
2d Lt Scott Richardson
Public Affairs Officer, St Croix Composite Squadron, Minnesota Wing

On Friday, 6 February Members from the St. Croix Composite Squadron participated in a C-130 Orientation Flight with the 934th Airlift Wing, based out at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport.

We were greeted by Col. Michael Huttner once we arrived at the 934th Air Wing’s Headquarters building. He gave us a brief tour of the facility and then it was right down to business.

We were invited to sit in on the pilot and aircrew briefing so we could get a good idea as for what was in store on this flight. Our members were able to ask the aircrew questions about the flight once the main briefing was concluded.

The cadets were in for a special treat this time of year since we were attending a daytime mission which would take us along the North Shore of Lake Superior past the famous Split Rock lighthouse. The weather was good and the visibility was good enough to see for 10 miles in any direction.

The training flight we were invited to come along on was an aero-medical training flight. In addition to the crew chief and load master was a flight nurse, three medical technicians, 4 practice victims and a few Air Force evaluators to score the flight.

We got to witness first hand how soldiers and patients are cared for and transferred from the places like the battlefield to airbase hospitals around the world. The aero-medical flight staff was great in explaining to us how and why they train the way they do and how they passionately care for the wounded and sick.

Once we departed the Minneapolis airbase the C-130H known as the “Hercules” turned north and we were on our way. We climbed to an altitude of approximately 11,000 feet for the first half of the journey north. Once we were past the Duluth (DLH) airspace the aircraft descended down to about 1500 feet above ground level (AGL) for the exiting excursion up the north shore of Lake Superior.

Our tour of the north shore took us past lakeside towns and monuments such as Two Harbors, the famous Split Rock Light house, Silver Bay, Taconite Harbor and the Lutsen ski resort. We were able to take pictures of many different land features and icons known to many on the north shore.

Four lucky cadets took turns and were able to sit on the flight deck with the pilots and crew chief during the take off and landing phase of the flight. This was a thrill none of these cadets will ever forget. This was a very inspiring event for the Cadets and senior members. This was a great up close and personal tour of the U.S. Air Forces Reserve’s mission capabilities.

The St. Croix Squadron members in attendance were; Cadet Tyler Hastings, C/Amn Kati Jents, C/SSgt Zachary Langer, C/Amn Kati Jents, C/SrA Alex Swanson, Cadet Thomas Young, 2d Lt Charles Jents and 2Lt Scott Richardson.
St. Croix Seniors Tour NWA Pilot Training Facility

On Thursday night, 18 December 2008, Eight members from the St. Croix Squadron were given a personal tour of the Northwest Airlines /Delta Pilot training facilities located in Eagan, Minnesota.

Airline Capt. Michael Huttner is also a Colonel in the U.S. Air Force Reserve, gave a personalized tour of the facilities. We were able to tour the entire facility and get a close up look at all of the training rooms, briefing rooms, paper trainers, non-motion mock ups & full motion simulators.

We also toured the other areas, which included training facilities for aircrew to get familiar with other equipment on aircraft. We received a “hands on” opportunity with emergency door operations, passenger window door escape hatches, door slide & life raft operations, ELT operations, supplemental air mask procedures and fire extinguisher operations.

We had a chance to view simulators in action from the viewing gallery such as B-737’s, B-757’s, B-747’s and the new B-787, which is just coming on line for training a new generation of aircraft.

After the tour of the facility we were all given a special privilege of getting an up close and personal tour inside a B-757 training simulator.

Each member was able to be seated in the right/left seat of the simulator and received a “hands on” session by Col. Huttner. Each member had the opportunity to do a take off and a landing in the simulator from San Francisco International Airport. This was a thrill for each and every one of us.

Members who had the opportunity to participate were; Lt. Col. Bill Rutten, Maj. Mike Bordonaro, Maj. David Kenan, Maj. Paul Prior, Capt. David Yost, Capt. Bill Reiners, 2d Lt. Charles Jents & 2d Lt. Scott Richardson.

Our thanks, once again goes to Col. Michael Huttner for taking his time and giving us all a personalized tour which few others outside of NWA/Delta get to have.

