



## “THE SKYCHASER” – COMMUNITY EDITION

South Dakota Wing Electronic Newsletter for March 2019

*Official Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force - Citizens Serving Communities: Above and Beyond*

Publishers: Wing Commander Colonel David Small Jr. / Wing Vice Commander Lieutenant Colonel Buck DeWeese  
Editor: Lt. Col. Bruce Kipp • Wing Assistant Public Affairs Officer • (605) 261-4507 • bruce.kipp@sdcap.us

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### WING TIPS

**MEMBERSHIP MILESTONE:** Wing Commander David Small sends “During the evening of 4 April 2019 the South Dakota Wing reached 400 total members, including officers, cadets and legislative members. It has been many years since we were above 400 members. This milestone is a direct result of your achievements, successes and public exposure through community service, emergency services, and aerospace education activities. Congratulations to every one of you. Now, let’s not rest on our laurels, let’s keep growing.”

- **BSA AVIATION BADGE:** On 2 March Lt. Col. Gary Hewett met Scout Masters Mark Funk and Larry Reimann and Boy Scouts Curtis Reimann, Cristopf Atkinson, Hamilton Merchant, and Michael Matthesen at Rapid City Regional Airport. The group linked up at Westjet office and then went to Hangar 3. There the Scouts were introduced to Civil Air Patrol missions, airport operations, preflight, and safety considerations. The aircraft specific activity consisted of a preflight inspection walk around and a question and answer session with the aircraft running on ground power. The purpose of the get-together was to qualify the Scouts for the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Aviation Merit Badge.



### STAFF NOTES

- **OPERATIONS UPDATE:** Thanks to the SD legislature and governor, the state has increased our funding this year for the purpose of getting UAV’s for search and rescue. The SD Wing is in the process of purchasing a few DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise drones. A couple will be equipped with a thermal imagery camera!

# SQUADRON HIGHLIGHTS

## **BIG SIOUX COMPOSITE SQUADRON (BROOKINGS)**

- **ROCKETRY**: On 25 March members of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron taught rocketry to a class of middle school students from FOCHES, a homeschool co-op based in Brookings. The students learned the history of rocketry and principles of rocket aerodynamics, design and propulsion. They were then able to put theory into practice by building and launching their own air-powered pop-bottle rockets, a couple of which achieved more than 100 feet. Thanks to C/Lt Col Annabelle Klosterman and C/SrA Abigail Williams for helping put smiles on participant's faces through the magic of aerospace and spreading the word about CAP to our community! We plan to work more with FOCHES in the future and were able to talk about CAP and the Aerospace Education resources available to them and to invite several potential members to our meetings.



- **CYBER ACTIVITY**: On 29-30 March members of the Big Sioux and Sioux Falls CyberPatriot teams jointly competed as an exhibition team in the 2019 North Central Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) against seven other college teams, included Dakota State University. The high school and middle school CyberPatriot competitions were originally based on CCDC, so it provided them with a similar, albeit much more challenging experience. The competition scenario entailed them taking over as the IT operations team for a cryptocurrency exchange called "Mt. CCDC", which their customers used to exchange DakotaCoin. While the standings outside of the top three teams were not released, unofficial scoring showed them to be around 6th place. This competition provided a great practice experience for the Big Sioux team as they leave for the CyberPatriot National Finals competition in Baltimore, 7-11 April to compete against 12 other teams.



## **MILLER FLIGHT (MILLER)**



- **DISASTER RELIEF**: Starting on 22 March members of the Miller Flight began assisting Hand County Emergency Management officials in flood control efforts. Members have spent several days filling sandbags alongside our friends and neighbors.

In addition, one of our members who is part of a South Dakota Wing aircrew has been taking aerial video of flood-damaged areas.

Although we are a new unit in the South Dakota Wing our members bring a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the Civil Air Patrol's Emergency Services missions of Search and Rescue, Disaster Relief and Humanitarian Assistance.

## **PIERRE COMPOSITE SQUADRON (PIERRE)**

- **CADETS FILL SANDBAGS FOR BLUNT**: As a result of snowstorms and rapid snowmelt, floodwaters threatened the town of Blunt, east of Pierre. The Hughes County Emergency Manager sought people to fill sandbags to help reduce flood damage to the city. From 28-31 March 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Matt Tennant accompanied by cadets C/SSgt Trey Stroup, C/Amn Adrianna Osterkamp, C/Amn Darion Osterkamp and C/Amn Karissa Osterkamp helped in the effort to reduce damages in town. The flood waters there have since lowered.

## **SIoux FALLS COMPOSITE SQUADRON (SIoux FALLS)**

- **SANDBAGGING**: In anticipation of upcoming flooding in the Sioux Falls area, about 20 members of the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron assembled at Sherman Park on 23 March to help the city and other volunteers fill numerous bags with sand. There were three crews to cover a whole day's worth of work.



- **STEM ACTIVITIES**: On 26 March, cadets from the Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, Big Sioux Composite Squadron and the Lincoln County Flight helped with different activities for the kids at the Boys and Girls Club in Sioux Falls. The STEM kits that the kids were able to operate were the flight simulators, drones, and the sphero-ball along with other fun activities. With the help of Thrivent Financial and Lt. Col. Bill Strandell, the club was gifted with an aerospace education membership. The flight simulator is always a big hit with kids. Three girls take turns flying the simulator at the STEM activity.

# ★ ★ PROMOTIONS ★ ★

## Cadet Officer Promotion



Congratulations to Annabelle Klosterman of Brandon, a member of Big Sioux Composite Squadron in Brookings, on her promotion to the rank of Cadet Lieutenant Colonel and receipt of the milestone Ira Eaker award! The Eaker Award marks the final level of Phase IV – The Executive Phase of the Cadet Program. With her promotion Cadet Klosterman becomes the highest ranking cadet in South Dakota Wing and the first female cadet promoted to Lieutenant Colonel in 10 years!



Congratulations to Austin King of Volga, a member of the Big Sioux Composite Squadron, on promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain and receipt of the milestone Amelia Earhart Award!



## Cadet Noncommissioned Officer Promotions



Congratulations to Keon Den Hoed of Boyden, Ia., a member of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Technical Sergeant and receipt of the Captain Eddie Rickenbacker Award!



Congratulations to Mercy Healy and Gabriel Healy, both of Mitchell and both members of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron, and to Trey Stroup of Ft. Pierre and Kade Veandusseldorp of Pierre, both members of the Pierre Composite Squadron, on promotion to Cadet Staff Sergeant and receipt of the Wright Brothers Award!



## Cadet Airman Promotions



Congratulations to Clara Giddings, Zeb Mendel and Joshua Skelton, all three of Sioux Falls and all three members of Sioux Falls Composite Squadron as well as to Bridger Janvrin and Aidan McCarty, both of Spearfish and both members of the Lookout Mountain Composite Squadron. All five were promoted to the rank of Cadet Airman and received the Curry Award!

