

TAK TALK

www.captaksquadron.com

TAK Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol

Capt. Robert Warnock, Commander



Spring 2011



Great Leadership = Responsibility

Lt Col Janet Schachner, Character Development Instructor

The Mission of Civil Air Patrol calls each of us to continually develop our leadership skills. One extremely important quality of a great leader is responsibility. Nathaniel Branden concisely describes the relationship between great leadership and responsibility:

“If a leader is to inspire self-responsibility in others, he or she must be perceived to:

- Take responsibility for every choice, decision, and action without blaming or finding alibis
- Be fully accountable for all promises and commitments
- Be able to bounce back from defeat, setback, or adversity and continue moving toward goals rather than surrendering to despair.”

When we take responsibility for fulfilling our promises and commitments we are upholding the CAP Core Values. Meeting our responsibilities shows that we have **integrity** and our word can be trusted, shows **respect** for those to whom we made the promise or commitment, and helps us establish a reputation for **excellence**.

Volunteer service is admirable, but we need to be careful not to overextend ourselves by taking on more responsibilities than we can manage. It is better to decline a commitment than to agree to do something which we will be unable to complete. No one is perfect, and sometimes we might misjudge our ability to complete a project or fulfill a promise. If we break a promise it is critical that we take full responsibility for our failure to meet our commitment by acknowledging our error without blaming others.

We cannot let fear of failure keep us from accepting new challenges. Coach Pat Summit says it well, “In order to grow, you must accept new responsibilities, no matter how uncertain you may feel or how unprepared you are to deal with them.”

Only you can make yourself responsible, do not cheat yourself from greatness by failing to develop this important leadership trait.

WNY Group Military Ball



Cadet of the Year
C/ Maj Mary Katherine Zielonka



Outgoing Cadet Commander



Incoming Cadet Commander

TAK Composite Squadron Award Recipients

\$1,000 Flight Scholarship
C/SSgt Cadet Matthew Miller

Solo Wings Award
C/2Lt Scott Matner

Staff Officer of the Year
Maj Randy Anger

Chuck Yeager Aerospace Award
Capt Michael McCain



WNY Squadron of the Year 2010

CLS 2011

WNY Group Cadet Leadership School



WNY Group Cadet Leadership School (for both cadets and Seniors) was held over Presidents' Weekend in February. Almost 100 Cadets from WNY Group attended various leadership classes run by fellow Cadets. Senior members provided mentoring and the cadets were given many challenges. It was an excellent experience and a great stepping stone for cadets who have not attended an encampment.

The following tracks were offered at this year's Leadership School:

The Airman Track was offered to cadets with the rank of Airman Basic to Airman First Class and was meant to help prepare them for encampment and promotion.

The NCO Track was offered for all cadets with the rank of Senior Airman to Technical Sergeant to help train them for staff positions in their squadrons and at encampment.

The Senior NCO/Officer Track was offered for all cadets with the rank of Master Sergeant and above to help train them for leadership positions in their squadrons and at encampment.

The Adult Member Track was offered for Senior Members new to CAP.

Member Count: 88
37 Seniors & 51 Cadets

ENCAMPMENT 2011
NEW YORK WING
Stratton ANGB – Scotia, NY
16 – 23 July



EXPECT TO HAVE FUN!

Welcome to New York Wing Encampment. 2011. Civil Air Patrol encampments are a truly unique opportunity for Cadets to expand their leadership skills and gain an early understanding of the military lifestyle. Over the course of a week, new cadets are introduced to a variety of mental and physical challenges designed to build and enforce the Civil Air Patrol Core Values: Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence, and Respect. Successful completion of an encampment is required for the Billy Mitchell Award and opens up many new and exciting opportunities for CAP cadets, including numerous college and flight scholarships, National Cadet Special Activities, and the ability to return to encampment as cadet staff.

Application Deadline is 14 May 2011. Please get the Application in Early as space is limited!

