



Winging It

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Civil Air Patrol Red Wing Composite Squadron (715) 594-3291

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All Things Are Possible

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Never, ever take the opportunities and facilities that are available to you for granted.

-Major Nancy Hoium

Letter to Red Wing Squadron Major Nancy Hoium

May all of your goals for the New Year be good, and if you haven't taken a few moments to make a goal for 2003, put down this newsletter and do it now.

Goals, my goal for 2003 is to step down as your Squadron Commander. After 6 years and 9 months; May 2nd, 1996 to January 30, 2003. It is time for Red Wing Composite Squadron to have a new Commander.

Major Victoria Eckhoff has served as my Deputy Commander for Senior Members for the last year and a half. She knows the Civil Air Patrol program and will make an excellent commander for Red Wing. She is very excited, treat her well. By the time you read this newsletter, the Change of Command will be about to happen or happened already. I will transfer command of the squadron on January 30th, 2003 at 8pm.

When I became the Commander of Red Wing Composite Squadron, we were still having meetings on the third floor of the State Training School. My first major decision as commander was to stop meeting in those facilities. Sean Ryan was a cadet at the time, and his parents had just bought the old Burnside School Building. They were kind enough to let us meet there until we found the hangar that we now meet in. We had dreamt for a long time about having our own hangar and I am pleased to say that I was commander when it happened. We moved into the hangar in July of 1997. It looked nothing like it does now, seniors and cadets alike worked hard to make it into what you see today.

Never take for granted the home that we have now. There are squadrons in this state that have only one room to meet in. The seniors have to keep all of the paperwork and files in the trunk of their cars. Please take good care of these facilities, and be proud of them.

The Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program is not like anything else out there. CAP will find you a career for life. Attend as much as possible, study, take your tests, promote, and be the best. Remember that the CAP Cadet Program will only take you as far as you want to go, and I hope that you will all strive to be Spatz cadets.

I want to thank you all for working so hard for me. You have made me look good. I am proud of every Senior member and every Cadet in this squadron. Keep up the good work. It has been a privilege being your Squadron Commander. I will still be around and look forward to a new position, not as a commander, but as one who serves.

Be proud to serve you country and thank you,

Nancy S. Hoium, Maj, CAP
Red Wing Composite Squadron Commander



Letter to Red Wing Squadron Major Victoria Eckhoff

Growing up, I had been super shy. I had felt like I didn't fit in anywhere. That is, until I went to my first Civil Air Patrol meeting in September of 1986. There was excitement, lots of activity, and lots of fun. I did not join until March of 1987. Why did I join? You will get the glamorous story that I used to tell when I was a cadet, and do still tell sometimes today. I joined because of all the cute boys. But, looking back, I realized that there was so much more. And I definitely did not stay in Civil Air Patrol for the cute boys.

For some people, when you describe drill, inspections, testing, crawling in the woods, and training, they don't associate that with fun. But it is camaraderie, the friendships that you make, and the places that you can go that make all of the other things that we do fun.

Looking back on the past 16 years, each meeting, each activity, and each person that I have met has prepared me for this next challenge...Squadron Commander. I have had many role models growing up; like Troy Rutz, the Cadet Master Sergeant who constantly pushed me to reach "outside the box". He followed me around, while I was drilling the flight, relaying all of the commands that I was giving to get me to build my command voice. He may not have realized it, but he helped to build my self-esteem.

Like Chaplain Mikitta, sometimes the silent supporter was always there with wisdom and knowledge. Like Colonel Hoium, who, from the first day that I joined up until now has presented me with every major promotion. He also has a way of getting me to work harder and broaden my horizons, ever the supporter of my training. Like Major Nancy Hoium, who, within these past few years has taken me under her wing to help me prepare for this role.

There is one other person that I haven't mentioned yet that was really responsible for me getting this far, my sister, BJ. If it hadn't been for her, I never would have joined Civil Air Patrol in the first place. Along with the other four mentioned, she has always been there for me when I needed advice, and sometimes, as sisters do, compete against.

Civil Air Patrol has meant 5 things to me; Respect, Service, Training, Participation, and Family

- Respect Respect for yourself and others.
- Service Giving back to others what you yourself was given
- Training The more knowledgeable you are, the better able you are to help others.
- Participation The more active you are, the more you will get out of the CAP program.
- Family CAP is like a second family. Red Wing has had a proud tradition of being a family. This has been a legacy that has been passed on for many years.

