ISSUE 2 FEBRUARY 2023

ILLINOIS WINGMAN

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Civil Air Patrol
Illinois Wing
ILLINOIS WINGMAN

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5th Grade Teacher Takes Flight with Teacher Orientation Program

Kim Winters, a fifth grade teacher at River View Elementary School of the Plainfield School District, flew right over her school in Plainfield, Illinois, February 8.

cont'd p.2

Teacher Orientation Program Flight

Continued from p. 1

Lt. Colonel Val Mertens of Illinois Wing flew Ms. Winters in a CAP aircraft from Joliet, giving her a bird's eye view of her school. Her students got to look up and see their teacher fly by. She assisted by reading the checklist for run-up and take-off and was briefed on the operation of the aircraft. She also look control of the aircraft for a few minutes, making turns and climbs & descents, just as a CAP pilot would allow cadets on an Orientation Flight. On the way back to Joliet, they make a couple turns over the school at an Above Ground Level of one thousand feet as Ms. Winters took photos of the school and students looking up at her from the parking lot. Ms. Winters said of her flight experience, "I've spent the day living like a rock star. So many kids stopped me in the hall asking if I was really in that plane (and apparentlymany were hoping I would be jumping out of it. LOL.)"

Learn more about Civil Air Patrol's Teacher Orientation Program Flights online at this link.

Cadet Competition

By Capt Gabriel McDowell

Squadron Commanders,

The Illinois Wing is excited to host a Cadet Competition on March 11-13 2023 at the Illinois Military Academy, Camp Lincoln ARNGB, Springfield, IL. So far, 3 units have expressed interest in competing. If you are planning on sending a team, and have already emailed Maj Van Meter, please email me with answers to the questions below. We also have room to accept more teams that wish to participate. If you are interested in fielding a team for the competition, please respond by email no later than Monday, 13 FEB 23. Please direct any competition related questions to Maj Lori Van Meter at lvanmeter@ilwg.cap.gov. Thank you.

Information required for registration:

1. Squadron name and Unit Charter number

2. Squadron Commander name, email and phone number

3. Names, Grades, and CAPID of cadet competitors

4. Names, Grades, and CAPID of Senior Member Escorts

5. Will your members be housing at Camp Lincoln, or an off-base site?

6. Will your senior members be requesting paid housing at Camp Lincoln ($36.00 per night)?

Keep in mind that senior members may also stay at camp Lincoln free of charge in 6-person rooms

ReadyOp familiarization available weekdays at 7 pm via the Chicago repeaters (except Federal Holidays) Do you know how long to wait until you can talk? Do you know how long you can talk? Do you know how long you can listen? Do you know who else you can hear? Use your assigned call sign. Be prepared for other call signs, too.

Lt Col James P. Weiland, Net Control Station

MEDICAL TRAINING

1st Lt Jeremy Montgomery, Health Services Program Officer, at Fox Valley Composite Squadron, is offering courses for AHA Heartsaver CPR, AED, First Aid, NARCAN, & Bleeding Control.

Lt Montgomery is a certified instructor. Participants/units must contact him by email for scheduling & price information.

He recommends participants be located within a 50-mile radius of Aurora, Illinois, for training at their unit. With prior approval, training may be conducted during or after a SAREX.

Although the course is taught for free, courtesy of Lt Montgomery, the costs for the certification card and consumables are the responsibility of the student.

Contact Lt Montgomery by email for details to share with your unit.

IL WG Communications School

By Lt Col Jim Bartel, IWCS Director

The Illinois Wing Communications School has run continuously since 2000. It is run concurrently with Summer Encampment each year. It is open to both Senior and Cadet members.

The school provides it's students with the complete MRO skill set, so those leaving at the end of the week, as long as the prerequisites are completed, will have their MRO rating.

Students are given ample time on the radio during the week as the school also provides the communications needs for the Summer Encampment. In addition to time on the radio, students will learn how to set up radio equipment and antennas. There will be course material on radio propagation, safety, and RF exposure limits.

Students will also become proficient in the set-up an use of both the Portable Deployable repeater(PDR) in it's ground use and airborne operation, and the Rapid Deployment Package(RDP). The RDP is a portable High Frequency (HF) radio for communication over distances longer than our standard VHF radios can be used.

Students will also have the opportunity to send and receive formal message traffic over the National Training Net that occurs daily every weekday.

Prerequisites:

- Seniors must have completed Level 1
- Cadets must have completed a prior basic encampment
- Seniors and cadets need to complete The Introductory Communications User Training (ICUT). Both the AXIS portion and the in-person evaluation
- Completion of the FEMA IS-100 and IS-700 courses that are located on-line
- Completion of the 117 test, part 3
- Need to have an open MRO SQTR with your commander's approval

Please see your squadron training officer or Squadron Commander for information about the on-line courses.

