

THE BLACK CAT

SEACOAST COMPOSITE SQUADRON'S OFFICIAL NEWS SOURCE SINCE 2007



2d Lt Blain Cote poses for a picture with daughter Elizabeth during the 2007 Seacoast Composite Squadron Picnic on September 29th, 2007

NOTHING'S MORE FUN THAN FRIENDS AND FOOD

September 29th marked another day of fun at the Seacoast Squadron as members, family and friends came together for a day of food and fun at a squadron picnic held at Dover Point Park.

The day was action packed and created an atmosphere outside the normal routine for everyone to get to know each other better. "Being part of a team and understanding your teammates is crucial to the success of our missions...," one member said.

Members were encouraged to bring their families and friends and most did. Capt Jason Smith noted, "It was really nice being able to meet everyone's families, everyone is so warm and friendly. So many times you hear our members talk about their families but don't get an opportunity to meet them, it was wonderful."

There were various activities throughout the day including a water-balloon toss, tug-o-war, and a teamwork activity graciously planned by the Piazza family. Those that attended also played whiffle-ball and touch football.

The food that was brought was world class. There was something for everyone from salads to chicken to burgers as well as an entire table of deserts. With such a variety, most members had a hard time deciding what to eat...so they just grabbed a bit of everything!

When asked her opinion about the success of the event, Capt Jillian Smith said, "What a great way to finish the summer! Nothing beats spending time in the sun with friends and food!"

Remember those *really* good pumpkin squares? Want to know how to make them? Find out 2d Lt Cheryl Piazza's secret recipe on page 4!



Changing cadet's lives one flight at a time. CAP glider pilots fly Seacoast Cadets.—More on page 3

TRAINING UP AND TAKING CHARGE

September 22, 2007 - Learning how to lead is the biggest challenge in the cadet program. The newly re-organized members of the cadet staff took a day to learn about being a cadet staff member.

Covering topics like; cadet staff responsibilities, public speaking, evaluating your cadets and how to give a board of review, the cadet staff members learned that there is more to leading than meets the eye...

Continued on page 2....



SQUADRON WEBSITE OVERHAUL! Find out more on page 3

Want to make a submission?
Contact the editor: jsmith@enterasys.com

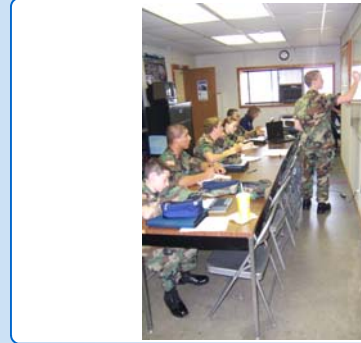
Cadet staff training, continued from page 1...

"I've always hated public speaking," C/SSgt Alecia Hagman said, "but at least this gave me an opportunity to get better at it."

"Working together as a staff, effectively communicating with one another and making sure that we can provide the best training possible to our cadets is what we were trying to accomplish during this training event," said Capt Jason Smith, "Often times new cadet staff members are confused about what their duties are and what sort of commitment they have to the cadets placed in their charge. We tried to remedy that today."

"I feel better prepared and excited to take on my role as an element leader," stressed C/Amn Adam Bergeron.

Confident in their newly acquired skills, the newly re-organized cadet staff of the Seacoast Composite Squadron are ready to take on their new roles and duties with professionalism and expertise.



Above, C/2d Lt Michael Piazza instructs the attendees of the cadet staff training; C/Amn Adam Bergeron, C/Amn Christian LaCourse, C/A1C Chris Snyder, C/SSgt Alecia Hagman and C/TSgt Julian Davila.

AVIATION NEWS

Cessna Delivers 100th Skylane To Yingling Aviation For CAP Duty Aircraft To Be Equipped With Advanced SAR Gear

Cessna announced Thursday at AOPA Expo 2007 the plane maker's Independence, KS facility recently delivered the 100th C182 Skylane to Wichita-based Yingling Aviation for modification for duty with the Civil Air Patrol.

Yingling will outfit the G1000-equipped Skylane with special avionics equipment for CAP duty. The independent Cessna authorized service station holds the STC for CAP-specific modifications.

The aircraft was delivered at the end of September. Yingling will complete the modifications that provide search-and-rescue equipment and dual audio panels with the ability to have multiple, simultaneous communications between the pilot, mission specialist, observer and agencies on the ground. These modifications allow CAP to take an increased role in support of national security and disaster relief operations.