In her reign as the Red Wing Squadron Commander, Major Nancy Hoium has guided the squadron to many accomplishments:

- 7 Cadet Commanders
- 9 Mitchell Cadets
- 5 Earhart Cadets
- 2 Eaker Cadets
- 1 Spaatz Cadet
- 2 Minnesota Wing Cadets of the Year
- 1 Minnesota Wing NCO of the Year
- 1 North Central Region Cadet of the Year
- Squadron of the Year, 1998
- Squadron Commander of the Year, 1998
- Commanders Commendation Award

Focus Squadron Member of the Month

I have changed this small section to include Senior Members as well. Each month, I would like to focus on one of our squadron members. It takes each one of us working together to make this squadron what it is. I am currently looking for a Cadet or Senior member who would volunteer to take over this portion of the newsletter. If you are interested, please contact 1Lt Mari Lucas.

Our Focus Squadron Member of the Month is **Cadet Airman First Class Joseph Homan**. Cadet Homan started coming to meetings in April of this year, though he officially became a member of the squadron in April of 2002. He joined CAP specifically for the opportunity to learn how to fly, but also for the military experience. Cadet Homan is 14 years old and attends Hastings Highschool in Hastings, MN. Outside of CAP, he participates in many activities, including football, baseball, and golf. He also enjoys hunting and fishing. The thing that he enjoys the most right now in CAP is being a Flight Sergeant. He also enjoys the classes and getting to know the people. When Cadet Homan grows up, he would like to be an Air Force pilot, and later an airline pilot. Cadet Homan has participated in many activities over the last year. The activities that he enjoyed the most were the parades, and the Emergency Services Training. Cadet Homan is a member of the Red Wing Colorguard Team that not only participated in parades, but also in the Minnesota Wing Colorguard Competition. If Cadet Homan could visit anywhere in the world, he would like to see the beaches of Normandy, France.

1Lt Mari Lucas

If you are interested in being next month's focus member, please contact 1Lt Mari Lucas for details. Also, this article can be written by any squadron member, if you are interested in writing this article, or any article, feel free to make a submission by the 15th of the month prior to the month that you would like your article to appear in.

This Month in Our Squadrons History

This monthly feature of our newsletter comes to us from Major Andrew "Ace" Browning, our Squadron Historian

FEBRUARY

Last year - Cadet Blake Clerico was promoted to Cadet Airman

5 yrs ago - 14 squadron members airlift on a C-130 transport in a medical exercise with the Air Force Reserve

10 yrs ago - (not enough history recorded)

15 yrs ago - (not enough history recorded)



Letter to Red Wing Squadron from the New Squadron Commander continued

Also, during her reign, Red Wing Squadron had moved from our home at the Red Wing Training School, to the Red Wing Business Systems Building, and then into our final home at the Red Wing Airport. The members of the squadron at the time logged hundreds of hours gutting out and re-building our hangar into the wonderful home that we have today.

Major Hoium has continued building on the foundation that the Commanders before her left. Red Wing Squadron has come a long way since its first charter in the late 60s. Like any unit we have had our ups and downs, but we have grown strong, and that is not going to change.

I have set up many goals for the Red Wing Squadron to obtain:

- Build a strong ES Program with more participation in both ground team and aircrew training.
- Cadet and Senior participation at activities.
- Become a National Squadron of Distinction.
- To have Cadet Officers.
- Build a strong Senior Training Program.

These goals are easily attainable, but only with the help of every member of Red Wing Squadron

I would like to share with you the goals that the Cadets have put together for the Senior Members

- More use of Customs & Courtesies
- More Seniors in Uniform
- Support of the Cadet Program, coming to activities, participating in classes, and coming to meetings.

I challenge the Senior Members in the squadron to come up with a set of goals for the Cadets, these will be published in next months newsletter.

We have had many new faces at our meetings in the last few months: Chris and Stephen Rosenthal have joined from the 130th Squadron. Denton Anderson and Matt Reed recently joined the Senior Ranks. And Alex Kramer has just joined as a Cadet. Welcome to all of our new members.

I will be issuing more challenges to our members in the upcoming months, and I would like to encourage each of you to meet them and hopefully issue some of your own. This is your squadron, thank you all for allowing me this opportunity to take the lead for the next few years. My biggest goal is to bring about that sense of excitement, that "WOW" feeling when others come in the doors to our "home". I want them to feel just like I did, 16 years ago.