Further information can be found on the Summer Encampment website along with the application process.

Volunteers In the Spotlight

Group & Squadron Commanders are invited to nominate a cadet and a senior member as "Volunteers in the Spotlight" each month to be featured in the *Illinois Wingman*. All members in the wing may nominate a former member (who separated from CAP in good standing) as a Volunteer in the Spotlight, too.

Nominees are members in good standing who exemplify the core values and are deserving of recognition for their volunteerism in CAP.

Use the templates found on this webpage. Nominator will interview nominee for answers to questions in template. Submit answers and photographs of nominee to pa@ilwg.cap.gov by end of the month for next month's issue of *Illinois Wingman*.

Cadet Orientation Flight Program

By Capt Matt Thompson

One of the cadet offerings when joining Civil Air Patrol is the opportunity to receive 5 Glider flights and 5 Powerd flights in either one of our Cessna 172 or 182 aircraft and possibly the Gippsland GA-8 Airvan. For details you can reference CAPP 6040 regarding this Flight Program.

There is a great deal of coordination necessary to schedule these flights - pilot and aircraft availability, funding requests, sorties and other flight related information entered into WIMRS, all needing to be in place for the activity to happen.

How does it all come together? First order of business is to have an Orientation Flight Coordinator at either the Group or Squadron level to begin the process. A starting point is to download the squadron cadet orientation report (eServices / Member Reports / Member Reports / Member Reports / select Cadet Orientation Report from the drop down list). This report will indicate who has / has not flown and which flight syllabus has happened and the others to be flown (necessary for the pilots flying the cadets). Other important information is cadet weight for their Weight & Balance calculations. Cadets should endeavor to have this information listed in eServices under Characteristics for the coordinator to input into the Funding Request.

Once the coordinator has cadets interested in flying, they can fill out a Funding Request. For gliders no uniform is required but for a powered flight a complete ABU is required as well as your CAP ID and Form 161 Emergency contact information for both. The coordinator can then search for a pilot and available aircraft to establish a date to fly (weather permitting). Once they have this, a Funding Request can be submitted to me for Approval to confirm everything.

If you need assistance in finding pilots in your area, check with your Group O-Ride coordinator or Squadron Commander / O-Ride coordinator to see who is in the area and qualified to provide these flights. If there is difficulty in finding these resources, you can reach out to me for assistance.
Of utmost importance, these flights provide the opportunity to have hours placed on our aircraft. If we do not achieve 200 hours + per year we risk losing these aircraft so let's endeavor to fly our cadets. Powered flights can happen year round and Glider Operations begin in April through November (stay tuned for updates on this program portion for Major LeFevre the Wing Glider Program Coordinator).

Another note about the program, if you get 70% of your squadron cadets their 1st flight, you receive a point towards the Quality Cadet Unit Award.

TOP Flights are available for the AEM's in your area as well so reach out to them to see if they have received a flight or not (great recruitment tool).

https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/programs/aerospace-education/join-as-an-aem

Please contact me with any questions you have.

Public Affairs Corner

By Lt Col Paul Hertel, GLR Director of Public Affairs

Proper uniform wear for photos

Corporate Field Uniform or CFU (Blue BUDs) CAPR 39- 1 Page 78

Men and women. A black or tan short or long-sleeved crew neck t-shirt will be worn under the CFU shirt. Black turtlenecks may also be authorized; thermal undergarments may be black, white, brown, or cream-colored and are authorized for wear as weather conditions warrant. T-shirts and turtlenecks will not have pockets, and all must be tucked into the trousers. Sleeves of long-sleeved t-shirts will not be visible if shirt cuffs are rolled up.

CAP Corporate Working Uniform or CAP Polo CAPR 39- 1 Page 80

Men and women. A white undershirt may be worn if not visible when the collar is worn open.

CAPR 39-1 Page 66, 67

Men. A necktie will be worn with the long-sleeved shirt but is optional with the short-sleeved shirt.

Women. USAF-style inverted-V tie tab will be worn with the women's long-sleeved shirt and is optional with the women's short-sleeved shirt. The tie tab will be blue polyester herringbone with self-fastening tails.

Men and women. An Undershirt will not be visible if the collar is worn open.

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MEETING THE CHALLENGE

Last October, CAP members, their families, and friends were challenged by the Air Force Marathon History & Heritage Race Series to walk or run throughout the month as a way to raise awareness of Civil Air Patrol in communities throughout Great Lakes Region. https://www.usafmarathon.com/air-force-marathon/

Lt. Colonel Val Mertens met that challenge, but in Budapest, Hungary, running a full marathon (26.2 miles!) He was awarded a metal and patch, shown in photo below. His goal is to run the marathon in Berline this year.