For more information go to: <http://www.burns-computing.com/enc2011>

Upcoming Events



Akron Air Port Fly-In Breakfast



As a major fundraiser, Cadets assist with Set-up, Clean-Up, Parking , taking care of guests, and promoting CAP. Save Monday, May 30th

Parades

TAK Squadron Cadets participates in the following Parades. We will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Williamsville and Tonawanda – Monday, May 30th

Riverside - Fourth of July



The Thunder of Niagara Air Show will take place at the Niagara Falls ANGB this fall. Featuring the Air Force Thunderbirds, the show is sure to draw thousands of spectators from all over our region.

Cadets from WNY Group will be asked to assist with this Falls Air Show in Niagara Falls. Volunteering our time to help with this event is extremely important to CAP's relationship with the Air Force. We should be proud to help the Air Force whenever we can, as it is our duty. It also serves as a big "thank you" to the U.S.A.F. for all they do for CAP and the United States. This will sure to be an exciting event for Cadets and their families.

Additional information as to duty assignments will be coming shortly. In the meantime, please mark your calendars for this date and make sure B.D.U.'s are in good order, as we want to put our best foot forward. We will be in the public eye for this event and want to shine.

For information on the show, go to: <http://www.thunderoverniagara.com>

CAP CORE VALUES

The core values of Civil Air Patrol establish a common set of behavioral expectations as well as a set of standards to assess member conduct. The values of Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence, and Respect, serve as the ethical framework for CAP's service to America.

TAK Squadron Cadets show what Core Values mean to them:

"Integrity" by C/TSGT Nicolas S. West

Integrity may not be the most fun core value to practice, but it is one of the most important. Some of the tasks that require integrity are the most demanding and require self control and discipline. When someone, a family member, an employer, or a friend comes up to you and asks you to do a task for them, they are trusting you have the integrity to come through for them and complete the task. Sometimes the task could be something that you might think isn't needed, or it could be something that could take out of your own time. Every year, when spring time comes around, I have to pick up all the branches and sticks in my five acre lawn. This usually takes the entire day and it is very monotonous. But since I have the trait of integrity, I always volunteer for the job, stick to it, and fully complete it.

"Volunteer Service" by C/SSgt Kaitlyn V. Neese

One of CAP's Core Values is Volunteer Service. Volunteering makes us feel good inside, but sometimes we fail to realize how much it actually helps others. I recently volunteered at an elementary school near my house. They were holding a Kan Jam Tournament to raise money to install a new playground. I had so much fun working with the kids that I lost count of the number of times I was thanked for helping out! Everyone was so grateful and at the end of the day I had no regrets about how I spent my time. Volunteering does not have to be boring or time consuming. We can't donate time everyday, but we can help out whenever the opportunity presents itself. Little things, like helping your friend carry something or teaching your brother how to complete his math homework will make you feel great!

"Excellence" by C/SrA John Goodwill

Excellence is to be the best at something that you do and surpass the ordinary standards. I think this means that you always have room to improve in whatever you are trying to achieve. Even the people that we consider to be the best are still learning and training to become better. When a hockey player makes it into the NHL, they don't stop practicing or learning the plays because they are already at the top, instead they look for ways to be better. They need to learn about their team mates and the opposing teams so they can win games and work together effectively. In professional sports, "Good Enough" won't get you the big contract and the big money. You have to keep trying to strive for excellence. Exceed standards and keep raising the bar for yourself. Excellence is definitely not the easiest way out but it will ultimately lead to great success and a well deserved sense of accomplishment.

"Respect" by C/Am Bruce Gibson Jr.

What is respect? Respect is a word used to describe how we should treat others, with compassion, dignity, and fairness. No matter their age, race, religion or rank we should not judge a person, and treat others as we want to be treated. This Bible verse sums it up well; "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets." Matthew 7:12

So how can you apply all this to your own everyday life? Well just think of how you want people to treat you. You don't want someone insulting you, or putting you down, so apply this to your own actions and don't do it to someone else. Don't constantly criticize other people's actions or ideas.

This is just a basic foundation for implementing respect into your attitude, which will ensure you are a respectful, kind and thoughtful person.

