



# St Cloud Composite Squadron Newsletter

## Upcoming Events:

- **February 14-16, 2020**  
**MN Encampment Cadre Selection Exercise**
- **March 14th, 2020**  
**Wing Volley Ball Tournament**
- **March 14 -15, 2020**  
**St Cloud Lock-In**
- **March 16th, 2020**  
**Amelia Earhart Award Ceremony for C/Capt Katherine Olson**
- **March 21st, 2020**  
**Becky's Troops Dinner**
- **March 26-29, 2020**  
**MN Encampment Cadre Training Weekend**
- **March 29th, 2020**  
**Carl A. Spaatz Award Ceremony for C/Col Alexander Dvorak**
- **April 17- 19, 2020**  
**Wing Conference at Cragun's Resort**
- **May 29 - 21, 2020**  
**MN Encampment Preparatory School**
- **July 25 - Aug 1, 2020**  
**MN Encampment**

**St Cloud Composite Squadron would like to congratulate C/Col Alexander Dvorak on his achieving the Spaatz Award on 04 Jan 2020.**

*THE GENERAL CARL A. SPAATZ AWARD is Civil Air Patrol's highest cadet honor. It is presented to cadets who have demonstrated excellence in leadership, character, fitness, and aerospace education. Cadets qualify for this prestigious award after progressing through sixteen achievements in the CAP Cadet Program. Along the way they develop self-discipline, a strong sense of personal responsibility, the ability to lead and persuade, and the foundation necessary for pursuing a career in aviation, space, or technology.*



### Interview with C/Col Alexander Dvorak

**What are the biggest challenges that you faced in your CAP journey?**

Oddly enough, the thing I found hardest to do was promoting. As I got farther into the officer ranks it seemed less important than making sure events like encampment and MLA ran successfully. If it wasn't for my friends and family to keep encouraging me to promote I would never have made it this far.

**What would your words of encouragement be to someone trying to get their Spaatz award?**

Never give up. Even when things get tough and you run out of energy just keep pushing on. Find encouragement from your friends and family and keep going. Never stop trying till your goals are achieved and once you've achieved your goals set new ones.

**What was the best position you have held at an encampment or squadron staff position that you learned the most from and what did you learn?**

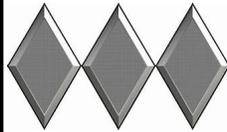
As a squadron commander at encampment I learned so much about management and indirect or middle level leadership. Managing seven staff and making sure all 36 students graduate was a very rewarding experience by the end of the week but I learned so much from the experience.

**What has been your favorite thing about CAP?**

My favorite thing has definitely been going to the United Kingdom with the International Air Cadet Exchange or IACE. Not only were the events we attended and the activities we participated in very fun and memorable, the friendships I developed with people from many different countries are invaluable.

**How do you feel achieving the Spaatz award will affect your future?**

It really doesn't change my plans much. I still plan on becoming a senior member and try to give back everything CAP has given to me. Don't be surprised when you see me staffing wing activities as a senior member.



**Alex also received the Cadet of the Year Award last year at Wing Conference for his extensive achievements in CAP.**

## Wreaths Across America - December 14th, 2019

The purpose of Wreaths Across America is: REMEMBER the Fallen... HONOR those who Serve... TEACH our children the value of Freedom. This year we are proud to say that the St Cloud Composite Squadron received sponsorships for 1083 wreaths to be placed on the graves of veterans at Fort Snelling. We had 11 Cadets and 4 Senior Members that attended the ceremony and assisted laying wreaths. We were tasked with Special Operations to lay wreaths on special request graves. Those of us who attended were honored to be able to be a part of this moving experience.



From Left to Right  
C/Amn Samuel McCoy  
C/Maj Benjamin Glaser  
C/CMSgt Isaac Duerr  
C/SSgt Aiden Staup  
C/CMSgt Connor Schwab  
C/A1C Caleb Larson  
C/MSgt Alayna Schwab  
C/CMSgt Lauren Staup  
C/CMSgt Kristin Worth  
C/CMSgt Joshua Fisher  
C/SSgt Caleb Fisher



Seniors Members: 1st Lt Richard Raveling, 2nd Lt Leah Staup, SM Sandra Schwab and 2nd Lt Chris Larson

# Spotlight on Cadets

## **C/1st Lt David Petzold Cadet Deputy Commander, St Cloud Composite Squadron**

### **Why did you join Civil Air Patrol?**

I joined at the encouragement of friends and family who knew about CAP. Because of my interest in the United States Air Force Academy, I was encouraged to attend a meeting and "see if I liked it." My first meeting was a blues night, and the squadron was doing a drill-down. Having just learned facing movements for the first time, I won the training-flight portion of the competition. Since then I have learned to appreciate the leadership opportunities and educational experiences that CAP provides.

