



ALABAMA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL

NEWSLETTER

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Commander's Comments

I would like to thank each and every member of the Wing for their help in the hurricane relief effort. I know some became very frustrated by not being called upon, but we did help when help was asked for.

There are many new ideas on how to streamline the process, but keep in mind our missions and the fact that we are the USAF auxiliary. We do the missions assigned and do them well.

With that in mind, we need to look forward to the coming year and plan our future. There will be CLC and SLS classes, Region Staff College and other schools required for advancement. In order to function over a longer period, we need more ground team members, and flight crews. To train them we have scheduled FTX training and SARs.

Each member must look and see what his or her requirements and desires are. If you feel you are qualified for something, but have not been recognized, ask your Squadron Commander. There is still one or two of us out there who don't know everything. I want everyone to be recognized for his or her efforts.

Together we can have a rewarding experience in performing our MISSIONS FOR AMERICA.

*Col John Tilton
Commander
Alabama Wing*

Recruiting and Retention

I was able to address my former command in the Georgia Wing, Augusta Composite squadron 09069 during their weekly meeting. Since moving to South Carolina, I met the squadron commander at the Augusta air show and was asked to come and speak to the group. I spoke on the need for recruiting and what type of members we are looking for during our recruiting efforts. It was quite an honor for me to interact with the squadron, and inform them that they were listening to Civil Air Patrol's first and only master recruiter at the present time. The Georgia Wing commander Col. Don Greene has asked Lt. Col. Jackson to assist with the Wings' recruiting efforts.

*Lt Col Al Jackson
Recruiting and Retention*



Lt Col Jackson addresses cadets.

The first recruiting work shop was held on the 20th of June at National headquarters. We had a total of four members on hand, but we had fun and they learned a lot during the course of the day.

With the threat of wicked weather, our class members weathered the elements and attended to get the training needed for future recruiting. Ms. Robin Hunt assisted me during the work shop, and was a great asset, with her knowledge and experience, allowed the work shop to flow smoothly.



Members of first recruiting workshop, from l to r 1st Lt. Oliver Cork, 2Lt. Ron Dudley, Lt. Col. Jackson, instructor, and Capt. Kathy Carter, and Capt. Edmond Nelson.

Alabama Wing Encampment

**Cadets get the basics of Army aviation
Fort Rucker hosts Civil Air Patrol
encampment
By Tara Neal
Staff Writer**

The Civil Air Patrol launched the cadet's Fort Rucker summer encampment June 19. The weeklong program, held throughout post and the local area, is one of several quarterly field trips designed to encourage young people in their pursuit of careers in aviation and space. The cadets, groomed for military life in aviation, began their whirlwind experience of Army aviation early the next morning.

"The cadets were pretty tired last night," said CAP Maj. Joe Curry, encampment director, "so we let them sleep in until 5:30." Waking up in the barracks to whistles and screams, the cadets were lead through callisthenic Physical Training and given a light breakfast to prepare them for a full day. With the youngest members reaching less than five feet tall and, as Curry noted, hardly weighing 90 pounds soaking wet, six flights of 10 cadets each marched behind the U.S. Army Aviation Center to face the obstacle course - a low crawl, the leaning ladder, tires, an eight foot wall and a rope climb.

"We'll start them out with push-ups and sit-ups by flights," explained CW3 Jim Stidfole, standardization pilot for the Dothan squadron and tactical officer for the encampment, "After that, half will stay for shot put and half will hit the obstacle course, swapping before running the two-mile track." Showing speed and perseverance, every member tackled the course, almost all of them scaled the wall unassisted and several reached the top of the ropes.

Cheers with nicknames like "Come on, Monkey!" and "Go Biscuit!" belied the fact

that the flights were considered too new to be gelled.

The night prior was spent in a teambuilding exercise to create felt guideons. "The best part is, they're all homemade," said Stidfole, "and throughout the week they will also come up with a cadence and a motto for their flight."

The cadets were retested on the obstacle course and fitness test at the end of the week. Despite their bold beginning, the scores did in fact improve as the week progressed.

"It's amazing what you can get done by the end of the week, especially with that age group," Stidfole said, "They're so impressionable."

After the two-mile run, the cadets were fed and given a short break before drill and ceremony instruction. Then, they began one of several classes conducted throughout the week meant to combine academic knowledge with hands-on experience.

"We provide a number of training opportunities," Curry said, "divided mostly among aerospace operations and professional development."

The first class of the encampment focused on Emergency Services, a vital part of the CAP education.