Major Victoria Eckhoff
Red Wing Composite Squadron Commander

LEADERSHIP QUOTES

"It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things." - Elinor Smith –

"The best cure for a sluggish mind is to disturb its routine." - William Danforth-

"When I have listened to my mistakes, I have grown." - Hugh Prather-



Upcoming Meetings and Activities

Please remember that the Meeting Agendas may (and will) occasionally change.

Also remember to always dress for the weather, as we may be outside.

2 February 2003	<i>Regular Meeting</i> Uniform: BDU's (bring tennis shoes) Physical Fitness Training Drill & Ceremonies
13 February 2003	<i>Regular Meeting</i> Uniform: BDUs Emergency Services Emergency Services
20 February 2003	<i>Regular Meeting</i> Uniform: Blues Moral Leadership (Chaplain Don Mikitta) Testing
27 February 2003	<i>Regular Meeting</i> Uniform: Blues Aerospace Education Leadership Class

Upcoming Activities

February 1 **Staff Meeting**
There will be no Meeting this month, due to the paperwork not being submitted in a timely manner. I do, however, expect all members of Cadet Staff to attend the Volleyball Competition (setting an example) or the training at the end of the month. The schedule needs to be filled out to June.

February 15-16 **Volleyball
Competition and
Lock-In**
A chance for Red Wing Cadet and Senior Members to join up, compete as a team, and have A LOT of fun getting to know people from other squadrons. We spend the night as the St Cloud University Field House and have many opportunities for fun. See 1Lt Lucas with questions.

February 22-23 **Homeland Defense
Training**
This will be an opportunity for Red Wing Senior members and Cadets to train for our upcoming missions in Homeland Defense. There will be training on new equipment, as well as Search and Rescue training, and possibly even some Cold Weather Shelter Building.



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*So that others may
live...*

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

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Jeff Bartelt, Capt

I have assigned each active cadet in the squadron a support staff position. Please see men, 1Lt Lucas, as soon as possible to find out what your duties will be. These are 3 month positions. You will be reviewed when your time is up and given another position. Each position may require some time put in away from the squadron, this should not interfere with your schoolwork. The duties that come along with these staff positions are necessary for future promotions.

Position

Cadet Leadership Officer
Cadet Aerospace Education Officer
Cadet Emergency Services Officer
Cadet Logistics Officer
Cadet Administration Officer
Cadet Public Affairs Officer
Cadet Operations Officer
Cadet Communications Officer
Cadet Activities Officer
Cadet Recruiting Officer
Cadet Safety Officer

Primary Cadet

C/MSgt Brandon Avery
C/MSgt Adam Carlstrom
C/SrA Paul Austin
C/Amn Blake Clerico
C/Amn Andrew Dose
C/Amn Alicia Perry
C/Amn Matthew Brown
C/AB Chris Rosenthal
C/A1C Nathaniel Roesler
C/A1C Joe Homan
C/A1C Travis Hansen

Assistant Cadet

C/A1C Travis Hansen
C/A1C Joe Homan
C/A1C Ken Fearon
C/Amn Isaac Cudd
C/A1C Lucas Hansen
C/A1C Travis Hansen
C/AB Alex Kramer
C/Amn Shona Lucas
C/MSgt Brandon Avery
C/MSgt Adam Carlstrom
C/Amn Andrew Dose

Red Wing Squadron Unit Commander History

David Knight, 1967 - 1970

William Avery, 1970 - 1974

Arnie Stenlund, 1977 - 1978

Kevin Swanson, 1979 - March 1986

Dale Evans Hoium, March 1986 - May 1992

Wayne A Sherman, May 1992 - May 1996

Nancy Sue Hoium, May 1996 - 30 January 2003

Victoria Lynn Eckhoff, 30 January 2003 - Present

Major Hoium was the first female commander.

Major Eckhoff is the eighth commander 35 years.

The First Cadet...



I would like to give all of my cadets some incentive to learn & grow with our program. I also want to make sure that EVERY CADET is reading this newsletter. Even though some of the newsletter does not seem to pertain to the cadets, the information is all important to the entire squadron. So....

The first cadet that properly reports to 1Lt Mari Lucas & tells her who is in their Squadron Chain of Command will receive a prize!!

Red Wing Squadron Newsletters are available online at www.mnwg.cap.gov/redwing.
They are also available in hard copy at the Squadron Facilities.