



The Fly-By

The official newsletter of the
La Crosse Composite Squadron

COMMANDER'S NOTES

First, thank you to the great response we had for our Parent's Meeting last week! We were happy to put so many faces to names as well as having a chance to share information. I also really appreciate those who have already stepped forward to help. As we discussed, it takes a village to run a squadron, and the support and offerings make it easier!

We are moving into the "Wreaths Across America" season for our unit. Last week we sent home fundraising materials for Wreaths Across America. Please consider purchasing a wreath or two, and motivate your cadet to go out and ask others to as well. Wreaths Across America is more than just a fundraiser; it's a chance for us to teach our cadets about honor, respect, and commitment. However, that lesson is easier to share when we there are wreaths to place. Our goal this year is to place 150 wreaths.

On a different note, we expect to have our aircraft back soon. It has been down for repair since the start of October and hopefully should be repaired this coming week. Once we have it back we will focus on getting new cadets up for orientation flights. So please stay tuned to your email as orientation flight offers will come via email. We need two cadets to fly a flight, so responding in a timely fashion is important.

For senior members, I'd also like to encourage you to consider attending the Professional Development Weekend being held 11-13 NOV at Volk Field. There will be a Squadron Leadership School, Corporate Learning Course, Training Leaders of Cadets, and a Unit Commanders Course offered. These are great opportunities to learn more about CAP. Please consider attending. You can find more information on the Wing website at <http://wicap.us>

The next Squadron meeting will be held at 1000 on 5 November at Headquarters. Please plan to attend!

Major Todd Mandel, Commander

CADET UPDATE

Sergeant Gary Helgerson from the Wisconsin State Patrol was our guest speaker in September. Sergeant Helgerson informed the cadets on what it takes to be a Trooper, as well as the day-to-day job duties.

Sergeant Helgerson also shared stories of things he has witnessed during his time doing highway stops, and he explained how he was able to use his piloting skills flying for the State Patrol.

Cadets were treated to seeing the police cruiser and some of the tools used. I am glad to say all Cadets were considerate and very respectful, so no one had to be hand cuffed.

2d Lt Scott Tiedeman, Deputy Commander of Cadets

OPERATIONS UPDATE

The aircraft is presently in Madison awaiting Avionics parts for repair of VOR issues. The 50 hour oil change has been completed. Once the Avionics repair is completed, it will return to La Crosse. Hopefully, it will be returned to La Crosse quickly.

Several pilots attended the FAA safety seminar last month at Colgan Air Services where the major topics were tower communications and the FAA's role in remedial pilot training after an infraction, incident, or accident.

- REMINDER -

ALL pilots should attend the Pilot meeting at 0900 prior to the Regular monthly Squadron meeting on 5 November

Major Richard M. Martin, Operations

AVIATION HERITAGE CENTER OF WISCONSIN

As the weather begins to cool, some families begin to look towards making plans for fun summer activities in the upcoming year. A great place to visit and check out is the Aviation Heritage Center of Wisconsin.

The Center is located at the Sheboygan County Memorial Airport, in Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin. The facility was founded by EAA Chapter 766, and it provides visitors with a chance to view a number of displays ranging from the Hmong T-28 Exhibit that honors those pilots who flew the "Trojan" and other aircraft in support of American CIA operations in Laos years ago during the U.S. Secret War, and as part of Operation Waterpump during the Vietnam War.

Other exhibits on display connect to various significant events in Wisconsin's aviation history -- including memorabilia from Wisconsin's WWII combat aviators. The Center also has a T-37 jet simulator used to train many USAF fighter pilots, along with a T-28 simulator, which was a trainer aircraft in the 1950's and 1960's that was used in the Vietnam War.

Beyond that, a great aspect of the Center is that it provides an up-close view of airport operations at one of the busiest airports in Wisconsin. Finally, the Center hosts special events each year, with dates set already for 2017!

June 17, 2017 -- Wings and Wheels Annual Father's Day Phenomenon -- the FREE event hosts many aircraft and automobiles, along with vintage boats and automobiles. Food is also served, and the event runs from 0800-1500 hours.

July 21 & 22, 2017 -- Great Air Clinic Thunder in the Sky--watch vintage warbirds prepare for Airventure in Oshkosh. Aircraft attending will include a P-51 Mustang, B-25 Mitchell, Douglass Skyraider, Cessna O-1 Birdog, and more. There will be flybys, and aerobatic demonstrations for the inexpensive price of \$5.00.

To learn more about the Center or the events go to:
<http://www.ahcw.org/index.php>

Captain Mary Beth Marx, Aerospace Education Officer

REMINDER -- UPCOMING SUI NOTICE **Subordinate Unit Inspection**

The La Crosse Composite Squadron's (GLR-WI-037) SUI will take place on 3 December 2016.

Have a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving!

AEROSPACE EDUCATION UPDATE

This past month we conducted the first of six hands-on activities that we plan to do in order to have our squadron earn the Aerospace Education Excellence award (AEX).

To earn the award a unit must do six hands-on activities during the fiscal year as well as conduct a two-hour aerospace education event. We've made a commitment to earning this award this coming year! The most recent activity was led by C/CMSgt Andrew Zittlow and involved creating foam rockets/shuttles and then testing how they fly.

On the docket as well this year is a plan to tackle the Model Rocketry Badge over a weekend this coming spring. Completing this badge requires building a number of rockets and launching them as well. Stay tuned for more details and information to come out!

Major Todd Mandel, Commander

AVCAP UPDATE

Current AVCAP balance is \$4,159.07. We need senior members to start thinking about submitting their 2017 AVCAP dues. Dues are welcome any time, and doing it before 12/31/16 can provide a tax benefit for this tax year.

You can submit dues by dropping off a check for \$76.00 made out to AVCAP or by mailing a check to AVCAP, 2906 Fanta Reed Road, La Crosse, WI 54601. Dues can also be paid online at <http://avcap.org>.

AVCAP also recently secured a \$1,000 donation from the Barb and Dave Erickson Family Fund to help purchase wreaths for Wreaths Across America!

Lt. Col. Harold Moe, AVCAP Treasurer

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

On Saturday, 17 December, our unit will join hundreds of CAP squadrons, scouting troops, and other organizations around the county in laying wreaths on the grave sites of fallen veterans.

However, we need your support to make this event happen! Please help by purchasing a wreath online at -

<https://wreaths.fastport.com/donateLocation.html?page=22514>

All wreaths must be purchased by Tuesday, 22 November, 2016.

Thank you for your support!