### **What has been your favorite Wing activity?**

If I had to choose one favorite Wing activity it would have to be staffing at the 21st CTG (2019 Encampment). My experience as First Sergeant will always stay with me and the lessons I learned from that time still affect me today. Serving as staff at Encampment is an honor and a privilege that I will never forget.

### **What has been the most challenging experience you've had in CAP?**

The most challenging (and most rewarding) experience I have had is understanding time management. When I first started in the program, I did not have a very busy schedule. However, as I entered college classes during my junior/senior year, my calendar began to fill up. CAP offers so many unique opportunities it was hard for me to say no to helping with events. But, as I grew in understanding my schedule, I learned a very important aspect of time management - saying no. If anyone struggles with managing their time (whether it be their CAP schedule or not) I would encourage them to seriously consider what they are committing to and to evaluate how they spend their free time.

### **For cadets wanting to serve in your position, what advice could you give to them?**

A Cadet Deputy Commander (C/DC) is the official cadet executive staff "floater" for the squadron. As such, you are required to not only be accessible and an excellent communicator, but also be able to fill any duty the Cadet Commander needs you to do. Being a C/DC requires focus and attention to detail as well as delegation and planning skills. For anyone wishing to serve as a C/DC I would encourage you to work on your skills as a leader, no matter what phase you are in. While C/DC is an officer position, the skills you acquire in the Airman and NCO phase are invaluable to you as a cadet officer. I would also stress the ability to learn quickly and pick up projects easily. While your primary role is to assist the Cadet Commander, you will end up helping to plan certain events/activities, and sometimes even leading a team in planning them yourself. Overall, C/DC is a position I believe anyone can effectively serve in, with the correct work ethic, leadership ability, and teachable attitude, you will make your Cadet Commander happy!

### **As Cadet Deputy Commander, what is the ultimate goal for your term?**

My goal is to promote a structured environment of cadet learning, operational efficiency, and staff organization while maintaining standards of professionalism and upholding the core values. As a squadron we are achieving this goal via promotions (congratulations to all who promoted at the awards ceremony), continued character development, and involvement in Wing activities (remember to sign up for the Lock-In!). As we continue to improve, the St. Cloud Composite Squadron will be recognized Wing-wide as being influential and effective as an organization.

## **C/CMSgt Kristin Worth First Sergeant, St Cloud Composite Squadron**

### **Why did you join Civil Air Patrol?**

I joined CAP because I want to be in the military and thought this would be a good start, also so I could learn more about how it works. The program also seemed fun and challenging.

### **What has been your favorite Wing activity?**

My favorite Wing activity has been Wing Conference. You meet so many new people and the dance is a lot of fun. I made so many friends this past year at Wing Conference.

### **What has been the most challenging experience you've had in CAP?**

The most challenging experience in my CAP career so far has been either going to CSE and being evaluated on EVERYTHING you do, or making the transition from cadet to First Sergeant. I found that transition to be hard because all the cadets who were my friends, I had to then be in charge of and guide them as an exec staff member.

### **For cadets wanting to serve in your position, what advice could you give to them?**

As far as advice for future First Sergeants, I would say push yourself and others around you. Don't let anything get by you, I learned that once you do, people think they can get away with certain things because you let it slide before. That is not the kind of staff member you want to be. Also, step outside of your comfort zone, you are a lot more productive and confident once you do!

Our heart felt condolences to the families of the National Guard Soldiers killed in the UH-60 Black Hawk crash on 05 Dec 2019.

SCCS Newsletter Issue 16 Submitted by: C/CMSgt Lauren Staup and C/MSgt Alayna Schwab, St Cloud Composite Squadron PAO's



Lt Col Shawn Warneke

### Commander's Corner

Greetings Everyone,

I just wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for a great year in 2019. 2019 was a year packed full of events and challenges, but together we made it through each them one at a time.

March 27th, 2020 is officially the anniversary of my first full year as the Commander of the St Cloud Composite Squadron. This past year has gone by so quickly it seems like yesterday I stood up in front of all of you to accept Command.