Good Food, Fun, and Dancing for Group 2

By C/SSgt Arda Akman and C/Maj Joshua Gardner Woods
28 Jan 23

Group 2 had a ball in January to celebrate the achievements and accomplishments of the past year. This year, instead of paying for a DJ, Group 2 decided to host a cadet-run DJ contest. Each squadron that participated had to prepare a playlist of seven to fifteen songs with a maximum time of 20 minutes to play them.

Each squadron also had to choose two MC's (Masters of Ceremonies) to present their playlist. The winner was chosen based on creativity, presentation, and engagement. However, the main point of the contest was to see how many people each squadron could get onto the dance floor.

Squadrons played music from all different genres and time periods; Lewis Composite Squadron even had cadets perform the *Top Gun: Maverick* theme song. Overall the competition was tons of fun, competitive, and allowed squadrons to form camaraderie, the winning squadron would win the Golden Mic Award and hold bragging rights over all other squadrons in the group until the next Group 2 ball.

Congratulations to Lewis Composite Squadron for winning the first ever Golden Mic and thank you to all the squadrons that participated.

Illinois Wing Cadets Integral to Winter Raptor Encampment

By C/Lt Col Soren Koh & C/Capt Eric Gu

Camp Rilea, Warrenton, Oregon. (January 3rd, 2023) – Picturesque views, unparalleled training quality, and occasionally temperamental weather characterize Oregon Wing's Winter Raptor Encampment, held each winter at the Camp Rilea Armed Forces Training Center. Among the largest of Civil Air Patrol activities since the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's Winter Raptor VI saw over four hundred attendees.
Though most of its numbers hail from Oregon Wing and the rest of Pacific Region, Winter Raptor's phenomenal reputation for cadet training attracts members from all over the nation. Among the cadet cadre this year were seven members of Illinois Wing working tirelessly to ensure the success of the encampment.

These cadets fulfilled essential responsibilities in both the training and support staff structures of Winter Raptor. Leading the support cadre was C/LtCol Soren Koh, the Cadet Chief of Staff. A member of Col Charles Compton Composite Squadron and the Great Lakes Region CAC Chairman, this was C/LtCol Koh's third year participating in Winter Raptor.

"Winter Raptor has been instrumental to my development as a cadet," C/LtCol Koh said. "The cadets and senior members who frequent this event are the kind of people you want to have in your network. They have pushed me to become a better public affairs officer, teammate, and leader."

In the fall of 2022, C/LtCol Koh encouraged many other Illinois Wing cadets to apply for the upcoming Winter Raptor. In total, nine cadets from Illinois Wing participated in Winter Raptor VI with seven on staff.

C/Maj Animesh Bijawat of Lake County Composite Squadron served as squadron commander for the encampment's 18th Cadet Training Squadron, responsible for the training and wellbeing of 7 other cadre and 48 students.

"Besides making sure my squadron got to places safely and on time, my primary goal was to be a mentor for my staff," said C/Maj Bijawat. "Overall I really enjoyed watching my students and staff grow through the course of the week."

Also training students was C/2dLt KatieMarie Anderson of Scott Composite Squadron. The Juliet Flight Commander, C/2dLt Anderson closely guided her students together with her flight sergeant.

C/Col Connor McGuire of Col Charles Compton Composite Squadron fulfilled a role usually reserved for senior members: Assistant Squadron Training Officer.

"It has been a great learning experience for me," said C/Col McGuire. "I got to see a lot of things from the perspective of a senior member while still contributing to the encampment."

Illinois Wing Cadets Integral to Winter Raptor Encampment

Continued from p. 9

As a training officer, C/Col McGuire helped both ensure the safety of cadets and give them the tools they need to succeed. “I was able to work with the students in a way I usually wouldn’t be able to as a cadet,” C/Col McGuire said.

There were also many Illinois Wing cadets on the support side working towards the success of the encampment.

C/Capt Zoe Suwanski, a member of Lake in the Hills Composite Squadron and the current Illinois Wing representative to the Great Lakes Region CAC, served as the Director of Logistics. Frequently working late into the night, C/Capt Suwanski picked up a number of odds and ends at the event. C/Capt Suwanski received a Commander’s Commendation from the Oregon Wing Commander for her excellent performance above and beyond what was expected of her position.

In addition, C/Capt Eric Gu also received a Wing Commander’s Commendation for his efforts. A member of Col Shorty Powers Composite Squadron, C/Capt Gu led the cadet highly successful public affairs team as the Director of Public Affairs.

C/2dLt Grant Monheiser of Scott Composite Squadron was a member of the public affairs team. Frequently taking the initiative in solving problems, C/2dLt Monheiser improved engagement on the Winter Raptor Facebook page by over 33,000 percent. He received an Achievement Award for his outstanding performance.