"Usually, it means working as a ground team," Stidfole explained, "they learn to canvas an area, maybe searching for an Alzheimer patient or child that got lost in the woods. They also learn Direction Finding for cases when an airplane crashes."

The Maxwell CAP squad, based out of Montgomery, provides search and rescue as a volunteer auxiliary unit of the Air Force. Squads that provide active cadet flight orientation usually have higher success and participation rates than those who don't. For the cadets who can survive rigorous military

training and discipline as well as these academic courses, the payoff is well worth it.

Student members are given five glider lessons and five airplane lessons throughout their time with the CAP. During this encampment, three days were allotted for in-air flight time in two Cessna airplanes to give the cadets a chance to test out their new knowledge.

Since the CAP mainly conducts search and rescue, the airplanes were fitted with technology to pick up training beacons, which were set up for the students to track while inside the airplanes.

Cessnas, as well as the TH-67 Creek, are equipped with Emergency Location Transmitters that are set off by powerful impact. Sometimes the ELT can be engaged during a rough touch-and-go landing or a hard autorotation, but the signals are meant to alert authorities to a crash scene.

"In our case, they call Birmingham and Birmingham finds the closest squadron, maybe Dothan, and sends them to look for the airplane," explained Lt. Col. Tom Holer, Dothan squadron commander, "This happens four to eight times per year in the last five years that I have been here."

The cadets met at the Enterprise Municipal Airport and flew with a pilot for 0.7 to 1.2 hours. They were encouraged to take the controls and learn some basic piloting skills from the instructors. However, they focused more on canvassing the area, by learning to read the dials used to locate beacons and to search for telltale signs of a crash.

Ground team equipment was given to the group of cadets so that they could practice

this aspect by finding hidden beacons in the field outside the airport.



Other tasks of the CAP include transportation of important individuals as well as those with medical emergencies. The planes can also be equipped with thermal visual equipment, which is used for counter-drug operations, using hyperspectral imaging to locate marijuana fields.



In addition to the in-air flights, cadets enjoyed a static display of helicopters and were given a chance to work inside Fort Rucker's helicopter simulators. They viewed two days of Dunker Helicopter Emergency Egress Device training, a demonstration by the military working dogs and spent time

learning what it takes to go through the Warrant Officer Course.

Although the cadets will likely continue to train for the CAP afterwards, the encampment's true purpose is to groom them in the cadet experience, focusing on leadership training to prepare them for a career in the military.

Cadets continuing through the program often have the opportunity to win scholarships to various schools including the most prestigious of military academies. For cadets who are interested in enlisting, reaching the pinnacle of the CAP student curriculum may allow them to enter into the army at an E-3 level.

During the graduation at the end of the busy week, the audience proudly watched as three cadets were rewarded for their hard work thus far.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Morgan Bennett and Cadet 2nd Lt. Erinn Scott were both recipients of the Billy Mitchell Award and Cadet Col. Tara Guthrie was awarded the rare Spaatz Award, the highest award CAP cadets can earn.

Less than one percent of all CAP cadets will achieve the Spaatz award. According to the Cadet Programs at CAP, www.cap.gov, the Spaatz award requires the completion of 16 achievements in the study and performance of education, leadership, physical fitness and

moral and ethical values. After completing the Eaker award, they must pass a four-part exam which tests them on aerospace education and leadership and requires a written essay and physical fitness test.

After the graduation ceremony, cadets were out-processed and dispersed across Alabama to continue their contributions in their local communities and the military and aerospace communities, always remembering the CAP kinship fostered by the encampment at Fort Rucker.

Although no squadron is currently based at Fort Rucker, Stidfole hopes that experiences like the encampment will help to further involve the community and possibly charter a local squadron in the future. To become involved in examining local squadron interest, call Jim Stidfole at 334-797-5172.

For more information on joining the CAP program, either as a cadet or adult member, call 1-800-359-2338 or write to National HQ, Civil Air Patrol, Membership Development/PA, 105 S. Hansell St, Bldg 714, Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6332.

Editor's note: My thanks to The Army Flier, Ft Rucker, AL for permission to reprint the article.



Cadet Programs

Cadet Programs is retooling to provide programs in FY2006. Maj. Curry has been with CAP Operations during hurricane season and will be stepping down after the compliance inspection in June. The wing staff has begun looking for a replacement.

Planning is underway for the professional development weekend in December and for encampment next summer. We are going to be requesting support from Maxwell AFB with a 2 day trip to Ft. Rucker. Rucker will be unable to host the week long encampment as they wished. After encampment last year the wing was invited back but billeting will not be available and we expect more programs and larger participation which will require different facilities. Major Phil Hicks (AL123) and Maj Jim Stidfole (AL029) will be heading up the encampment program. Major Curry will be assisting in planning.