The Job of a Squadron Commander is not always an easy one, but I rest easy knowing that the Squadron has a great Staff on both the Senior and Cadet Side and has great members overall. The Staff and the members are the real heart and soul of this Squadron and you should all be proud of yourselves.

We had a great 2019 and I thank you all. I am looking forward to seeing what 2020 will bring to us. Whatever happens in 2020, we are one team united in a common cause; and that is to be of service to our community, state and nation.

Semper Vigilans!

### Promotions Cadets

- Carl A. Spaatz Award** - C/Col Alexander Dvorak
- Dead Rank Achievement 14** - C/Maj Benjamin Glaser
- Earhart** - C/Capt Katherine Olson
- Dead Rank Achievement 10** - C/1st Lt David Petzold
- Dead Rank Achievement 9** - C/2nd Lt David Petzold
- Goddard** - Connor Schwab, Lauren Staup, Abraham Berg-Arnold
- Rickenbacker** - Aiden Staup, Caleb Fisher
- Wright Brothers** - Caleb Fisher, Preston Thielen, Caleb Larson
- Feik** - Tobias Dvorak, Ashley Eblen
- Arnold** - Logan Thomas, Geroge Berg-Arnold, Samuel McCoy, Benedict Dvorak
- Curry** - Benedict Dvorak, Wyatt Salzer, Jack Atwood
- Cadet** - Jack Atwood, Kylie Prudhomme
- 2 Year Red Service Ribbon Award** - Joshua Fisher, Isaac Duerr, David Petzold, Hunter Ruhl, Lauren Staup, Kristin Worth, Tanner Ziwicki
- 5 Year Clasp For Service Ribbon** - Stephen Keaton, Kirsten Olson, Tanner Ziwicki

### Challenge Coin Recipient

**C/Col Alexander Dvorak**

### Promotions Senior Members

- Senior Member Level 1 Certificate** - Sheldon Atwood, Sandra Schwab
- Senior Member 2nd Lt** - Sandra Schwab
- Benjamin O Davis Award** - 1st Lt Wendi Wigham
- 2 Year Red Service Ribbon Award** - Peter Docken, Elizabeth Moscatelli, Cynthia Olson, Wendi Wigham, Brook Ziwicki, and Scott Ziwicki
- 5 Year Clasp for Service Ribbon** - Chuck Amundson, Alanson Cleveland, Dianne Gerdes, Johnathan Sowada, Wendi Wigham, Brook Ziwicki, Scott Ziwicki
- 10 Year Clasp for Service Ribbon** - Joel Dale, Laverne Faundeen
- 15 Year Clasp for Service Ribbon** - Gregory Nastrom
- 20 Year Clasp for Service Ribbon** - Richard Josephson, Russell Protele, Richard Raveling, Steven Szymanski
- 25 Year Clasp for Service Ribbon** - James Bouma
- 30 Year Clasp for Service Ribbon** - Steve Anderson

Cadet Encampment Assistance Program (CEAP)

Applications open March 1st, 2020  
Link is on eServices

## ENCAMPMENT BASIC LEARNING COURSE (BLC) BLC is for FIRST-TIME STUDENTS

Purpose: To provide the most influential week of training in a cadet's career. Encampment is a week-long training opportunity for cadets to learn leadership, teamwork, self-discipline and experience a variety of tours. These often include simulators, confidence course and helicopter flights.

### ADVANCED LEASERSHIP COURSE (ALC)

**Prior to applying for ALC, you must have already achieved C/SSgt and have attended an encampment.**

Purpose: ALC is geared towards developing teamwork and leadership skills in Cadet NCOs and Officers in a challenging environment. In the past, ALC has trained with Navy SEALs, spent time on the range in Camp Ripley, used rifle simulators and had orientation rides on US Army CH-47 Chinook helicopters. Prior to applying for ALC, you must have already achieved C/SSgt and have attended an encampment.

### Staffing Encampment

- Cadre Selection Exercise: Feb 14-16 (Fri-Sun)
- Cadre Training Weekend: Mar 26-29 (Thurs-Sun)
- Encampment Preparatory School: May 29-31 (Fri-Sun)
- Encampment Executive Staff Arrival: July 23 (Thursday)
- Encampment Staff and Cadre Arrival: 0900 on July 24 (Friday)
- Encampment: July 25 through August 1 (Saturday to Saturday)