The Skylane is scheduled for delivery to CAP in November, according to Cessna.

Operating as an auxiliary of the US Air Force, CAP is a low-cost airborne asset that local, state and federal agencies can deploy quickly and effectively in times of emergency. CAP operates over 500 Cessna aircraft -- qualifying them as the largest Cessna fleet operator in the world. Yingling designed and received the STC from the FAA in 2003 for the special mission equipment package. With assistance from Cessna and Garmin, Yingling updated the STC in 2004 to work with the Garmin G1000 avionics suite.

Cessna has scheduled 25 additional Skylanes this year for the CAP modification.

Article courtesy of www.aero-news.net

FOCUS ON BIRD SAFETY

Since the invention of the aircraft, birds have been a major problem to aviators.

The first reported bird strike was by Orville Wright in 1905, and according to their diaries, *"Orville ... flew 4,751 meters in 4 minutes 45 seconds, four complete circles. Twice passed over fence into Beard's cornfield. Chased flock of birds for two rounds and killed one which fell on top of the upper surface and after a time fell off when swinging a sharp curve."*

Bird strikes become more frequent during migratory seasons (fall and spring). Did you know that most bird strikes happen close to the ground? That means that take off and landing your plane is going to be the most likely time you hit a bird.

Because of the increased likelihood of a bird strike during the next few months, as birds begin to fly south, we wish to caution you.

The seacoast areas of Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts are prime migratory paths for birds according to the USAF's "Bird Avoidance Model" (www.usahas.com/BAM/)

So please, take the time to inquire about bird activity before you fly and keep your eye out for bird activity in the air, it could save your life.



CAP & BOY SCOUTS

Spending a day in New Hampshire's Lakes Region is usually ends up being a relaxing day...unless there are 5,000 Boy Scouts you need to address.

Capt Michael Hall and Lt Col Mary Ann Crocker spent all day on Saturday, October 6th talking about Civil Air Patrol to members of the Boy Scouts of America.

The purpose of the event was to help build awareness of Civil Air Patrol and the missions that we perform.

Peaking the interest of 5,000 Boy Scouts is a difficult task, but one that our experienced, dedicated, members were able to perform with expertise.

Capt Hall said that he is confident that the event peaked the interest of a significant amount of the attendees and that he expects CAP to benefit from the efforts that day.

A NEW FACE

The Squadron webpage recently changed homes and got a face-lift. The newly designed webpage was created by Capt Robert McMullen and includes many useful enhancements. Some of the enhancements include; an updated easy access photo gallery, customized sections for squadron departments, easy to use squadron calendar, an "easy on the eyes" color scheme, our new online "Scanner Observer School" and an easy link to your favorite publication - *The Black Cat*.

If you haven't visited the webpage recently, now is a great time to. There is new content added almost daily!

VISIT THE SQUADRON ONLINE!
www.seacoastssquadron.net

WANT TO MAKE A SUBMISSION TO THE WEBSITE?
dcs@seacoastssquadron.net

WHY HE WAS PROMOTED

Author Unknown

He was always on time.
He did not watch the clock.
He put his heart in his work.
He was not always grumbling.
He learned from his blunders.
He acted on his own judgment.
He was ready for the next step.
He did not ask too many questions.
He thought it was worthwhile to learn how.
He chose his friends among his superiors.
He did not ruin his ability by half doing things.
He imitated the habits of men who could accomplish more than he could.
He learned that the best part of his salary was not in his envelope.

CONTRIBUTED BY: C/2d Lt Michael Piazza

IT'S WELL WORTH THE DRIVE

On October 6th, 2007, 8 cadets and 1 senior member were able to experience flight in a glider, for most it was their first time thanks to the efforts of a few seniors.

Col Dale Hardy, Lt Col David Carlson, Maj Tom Matthews and 2d Lt Dick Ruel gave their time and energy to fly our members as they so often do to make the glider program a success.

With the day starting with a dense fog, there was worry about having to cancel the day. However, in a few hours the fog burned off and the day became perfect for soaring.

The cadets participating jumped in and got their hands dirty preparing the glider for flight by moving it to the proper position, attaching the tow ropes, adjusting nose weight and acting as wing runners.

"The hard work was definitely worth it, this is the coolest thing I've ever done!" said C/AB Rachel Hockhousen when asked if she enjoyed the day.

The cadets started off slowly, with a turn-around time for set-up, in the beginning, of approximately 25 minutes between flights. By the end of the day, their teamwork reduced that time to approximately 7 minutes.