Squadron 113 (Auburn) is excited about their growing numbers. New commander, Chris Tate will oversee the build up of the unit thanks to the influx of university students with CAP backgrounds. Later this

year they will make a bid for more resources as Ft. Benning, GA prepares to welcome and additional 24,000 community members that are expected to grow the populations of Russell and Lee counties.

Squadron 32 (Maxwell AFB) began its field training program in October.

The inclusion of Alabama Wing in the last two years' hurricane responses has highlighted the need for more ground operations qualified personnel. The majority of the mission in Mississippi this year was ground support.

*Maj Joe Curry
Cadet Programs*

Dothan Squadron at Fly-In



Members from the Dothan CAP Squadron participated in a locale fly – in at the Headland, Al (0J6) airport on Saturday 29, 2005. The members utilized a G8 out of Montgomery to provide a static display which generated a number of contacts and questions about the CAP.



*Nick Monday
PAO
Dothan Squadron*

Baldwin County Squadron tests communication response.

As a demonstration of the AL112 Baldwin County Composite Squadron's emergency response capabilities in the area of communications, 1st. Lt Sam Glass--Deputy Commander of Cadets put the cadets to the test during tonight's regular meeting. Their challenge was to locate materials from which they would fashion and erect a 1/2 wave inverted "V" dipole antenna. As this was a field training exercise, the Cadets had to overcome a lack of commercially available raw materials.

Their first hurdle was to locate a suitable mast. A nearby construction clean-up site yielded several sections of 3/4" rigid conduit

which they lashed together and guyed using nylon kite cord. A 3/4" PVC Tee was secured on top of the mast which lifted over 100 feet of #10 household wire. Using the HF radio frequency and conversion factor, the Cadets calculated the element length. They cut the wire, stripped and soldered the tee, then attached the plug to the coaxial end that would connect the contraption to the radio. 12 volt D.C. power to the radio brought the set-up to life. The time to complete the build and bring it online was just over an hour and a half.

With the Motorola Micom 2 crackling and the Cadets listening to directed nets in the Southeast Region, 1st. Lt. Sam Glass signed on to nets in Florida, Tennessee, and Alabama. He lectured the Cadets on the organization of the Civil Air Patrol communications networks and its importance to the mission of the Civil Air Patrol. The Alabama Wing CAP directed HF network is scheduled for every Monday evening. Participating in the event were Cadets 2nd. Lt. Josh Glass, Airman 1st. Class Brandon Allen, and Master-Sergeant Cassidy Ellis.



Clay County Flight in Mississippi

Ashland, AL) Members of Civil Air Patrol, Clay County Flight mobilized Saturday afternoon and deployed to Pascagoula

Mississippi in support of the relief efforts from Hurricane Katrina.

Designated as Civil Air Patrol - Alabama Ground Team Two the team consisted of Captain David Hester, Cadet Master Sergeant Joshua McCain, and Cadet Master Sergeant Travis Fulbright from Clay County along with Chaplain First Lieutenant Steven Sellers from Birmingham.

While in Pascagoula, members of Team Two provided chapel services for personnel there, marshalled aircraft, provided communication support, and participated in a rescue mission in Ocean Springs Mississippi.

The team re-deployed to Wiggins in central Mississippi and established Wiggins Forward Base at Dean Griffin Memorial Airport along with CAP Alabama Ground Team One that consisted of 8 members, including 3 other cadets.

The teams were tasked with assisting Stone County Emergency Management in locating individuals listed as missing or distressed and used paper lists and a GIS/GPS handheld data collection device to determine the location, condition, and immediate needs of the individuals identified by EMA. Wiggins was 1 of 3 forward bases established by CAP and was manned entirely by the combined 12 person unit from Alabama.



The mission evolved from the designated individual search to a door to door survey of the county's 444 square mile grids. While operating from Wiggins, in addition to the door to door surveys, members participated in providing chapel services, communication support, off loading supplies from helicopters for both the Wiggins base and the nearby food distribution center operated by the Alabama National Guard, providing security for the base, and distributing food and water as needed to individual residents. Team Two also provided fuel re-supply to the Mississippi Wing Headquarters that had been unable to get fuel since the operation began.

Team Two departed Mississippi on Thursday morning after a successful and productive deployment. The members of Civil Air Patrol Clay County Flight wish to thank their family members, school officials, and others involved in making the deployment timely and successful. CAP has so far deployed 13 ground crews in affected areas of Mississippi. When asked what he brought back from this experience cadet McCain said, "I'm just proud that I can help people in need, and that it gives me a sense

of pride about who I am and what I do in CAP.”