Cadet Promotions

*The ultimate measure of a leader is not where he stands
in moments of comfort,
but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy*

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Achievement 16 - Cadet Commander
C/Maj Mary Katherine Zielonka

Achievement 10 – Administrative Officer
C/1stLt Raphael Torres
C/1stLt Nathan Warnock

Achievement 9 – Flight Commander
C/2dLt Christopher Erckert
C/2dLt Catherine Murphy

Achievement 8 – Armstrong
C/CMSgt Alexis Marth

Achievement 7 Goddard
C/CMSgt Emily Ransom

Achievement 6 – Doolittle
C/SMSgt John Ring

Achievement 4 – Rickenbacker
C/TSgt Benjamin Thompson

Wright Brothers
CSSgt Richard Bobo
C/SSgt Matthew Miller
C/SSgt Kaitlyn Neese

Achievement 3 – Feik
C/SrA Anthony Batt
C/SrA Charles Erckert
C/SrA Erik Soucy
C/SrA Victoria Soucy

Senior Promotions

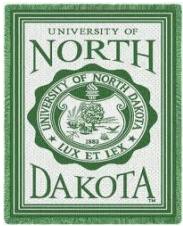
Capt Charles Erckert
Capt Thomas Leach

Former Cadet Updates...



For those of you who don't know me, I am Brian Busch. I am currently a Captain in the Air Force as well as Civil Air Patrol. I was a TAK Cadet from 1997 until 2001 when I left for the Air Force Academy. I held a number of jobs while with TAK including running "The Eagle's Call", the previous incarnation of the squadron newsletter! After I graduated from USAFA in 2005, I spent the next four years at Malmstrom AFB, MT where I worked as a nuclear missile launch officer. I finished that assignment as an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Crew Commander Instructor.

My current assignment is as a Mission Operations Crew Commander at Aerospace Data Facility-East (ADF-E) at Fort Belvoir, VA. ADF-E is a ground station for the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO). While much of my job is classified, I can tell you that the NRO designs, builds and operates the nation's reconnaissance satellites. As a Space Operations major at USAFA, this is one of the best assignments I could have hoped for. For those who would like to know more about the NRO, the website is www.nro.mil. If anyone has any questions for me about the Air Force or the NRO, please let Capt Warnock or Maj Busch know!



Greetings from balmy North Dakota! My name is Andy Paluch and I was a TAK cadet from 2003 until 2006. I served as a flight sergeant, flight commander, executive officer, and cadet commander. I graduated from Iroquois High School in 2006, and am a senior at the University of North Dakota; where I am studying Commercial Aviation and Flight Education. I am a Certified Flight Instructor (CFI) and I have gained a wealth of experiences in the five short years since leaving TAK.

Since arriving at UND, I've flown many different aircraft and gained over 700 hours of total flight experience. I've flown the Piper Warrior, Piper Arrow, Piper Seminole, Cessna 150, Cessna 172, and the Cessna 402. For the last two years, I've been an active flight instructor for UND.

Being a member of CAP will prepare you for the future. To this day, I'm still finding ways that CAP helped me to achieve the things I have. One achievement I am very proud of was my opportunity to complete an internship for Cape Air, regional airline based in Hyannis, MA, in the fall of 2008... oh, and did I mention the internship was as a PILOT? Over the four months I worked there, I flew as a First Officer on their Cessna 402 and worked for the flight training department. As an intern, one would expect to make copies, run errands, and go get coffee for the boss; but not at Cape Air. The time spent there were incredible, but one story really sticks out in my mind.

On a cold and rainy November morning, a fellow pilot and I were asked to fly an airplane from the company headquarters in Hyannis, MA to San Juan, PR. Over the next two days, we flew down the eastern seaboard to Florida, then across the Bahaman Islands through the Caribbean to Puerto Rico. The scenery was absolutely beautiful. We landed in San Juan late at night, and it was a warm 85 degrees. The next day (which also happened to be my 20th birthday), I got to relax on the beach before flying back to Hyannis the day after.

As we move into the summer, the regional airlines will be hiring, so I'll be looking to earn an airline pilot position. I hope to stay in touch with the squadron and with many of you as you pursue flying careers. Command staff has my contact information, so if you have any questions about anything at all, send me an email, give me a phone call, or look me up on Facebook!