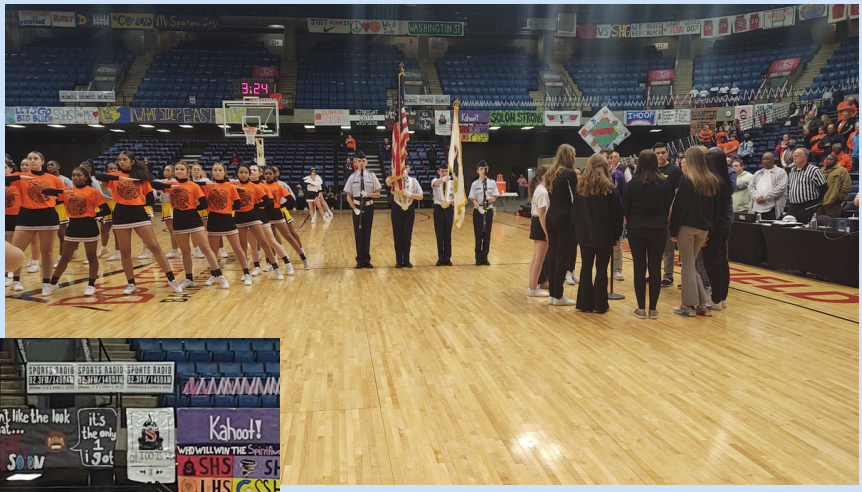
C/CMSgt Brayden Troiani of Fox Valley Composite Squadron and C/Amn Dennis Kozyerinski of Col Charles Compton Composite Squadron also attended the encampment as students of the 4th Advanced Training Squadron.

The insights that the students and cadre of Winter Raptor gathered over this winter break have inspired many to apply to serve on the cadre of summer encampments. Most of the Illinois Wing cadets at Winter Raptor plan to apply to serve on the staff of the 2023 Illinois Wing Summer Encampment. Experiences like these are part of what makes Civil Air Patrol’s cadet program truly the best place to develop a young leader.

Springfield Composite Squadron Participates in Springfield City Basketball Tournament

By 1st Lt Kelly Jones

Members of the Springfield Composite Squadron participated in the Springfield City Basketball Tournament in January providing a color guard and visiting with 183rd Air National Guard recruiters.



Lead Rifle, C/A1C Joseph Heiple; American Flag/Commander, C/SMSgt Raeanna Jones; Illinois Flag, C/SSgt Braidyn Gardiner, Jr.; Rifle - C/SrA Lucas Staley

Compton & Palwaukee Squadrons Promotion Ceremony

By Chaplain Major Dovid Grossman, GLR Diversity Officer

Character Development class as led by Chaplain Major Dovid Grossman preceded the promotions for composite squadrons Compton & Palwaukee on MLK day. Major David Gillingham served as MC for the evening. It was an honor to have numerous special guests in attendance including Col Rose Hunt, Col Bob Dempsey, Col Andrew Loy, Chief Master Sgt Bob Dandridge and Major Jeff Sacks, former national commander, Jewish War Veterans (JWV)

With a wealth of wisdom in the room, CAP Senior members and members of JWV Post 29 were paired off with cadets to discuss each question in the curriculum. The room was abuzz with discussion. It was exhilarating to witness the multigenerational interaction and to hear insights shared. The evening concluded with 87 year old JWV Dave Schuman (USMC Retired) cutting and serving (kosher) cake to 12 yr old Cadet Amn Hadasa Mati.

From the Commander

With a heavy heart, I wish to announce to the Wing the passing of Ms. Susie Parker. For many years she had been the Director of Membership and Personnel Actions at CAP Headquarters. In my opinion, she was the greatest asset a Wing Commander could ever hope for. Her passing will certainly leave a huge void in CAP, and to those who knew and interacted with her, we will miss her knowledge, humor, and good counsel.

Colonel Andrew G. Loy
Illinois Wing Commander

In the next few days we will post the sign up form for our Region exercise at the end of April. I encourage each of you to participate, this is an important part of what CAP does and we need to be prepared to carry out any missions that may come our way.

Bulletin Board

Subscribe to the Illinois Wing YouTube Channel.

Enjoy informative and educational videos.

Your squadron can have a Playlist with its videos on the channel. Email the Wing PAO to get your squadron's videos added!

Content for the March newsletter is due February 28th.

Cadet Public Affairs Officers are welcome to submit stories & photos, too!

pa@ilwg.cap.gov

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE HOURS

2ND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH

EMAIL PA@ILWG.CAP.GOV FOR LINK TO GOOGLE MEET

UNIT PAOS AND ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME

Photographers & Editors Wanted! Wing PAO is looking for talented and resourceful photographers and photo editors to help with recruiting initiatives.
Interested?
Email pa@ilwg.cap.gov

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