

The Talon of the
Lone Eagle Composite Squadron, NJ Wing, Civil Air Patrol

Vol. 12, Issue 2

Apr - Jun 2012

Commander: Major Will McLain V
Deputy Commander for Seniors: Lt Col Howard Leach
Deputy Commander for Cadets: 1st Lt Daniel Bell
Finance Officer: Major George W Taylor Jr.
Emergency Services Officer: Capt Gregory J Skinner
Aerospace Education Officer: 1st Lt David Simpson
Administration Officer: Capt Mark M Sayil
Logistics Officer: 1st Lt Steven S Kiss
Public Affairs & Editor: Lt Col Howard Leach
Cadet Commander: C/2nd Lt Zak Wojtech

Squadron Commander's Comments

We are now half way through 2012 and this has been a particularly good quarter. Not only did we have many awards for our cadets, but a promotion and two awards for two of our senior members. We also had opportunities for our Color Guard, including a Naturalization Ceremony and at various Memorial Day festivities. You will also read about visits from two of our former cadets, something that I particularly enjoy. And of course, much more...

Semper Vigilans, Major Will McLain V, Commander

Congratulations to the following promotions this quarter in chronological order

Cadet	Promoted to	Achievement, ** Milestone
Kiss, Steven F.	C/2nd Lt	Billy Mitchell **
Sharkey, Megan	C/MSgt	Lindbergh
Bliss, Carson D.	C/Amn	Curry
Sayil, Mark	Capt	Benjamin Davis
Stauffer, Luke	C/SrAmn	Feik
Hennessey Rose, Brendan	C/Amn	Curry
Reed, Aaron	C/SrAmn	Feik
Sharkey, Megan	C/SMSgt	Doolittle
Walsh, Jonah	C/TSGt	Rickenbacker

Squadron Goals for 2012

Squadron:

Continue to recruit new members. Increase emphasis on Emergency Services training and mission support. Develop squadron website. Continue support for community events. Continue to work on making Lone Eagle the premier squadron in the NJ Wing.

Individual Goals:

Seniors: Accomplish next achievement levels within assigned positions.

Cadets: Achieve promotions within time limits; increase participation on Quarterly Talon.

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On April 11th, 1st Lt Steven S. Kiss, father, and Cadet/ 2nd Lt Steven F. Kiss, son, receive awards.

Shown L – R: 1st Lt Daniel Bell, Deputy Commander for Cadets, Lt Col Howard Leach, Deputy Commander for Seniors, 1st Lt Steven S. Kiss, Cadet/2nd Lt Steven F. Kiss, and Major Will McLain, V, commander, Lone Eagle Composite Squadron.



Senior Member 1st Lt Steven S. Kiss, father, received the Chuck Yeager Aerospace Achievement Award and Cadet/2nd Lt Steven F. Kiss, son, was presented with his Billy Mitchell Achievement Award. C/2nd Lt Steven F. Kiss is the son of 1st Lt and Mrs. Steven S. Kiss of East Hanover. He is a Junior in East Hanover High School where he plays the trumpet within the school band.

On right, C/MSgt Megan Sharkey receives congratulations on her promotion for completing requirements of the Lindbergh Achievement.



On April 13th, the Squadron and the Curtiss-Wright Squadron provided the Color Guard at the Naturalization Ceremony.



Anne DeGraaf, Management Assistant, of the Morristown National Historical Park, requested the color guard. C/SMSgt Zac Wojteck, Cadet Commander, provided the leadership to the Color Guard cadets. The Color Guard included C/TSgt Nicholas Moorehead and three cadets from the Curtiss-Wright Squadron.

Anne DeGraaf, was very appreciative of the Color guard performance.

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On May 9th, the following presentation and promotions were made.



C/2nd Lt Steve F. Kiss was presented with his Billy Mitchell Award Certificate.

Capt Mark Sayil was promoted to his rank for completing the requirements of the Benjamin Davis Award. He is being congratulated by Major Carol McCloud, commander, Group 221, on the left and by Major Will McLain V, commander, Lone Eagle, on his right.



On the left, C/SrAmn Luke Stauffer was promoted for completing the requirements of the Feik Award.

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On May 16th, the following promotion was made.

On the right, C/Amn Brendan Hennessey Rose was promoted for completing the requirements of the Curry Award.



On May 26th, the following were in the Morris Plains 26th Annual Memorial Day Parade.