Upcoming Events

- 3-5 April  BLACK CAP XXV @ Red Wing
- 1-3 May  Minnesota Wing Conference @ Alexandria
- 16-17 May  National Check Pilot Standardization Course @ Viking Squadron
- 12-14 June  Group 1 SAREX @ Walker
- 20-27 June Cadet Encampment @ Camp Ripley

The complete Wing Calendar is always available at the Minnesota Wing Website at: http://www.mncap.org/calendar/calendar.cfm
MN Squadron Holds Successful ELT Training Event
2d Lt Erik Lindquist
Public Affairs Officer, Viking Composite Squadron, Minnesota Wing

Viking squadron’s Emergency Services Officer 1st Lt Mario Fabrizio excels at holding training exercises that represent the real deal. No details are too small in his preparation of these training exercises. February’s ES training night consisted of an ELT search on the Eden Prairie Flying Cloud Airport premises. Approximately 30 squadron members participated in the exercise.

Three ground teams were assembled with a mission base set up at the Viking squadron hanger. The Minnesota night was cold and icy, and could have been the backdrop for any actual mission requiring an ELT downed aircraft search. Eerily, the training session was held one week to the day of the fiftieth anniversary (3 Feb. 1959) of “The Day the Music Died”, when Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and J.P. Richardson “The Big Bopper” died in a plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa.

All three ground teams were evaluated and trained separately while they made their way triangulating towards the squawking ELT. Ground team members and the members manning the mission base also practiced the back-and-forth communications required during successful missions. Members manning the base station were also evaluated and trained. At the end of the search exercise, all members returned to base to review and debrief. Training exercises like these continue to be the Civil Air Patrol’s best method of preparation for actual emergencies in the field. CAP’s successes can be attributed to all the hard work and dedication of our members as they continue to train and stay proficient.

Aerospace News

On May 2nd and 3rd the American Wings Museum at Anoka County Airport will host the running of a rare 100-year-old Gnome Omega rotary engine

Built in 1909, the engine was placed in a special box and stored in 1914 at the outbreak of World War I. At the same time, the owner also stored the one-of-a-kind plane the engine powered, a 1911 Steco Aerohydroplane. The plane, which is now owned by the Minnesota Air & Space Museum, was built by James S. Stephens, a former resident of the Twin Cities during the 1880s and 1890s.

Museum members have mounted the 7 cylinder, 50-horsepower engine on a custom-built stand and will fire it up to celebrate its 100th birthday. The engine, serial number #755, is the most pristine model of its kind in the world. Gnome Omega engines were used primarily to power fighter aircraft in Europe during World War I. Although over 3,000 engines were built, only a few survive today and less than a handful in running condition.

Museum members will run the engine three times each day at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. Prior to each engine run, an expert (engine operator) from the museum will present an overview, explaining how the engine works.

In addition, the museum will be open for tours, enabling visitors to view the 1911 Steco Aerohydroplane as well as unique Cycle Cars built by Stephens between 1909 and 1912. The cars are powered by air-cooled motorcycle engine. Other historic aircraft also will be on display in the museum.

The public is invited to see and hear this unique engine as it roars to life just like it did 100 years ago. The engine is mounted on a test stand because the 98-year-old wood and fabric Steco Aerohydroplane is too fragile to endure the vibration from the engine as its cylinders whirl around the stationary crankshaft. It’s a sight and sound few people alive today have witnessed.
Please Don't Toss Out Your Beacon!

As aviators and mariners are transitioning from older 121.5 MHz emergency locator beacons to the new 406 MHz technology, more and more of the older beacons are finding their way into trash dumpsters and landfills. Once discarded, some of these devices are accidentally activated forcing emergency responders to locate and deactivate the discarded device. This unnecessary action wastes time and money and it could tie up emergency personnel so they are not able to respond to an actual emergency. If you are discarding one of these devices, please remove or disconnect the batteries from the device so it cannot be accidentally activated and then contact a local electronics waste facility in your area for proper disposal. Thank you!