*Capt David Hester
Commander, Clay County Flight*



Clay County Cadets Visit Rick and Bubba

Cadets Caleb Branch, Tommy Bowman, Travis Fulbright, Joshua McCain, and Shannon Newell were rewarded for a busy summer by sitting in studio during the live broadcast of the Rick and Bubba Show on August 2nd. During the visit they sat in the broadcast booth, visited with the staff, explored the control room, and were seen by thousands on Turner South television. Following the exciting visit to the radio station the cadets also visited the Birmingham airport control tower and radar room as part of an aerospace education field trip made possible by a grant from the Aerospace Education Foundation.

This summer, the cadets participated in various encampments such as the Alabama Wing Encampment, Powered Flight Academy, the Air Force Weather Agency Course, and the Engineering Technologies Academy. They also participated in several training missions and enjoyed a field trip to

the Southern Museum of Flight and the Anniston Flight Service Station.

*Capt David Hestor
Commander, Clay County Flight*

Notice for CAPF 99 ALWG Forms 1 and 18

Commanders with aircraft,
Effective this month, send all original CAPF 99 and ALWG forms 1 and 18 plus the maintained fees to the Director of Operations. (Bob Dorning).

**Col. Bob Dorning
P.O. Box 2665
Birmingham, AL 35202**

Send a copy of the 99 to Lt Col Hodges at wing HQ.

Continue to send ALWG form 4 to the maintained officer, 1LT Diez.

Say Goodbye to Hundreds of NDB Approaches

216 NDB approaches will be decommissioned. Although the FAA has yet to actually switch them off the air, the decommissioned NDB stations will no longer be flight-checked, maintained, approved for use or shown on updated charts, according to AOPA. “The FAA decommissioned them after careful coordination with AOPA and the aviation community,” said Randy Kenagy, AOPA director of advanced technology. This means that the FAA “can stop spending money on something few use and will have more funds for GPS-WAAS approaches to general aviation airports,” he added. The FAA has proposed decommissioning a total of 479 NDB procedures, with the final set of procedures scheduled to be eliminated in

September. AOPA told the agency that 60 NDB approaches should be saved because they provided the lowest minimums. However, the FAA retained just 35 of the 60, according to AOPA. ▲

*Lt Col Mike Oakman
Vice Commander
Alabama Wing*

Vehicle Insurance Cards

1. Our annual motor vehicle insurance policy expires at midnight on August 31. The new policy begins at 12:01 AM on September 1.
2. New insurance cards for those states that require proof of insurance are being prepared and will be sent out by our insurance company in a pdf file to the email addresses we have on file. The certificates can then be printed locally.
3. Once all the certificates have been emailed, Becky Lee will be given a CD with all the certificates on it. Please contact Becky at 334.264.7152 if you need a duplicate or if you do not receive your email copies by September 1.

*STANLEY H. LEIBOWITZ, Col. CAP
General Counsel*

Birmingham Squadron 90 Family Day

Saturday, August 20 Birmingham Squadron 90 (Air National Guard) spent the day at the Flying X. It was a Family Day with Cadets

and Senior Members and their families. It was hot and we got a late start but they enjoyed it. I have already received an e-mail from Rick Phillips thanking us. We were able to get in three Cadet Orientation Flights plus some other flying.

Sunday, August 21, about nine Cadets and several Senior Members drove up from the Elmore-Autauga Squadron for the day. Again, we were only able to get in three of the scheduled Cadet Orientation Flights due to the weather, but all had fun.

Thanks for all the help from Paul Roebuck (Bessemer), Roger Lewis, Glen Autry, Johnny Ward and Stan. This is our Mission...Cadet Orientation Flights. It was extremely hot...in the mid-90s with a heat index well over 100. Again, thanks to everyone for your help.

International Air Cadet Exchange Alabama Phase: July 22-August 1, 2005

About every two years the Alabama Wing participated in the International Air Cadet Exchange by hosting a group of visitors. This year we hosted two cadets from Canada, one cadet from England, one from Scotland, plus an Escort Officer from the Netherlands. Lt Col Johnny Ward served as Project Officer with Capt Dani Richard coordinating activities in the Tennessee Valley area. Lt. Col Rob Gaston coordinated activities in the Montgomery area and Tom Lyons handled them in the Mobile area.

During their visit our IACE guests saw the Southern Museum of Flight, the Air National Guard with the KC-135s and helicopters at the Army National Guard on Friday, July 22nd, their arrival day. Saturday