Many thanks to C/2nd Lt Steven Kiss, C/TSgt Nicholas Moorehead, C/Amn Carson Bliss, and C/Amn Brendan Hennessey Rose for their service as Color Guard members during the Morris Plains Service and Parade on Sat, May 26th. Also, thanks to Capt Mark Sayil and 1st Lt Bell for their participation.

Note, on right Major McLain V, Commander, is driving the CAP van.



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On May 28th, Peapack Gladstone Memorial Day Service.

On left, color guard was led by C/2nd Lt Zak Wojtech on left with C/Amn Brendan Hennessey Rose on the Right.



On right and below, Major McLain V, Commander is shown placing a wreath and performing a salute at one of the war memorials at Liberty Park during the Peapack-Gladstone Memorial Day Service. Thanks to 1st Lt Dan Bell for taking the pictures.

Finally, those attending the American Legion Post 216 Memorial are shown in the last photo. L-R: Major McLain V, Commander, C/Amn Brendan Hennessey, C/2nd Lt Zak Wojtech, three members of Post 216 including the commander on right with blue jacket, Police Chief Greg Skinner (Capt, CAP), and the Memorial Day speaker.



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On May 30th, the following promotion was made along with Aerospace Education.



C/AIC Aaron Reed was promoted to C/SrAmn for completing the requirements of the Feik Award.

Also on May 30th, Aerospace Education was held on the "Space Shuttle Salute" mission.

1st Lt David Simpson, Aerospace Education Officer, continued with the "Space Shuttle Salute" mission. The squadron will build five Shuttle models (representing the five actual Space Shuttle orbiters) and - together with the Curtis-Wright Squadron, will launch them in the exact order that they were actually launched on a single day in early October. There were 135 Shuttle launches - so it will be a busy day.



Above Orbiter Team works on the Orbiter body.



On the left, is the Fin and Skirt Support Team.

So cadets, let's keep up this monthly construction activity until you are ready for the big launch day in October!

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Further, on May 30th, Lt Col Donald Gara, former Squadron Commander, gets published.

Lt Col Donald Gara served as the Lone Eagle Composite Squadron Commander for about three years until December of 2002. He had several essays published in the book, *Cavalry of the American Revolution*, edited by Jim Picuch. The essays discuss cavalry raids in New York and New Jersey in 1780 and 1781 which haven't received much attention in American Revolutionary War histories as they were considered too minor. Lt Col Donald Gara is still a senior member of this squadron although he retired to Florida a number of years ago.

Jim Picuch, editor of *Cavalry of the American Revolution*, is an associate professor of history at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. He received his doctorate in history from the College of William & Mary and is author of a number of books, including *The Battle of Camden: A Documentary History*. The cavalry book is available on Amazon or can be borrowed soon from the Morris County Library.

On June 13th, the following promotions were made.

On right, C/SMSGt Megan Sharkey receives congratulations on her promotion for completing requirements of the Doolittle Achievement.



On left, C/TSgt Jonah Walsh was promoted to his rank for completing the Rickenbacker Achievement.

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Also, on June 13th, visit by former cadet Capt Heather Pinsky, USAF.

We were pleasantly surprised by a visit of Major Carol McCloud, Commander, Group 221, along with her daughter, Capt Heather Pinsky, USAF, a former Lone Eagle cadet who went on to attend and graduate from the US Air Force Academy and after extensive flight training is now an AC-130 Gunship pilot within the 27th Air Force Special Operations Wing.

Cadets, she is outstanding example of how your CAP training can lead to an appointment to the US Air Force Academy and a flying career in the US Air force. So keep completing your CAP achievements and maybe you will be able to follow in her career path.

On right is a picture of her as a Lone Eagle cadet along with Cadet Fred Meyer taken in June 2004 receiving gifts in celebration of their appointments to the US Air Force Academy. They both graduated from the Academy and are US Air Force pilots, she in the AC-130, and he, I believe, in the F-15.



On June 20th, former C/Lt Col Clayton Petty – US Naval Academy Midshipman visited us.

Former C/Lt Col Clayton Petty, shown in the middle of the back row, the tallest with the Naval BDUs. He just completed his freshman or Plebe year at the Academy. He is majoring in Mechanical Engineering and competes on the Naval Academy Triathlon team which came in second in the most recent National Collegiate competition.

He gave the cadets a briefing on Academy life and some helpful hints on how to be successful like maintaining your academic work. He was also preparing to enter the NYC Triathlon.



Cadets, here is another outstanding example of how your CAP training can help in obtaining an Academy appointment.

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