To make the time between flights go by faster, the cadets *and* seniors played flag football and soccer.

Those participating in the event were; Col Dale Hardy, Lt Col Dave Carlson, Maj Tom Matthews, Capt Jillian Smith, Capt Jason Smith, 2d Lt Dick Ruel, 2d Lt Cheryl Piazza, SM Ted Bergeron, C/SSgt Tarr, C/Amn Adam Bergeron, C/AB Kevin Colford, C/AB John Colford, C/AB Brian Colford, C/AB Rachel Hockhousen, C/AB Adam Parent and C/AB Michelle Wegner.

C/SSgt Ryan Tarr noted at the end of the day that "It was hot, it was hard, but it was fun."



Above, C/SSgt Tarr, Lt Col Dave Carlson, Maj Tom Matthews, 2d Lt Dick Ruel, C/AB Kevin Colford, Col Dale Hardy, 2d Lt Cheryl Piazza, C/AB John Colford, C/AB Michelle Wegner, C/AB Brian Colford, C/AB Adam Parent, C/AB Rachel Hockhousen and C/Amn Adam Bergeron get ready for a day of flying!

PROMOTIONS AND AWARDS

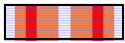
FROM SEPTEMBER'S AWARD CEREMONY & CONFERENCE



SECOND LIEUTENANT
2d Lt Richard Ruel



RICKENBACKER ACHIEVEMENT
C/TSgt Julian Davila



COMMANDER'S COMMENDATION
Blackbird Drill Team, 2007
Lt Col Mary Ann Crocker
2d Lt Cheryl Piazza



SENIOR RECRUITER RIBBON
Capt Michael Hall



CADET RECRUITER RIBBON
C/Amn Timothy Godin



CADET RECRUITER RIBBON
C/Amn Adam Bergeron

Do you enjoy the pictures found in
The Black Cat?

Find more at: www.seacoastssquadron.net



Above: Cadets assist C/A1C Snyder in correcting uniform discrepancies during a uniform class. Cadet Snyder intentionally wore his uniform incorrectly.

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2007

DATE	TIME	EVENT / DESCRIPTION
20th	0700-1600	Mount Cardigan Hike

NOVEMBER 2007

DATE	TIME	EVENT / DESCRIPTION
10-11	0900-1600	Unit Commander's Course (Senior Members Only)
10th	0830-1200	Psychological First Aid Training
17-18	0830-1630	Training Leaders of Cadets (Senior Members Only)

DECEMBER 2007

01-02	0830-1630	Corporate Learning Course (Senior Members Only)
01	0800-1630	Wing SAREX, Pease ANGB @ DES Building

Activities subject to change.

For more accurate, up to date information please visit the squadron website
www.seacoastssquadron.net



"TO DIE FOR" PUMPKIN SQUARES

From Page 1



THE SQUARES

MIX TOGETHER:

- 2 Cups Sugar
- 2 Cups (1 small can) pumpkin
- 4 Eggs
- 1 Cup oil or applesauce (50/50 mix is best)

ADD TO THE WET INGREDIENTS:

- 2 Cups Flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt

Don't over beat, but avoid lumps.

Pour batter onto a greased jellyroll pan

Bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes

THE FROSTING

MIX TOGETHER:

- 3 oz. cream cheese
- 1 stick butter or margarine
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 Cups powdered sugar (un-sifted)

Beat frosting until smooth.

Spread over cooled cake.

For an added touch, sprinkle 1/2 cup of chopped walnuts over the top.

Recipe provided by:

2d Lt Cheryl Piazza

THE BASICS OF CAP

Both cadets and seniors came together on October 12, 2007 to conduct training about the basics of CAP. Although the lessons were divided, much of the subject matter was taught to both types of students.

Subject matter included courses in uniform wear, customs and courtesies, how to progress in CAP and drill and ceremonies.

In all 25 members attended and were excited to learn. For many, this was their first activity outside the normal weekly meeting.

During the training, cadet members learned about how to shine shoes, prepare their uniform, customs and courtesies, and drill movements. They also learned about all the cadet achievements and how to earn them.

The Officers also learned customs and courtesies and uniform wear as well as about the CAP specialty tracks and CAP Officer progression.

Later in the day, 4 CAP officers took driving evaluations to get their CAP driver's license.

"This training is the foundation to a great start in the CAP program. It was professional and I'm glad I attended." - SM Robert Godin.