New Members

Please join us in welcoming our newest members:

Cadet Jason Bialkowski

Cadet Victoria Marth

Cadet Jamil Thornton

LOL

One day the pilot of a Cherokee 180 was told by the tower to hold short of the active runway while a DC-8 landed. The DC-8 landed, rolled out, turned around, and taxied back past the Cherokee. Some quick-witted comedian in the DC-8 crew got on the radio and said, "What a cute little plane. Did you make it all by yourself?"

The Cherokee pilot, not about to let the insult go by, came back with a real zinger: "I made it out of DC-8 parts. Another landing like yours and I'll have enough parts for another one."



As Spring arrives, so will Orientation Flights. Announcements will be made soon. It is extremely important that you commit to the date you sign up for. There are more Cadets wanting to get up in the air, than there are available openings. Make sure you clear it with a parent and make sure you are able to get a ride. You will need to wear your B.D.U.'s and bring your CAP Membership Card. Please make sure you are on time.

My first flight, by C/ A1c Dwayne Brice

My first flight amazing. It felt like a rush at first. Like being in a car, except we were in the sky! Capt. McCain explained everything to us and we flew for almost two hours. Everything looked like a small toy when you are seeing it from above. Like you could just pick everything up. Although my ears popped a lot, I had fun. It was a unique experience and I can't wait to do it again!

The Phonetic Alphabet

The Phonetic Alphabet is a list of words used to identify letters in a message transmitted by radio or telephone. Spoken words from an approved list are substituted for letters. For example, the word "Air Force" would be "Alfa India Romeo Foxtrot Oscar Romeo Charlie Echo" when spelled phonetically. This practice helps to prevent confusion between similar sounding letters, such as "m" and "n", and to clarify communications that may be garbled during transmission.

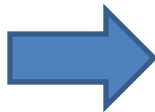
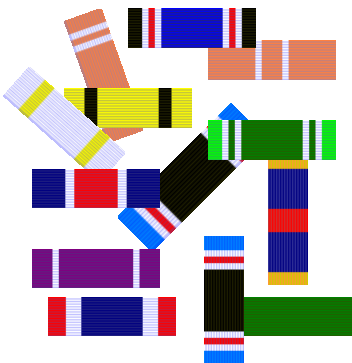
An early version of the phonetic alphabet appears in the 1913 edition of The Bluejackets' Manual. Found in the Signals section, it was paired with the Alphabetical Code Flags defined in the International Code. Both the meanings of the flags (the letter which they represent) and their names (which make up the phonetic alphabet) were selected by international agreement. Later editions included the Morse code signal as well.

The words chosen to represent some letters have changed since the phonetic alphabet was introduced. When these changes occur they are made by international agreement. The current phonetic alphabet was adopted in 1957

Letter	Word	Spoken	Letter	Word	Spoken
A	Alfa	<u>Al</u> fah	N	November	No <u>ve</u> m ber
B	Bravo	<u>Brah</u> voh	O	Oscar	<u>Oss</u> cah
C	Charlie	<u>Char</u> lee	P	Papa	Pah <u>pah</u>
D	Delta	<u>Dell</u> tah	Q	Quebec	Keh <u>beck</u>
E	Echo	<u>Eck</u> oh	R	Romeo	<u>Row</u> me oh
F	Foxtrot	<u>Foks</u> trot	S	Sierra	See <u>air</u> rah
G	Golf	Golf	T	Tango	<u>Tang</u> go
H	Hotel	Ho <u>tell</u>	U	Uniform	<u>You</u> nee form
I	India	<u>In</u> dee ah	V	Victor	<u>Vik</u> tah
J	Juliett	<u>Jew</u> lee <u>ett</u>	W	Whiskey	<u>Wiss</u> key
K	Kilo	<u>Key</u> loh	X	Xray	<u>Ecks</u> ray
L	Lima	<u>Lee</u> mah	Y	Yankee	<u>Yang</u> key
M	Mike	Mike	Z	Zulu	<u>Zoo</u> loo

Need Help?

