



# The Fly - By

*The official newsletter of the  
La Crosse Composite Squadron*

## COMMANDER'S NOTES

What an event! A huge thank you to everyone who helped out with the Waffle Breakfast and the Airport 5K. This was the first time our unit has run the breakfast and the first time AVCAP has operated the 5K. All in all the events were a big success and the feedback has been very positive.

As in anything, there were certainly lessons learned and new ideas generated. If you have feedback, and weren't able to make the after-action review, please feel free to share your feedback with me at [tmandel@cap.gov](mailto:tmandel@cap.gov) or catch me at a meeting. Things we've started to already consider is making sure the date doesn't conflict with Steppin' Out in Pink, seeing if we can get more airport patrons and the airport involved to make it sort of an airport open house, and getting more "wrap around" events such as displays, activities, and more.

Overall the two events raised a combined \$2700 for the Squadron. That's pretty impressive and is roughly 33% of our annual operating budget! The ability to knock out one-third of our fundraising needs in one morning is awesome.

Lastly, a doubly big thank you to everyone who went out and solicited sponsorships and sold ad space. Those efforts raised an amount that was almost equal to our total profit. So without all those efforts we would have had a break-even event instead of raising funds.

So set your calendars for August 26, 2018; that's the tentative date for next year's event. Watch for more info as we plan to start much earlier, get FAA approval much earlier, and turn to all of our members and families to help sell ad space and attract sponsors.

When we approached the airport about doing the 5K they were supportive but perhaps reasonably skeptical. But through everyone working together we were able to prove it can be done and be a positive experience for CAP, the airport, and the public. Thanks for everything you did to help make it work!

**Major Todd Mandel, Commander**



Congratulations to the Wisconsin Wing units that earned the Quality Cadet Unit Award for the period 01 SEPT 2016 - 30 AUG 2017:

### **WI-037 La Crosse Composite Squadron**

WI-002 Timmerman Composite Squadron  
WI-061 Milwaukee Composite Squadron 5  
WI-135 Eagle River Composite Squadron  
WI-161 Eau Claire Composite Squadron

## OPERATIONS UPDATE

Our aircraft was moved to Racine on Sept. 16th after the flight clinic in Appleton. As of 20 September, it was 16 hours away from the 100 - hour inspection. Hopefully, there will still be money in the fiscal year maintenance budget to get it done.

After 1 October N429CP should return to La Crosse. In the interim, we have been promised an aircraft to use for our training needs. We are unsure when we will receive that aircraft. Train safely! Fly safely and OFTEN!

**Major Richard M. Martin, Operations**

## ***SQUADRON MEETING AND CLEANUP DAY***

Our next Squadron meeting will be held on 7 October at 1000 hours. This will be a brief general meeting (no pilot meeting planned).

Following the meeting we will be cleaning our facility and preparing for our open house on 14 October.

***Please plan to attend!***

## ***14 OCTOBER - OPEN HOUSE***

Please join us on Saturday, October 14 at 10:00 a.m. for our Squadron Open House & Recruiting Event. This event is open to all members, families, and supporters. We ask all cadets and senior staff to be present.

The morning will feature information about CAP, award presentations, a brat fry, and a silent auction. All proceeds from the auction will go to support the Squadron. The auction will include jewelry, a studio package from Mueller Photography, a wine package from Elmaro Vineyard, and more!

So please make time to join us and join the celebration. Cadet Seth Tiedeman and Cadet Mattison Donaldson will receive their General Billy Mitchell Awards. We will have the Air Force recruiter on site, and Representative Jill Billings will join us that morning as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

***Major Todd Mandel, Commander***

## ***GROUND TEAM - ONLINE TRAINING***

Are a new member (or been with us for a while) and now have an interest in a Ground Team qualification? There are several online trainings that you can complete at home to get you started. Here is one to get you started!

### **General Emergency Services CAPT 116 part 1 (GES) online.**

\* Please note that the completion of GES is a prerequisite for all Ground Team training. This open book, untimed test based on two Regulations -- CAPR 60-3 and CAPR 173-3. You can open both of these "Regs" in new windows so that you can refer to them while taking the test. \*\*Use Ctrl+F to find key words and/or phrases.

### ***How to find this test --***

- In eServices opening screen, use the LEFT Menu and scroll down and click on "Learning Management System"
- Scroll down to "Emergency Services"
- The first link is CAPT 116 part 1 (GES). Click on this link to open the exam.

***Major Linda L. Zimmerman, ES Training Officer***

## ***SQUADRON FINANCES***

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the 5K and waffle breakfast a success. This was a joint venture between CAP and AVCAP. Due to the time and efforts of senior members and many cadets/cadet parents we are grateful for the nearly \$2700 raised to help offset costs of running our Squadron.

We need to also thank Major Todd Mandel, Major Linda Zimmerman, Major Rich Martin, Major John Clark, Major John Patterson, 2dLt Mike Dewitt, and 2dLt Scott Tiedeman for the countless hours they give of their time and talents to keep our Squadron running smoothly.

We will continue to raise funds through our upcoming Open House event on 14 October with a silent auction. The biggest expense we have going into winter months is heating bills. We have our yearly budget updated for FY 2017 - 2018 year. If you have questions or would like to view it please contact me.

***2dLt Sara Zittlow, Finance Officer***

## ***CADET PROGRAMS***

In an effort to always improve what we do, we're making a real effort to give cadets and their parents more lead time about activities and events. If you haven't checked out the Squadron's Upcoming Events page, you should go check it out!

You can find the page at --

<http://caplacrosse.org/upcoming-events>

Recently we updated the page to go all the way through December 31, 2018. We have also updated the squadron's Google calendar, which you can see on the Squadron website. Lastly, the events will be on Facebook as well, however many events won't be published until 90-120 days ahead of time on Facebook.

***Major Todd Mandel, Commander***