I got promoted!
Now what?



Now that's better...



For Help, go to:



http://www.mcchord.org/rack_builder

Old Eddie

It happens every Friday evening, almost without fail, when the sun resembles a giant orange and is starting to dip into the blue ocean. Old Ed comes strolling along the beach to his favorite pier and clutching a bucket of shrimp.

Ed walks out to the end of the pier, where it seems he almost has the world to himself. The glow of the sun is a golden bronze now. Everybody's gone, except for a few joggers on the beach. Standing out on the end of the pier, Ed is alone with his thoughts....and his bucket of shrimp.

Before long, however, he is no longer alone. Up in the sky a thousand white dots come screeching and squawking, winging their way toward that lanky frame standing there on the end of the pier. Before long, dozens of seagulls have enveloped him, their wings fluttering and flapping wildly. Ed stands there tossing shrimp to the hungry birds. As he does, if you listen closely, you can hear him say with a smile, 'Thank you. Thank you.'

In a few short minutes the bucket is empty. But Ed doesn't leave. He stands there lost in thought, as though transported to another time and place. Invariably, one of the gulls lands on his sea-bleached, weather-beaten hat - an old military hat he's been wearing for years. When he finally turns around and begins to walk back toward the beach, a few of the birds hop along the pier with him until he gets to the stairs, and then they, too, fly away. And old Ed quietly makes his way down to the end of the beach and on home.

If you were sitting there on the pier with your fishing line in the water, Ed might seem like 'a funny old duck,' as my dad used to say. Or, 'a guy that's a sandwich shy of a picnic,' as my kids might say. To onlookers, he's just another old codger, lost in his own weird world, feeding the seagulls with a bucket full of shrimp. To the onlooker, rituals can look either very strange or very empty. They can seem altogether unimportant....maybe even a lot of nonsense. Old folks often do strange things, at least in the eyes of Boomers and Busters. Most of them would probably write Old Ed off, down there in Florida.

That's too bad. They'd do well to know him better. His full name: Eddie Rickenbacker. He was a famous hero back in World War II. On one of his flying missions across the Pacific, he and his seven-member crew went down. Miraculously, all of the men survived, crawled out of their plane, and climbed into a life raft. Captain Rickenbacker and his crew floated for days on the rough waters of the Pacific. They fought the sun. They fought sharks. Most of all, they fought hunger. By the eighth day their rations ran out. No food. No water. They were hundreds of miles from land and no one knew where they were. They needed a miracle. That afternoon they had a simple devotional service and prayed for a miracle. They tried to nap. Eddie leaned back and pulled his military cap over his nose. Time dragged. All he could hear was the slap of the waves against the raft.

Suddenly, Eddie felt something land on the top of his cap. It was a seagull! Old Ed would later describe how he sat perfectly still, planning his next move. With a flash of his hand and a squawk from the gull, he managed to grab it and wring its neck. He tore the feathers off, and he and his starving crew made a meal - a very slight meal for eight men - of it. Then they used the intestines for bait. With it, they caught fish, which gave them food and more bait.....and the cycle continued. With that simple survival technique, they were able to endure the rigors of the sea until they were found and rescued. (after 24 days at sea...)

Eddie Rickenbacker lived many years beyond that ordeal, but he never forgot the sacrifice of that first lifesaving seagull. And he never stopped saying, Thank you. That's why almost every Friday night he would walk to the end of the pier with a bucket full of shrimp and a heart full of gratitude.



Eddie Rickenbacker

Happy Easter to all...
There will be no meeting on Good Friday
April 22nd



TAK Composite Squadron

New York Wing
Civil Air Patrol
U.S. Air Force Auxiliary
www.captaksquadron.com

Meeting Location:
DeGlopper US Army Reserve
Training Center
2393 Colvin Ext.
TONAWANDA, NY 14150

Fridays – 1900 – 2100 hours
(7PM – 10PM)

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Next Issue

The P.A.O. staff looks forward to producing the next issue.

Please help us by offering your Suggestions, Ideas, or a relevant Article you wrote (or will write) .

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