



# St Cloud Composite Squadron Newsletter

## Upcoming Events:

- **November 25th, 2019 Wreaths Across America Donations Due**
- **December 14th, 2019 Wreaths Across America**
- **December 16th, 2019 SCCS Bell Ringing and Potluck**
- **January 15th, 2020 NCSA applications deadline - National Cadet Special Activities**
- **January TBD, 2020 Winter Survival Weekend**
- **February TBD, 2020 SCCS Awards Banquet**
- **March 14th, 2020 Wing Volley Ball Tournament**
- **March 14 -15, 2020 St Cloud Lock-In**
- **April 17 - 19th, 2020 Wing Conference**

## Change of Command

At the chain of command ceremony, cadets received these following positions,

C/1st Lt. Katie Olson -Cadet Commander  
 C/2nd Lt. David Petzold –Deputy Cadet Commander  
 C/CMSgt Kristin Worth - 1st Sergeant  
 C/CMSgt Hunter Ruhl –Alpha Flight Commander  
 C/SMSgt Connor Schwab –Alpha Flight Sgt.  
 C/CMSgt Isaac Duerr –Tango Flight Commander  
 C/SMSgt Abraham Berg-Arnold –Tango Flight Sgt.  
 C/SMSgt Lauren Staup, C/TSgt Alayna Schwab –PAOs  
 C/1st Lt. Tanner Ziwicki –Aerospace Officer  
 C/A1C Caleb Larson –Logistics Officer



## Minnesota Leadership Academy

Minnesota Leadership Academy (MLA) is held on the third weekend of October every year. It is designed for three levels of cadet experience.

Airman Training School (ATS) is for new cadets up to Senior Airmen who haven't attended encampment. It teaches drill, ranging from in-place movements to hard marching commands, such as counter. Classes teach followership, how to be a good wingman, and the definitions of the CAP core values. ATS students can test their newly learned skills on the last full day of MLA: Range Day. They go to an obstacle course called the Leadership Reaction Course (LRC). The cadets work together to complete the assigned mission, whether that is getting across a difficult obstacle, or just selecting a leader to guide them. Overall, ATS is a great experience for those who have just joined.

The next step up from ATS is Non-Commissioned Officer's School (NCOS). This school is for every cadet who has graduated encampment and is above the rank of Cadet Airman First Class. NCOS cadets must give speeches, call drill, and lead PT. They are challenged to put their leadership skills to the test when they are assigned to be the flight sergeant of their seminar. In this position, they are in charge of getting their seminar to class or on the drill pad in time. It is a challenge for NCOs with many learning experiences that will help them in leadership positions.

The last school is Basic Cadet Officer's Course (BCOC). BCOC cadets have graduated encampment and NCOS. Their rank can range from a Cadet Master Sergeant and above. BCOC students give an SDA presentation, do impromptu speeches, and teach classes. They learn how to work with airmen and NCOs on a larger scale. They learn indirect leadership, or bringing information down the chain of command.

This year at MLA, St. Cloud Composite Squadron had cadets attend all three schools, including those who were on staff.

A shout-out to C/SrA Caleb Fisher who received ATS Overall Honor Cadet, and C/SMSgt Connor Schwab who received NCOS Seminar Five Honor Cadet. Congratulations cadets, and way to make St. Cloud proud!

## Cadet Competition

Nine color guards from around the Minnesota Wing participated in the 2019 Minnesota Wing Cadet Competition. It was held at the St. Cloud Army Aviation Facility on September 28, 2019. The competition included being judged on performance of the indoor practical, outdoor practical, physical fitness, team leadership problem, uniform inspection, uniform building, and a written exam. Overall, Anoka Squadron placed first, Stanton placed second, and Owatonna placed third. St. Cloud had an excellent run and took home two outstanding awards: First place in team leadership problem and second place in the outdoor practical. Cadets from St. Cloud who participated were C/SrA Caleb Fisher, C/CMSgt Isaac Duerr, C/A1C Samuel Hoover, C/SMSgt Connor Schwab, and C/SMSgt Joshua Fisher (Color Guard Commander). Congratulations, St. Cloud!

## Spotlight on Cadet Commander C/ILT Katie Olson

### Why did you join Civil Air Patrol?

I didn't want to join Civil Air Patrol; my parents made me go to the meetings. But when I became a member I started to enjoy it a little bit, then after I attended Airman Training School at Minnesota Leadership Academy in 2015, it was something I wanted to do. I started to get to know people and understand the program a little bit more.

### What has been your favorite Wing activity?

My favorite Wing activity is Wing Conference. Wing Conference is that activity that is always fun because I get to hang out with my friends and make a lot of good memories. An added benefit is that the food is amazing!

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

My most challenging experience was when I was a flight sergeant at encampment. I was only 14 years old, so I did not have a lot of experience especially on Wing level. That experience taught me how to have a command presence, think on the spot, work with people I didn't get along with, and the importance of preparation.

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

My ultimate goal as Cadet Commander is to make the squadron better, so when I am done, the next leaders are better than I could have been as a leader. I want people to recognize what they can do as a leader and feel empowered and supported to lead and grow.

### Because you've held many staff positions, what advice could you give to cadets wanting to serve in those leadership roles?

Some advice I would give to cadets wanting to serve in leadership roles, either on squadron level or wing, is that everyone has to start from square one and it is up to you to prepare and train to get better to get past square one. For example, the first Cadre Selection Exercise you attend, you will have to prepare for it in order to do well and leave an impression on the executive and senior staff. That includes when you aren't in uniform. Also, don't let the authority get to your head; older cadets and senior members can see when someone is being cocky. One big thing that I think everyone needs to know is that you only grow when you challenge yourself, and if you aren't going to challenge yourself, especially in an organization like Civil Air Patrol, you won't get the personal growth that you might want. You have to put in energy to get results.



Lt Col Shawn Warneke

### Commander's Corner

Yes, details matter!

I was walking around the pancake breakfast on Sunday June 30th, and I was very intently considering which cars I should vote for when I heard a voice from somewhere ask me, "Is that an authentic spit-shine?" My concentration now broken and fully caught unaware by the question, I asked the Gentlemen to repeat the question; "Is that an authentic spit-shine?" he repeated. I said, "Yes sir it is." After my acknowledgement, he proceeded to tell me about some of his experiences at boot camp when he first enlisted in the Army; and how meticulous his drill sergeant was. The Gentlemen was a veteran of Vietnam and very proud to see the Men and Women of Civil Air Patrol in uni-

form. After our chat, he thanked me for my service as a volunteer.

In the Civil Air Patrol, Minnesota Wing and our Squadron, we spend a lot of time talking about the importance of attention to detail and the importance of looking sharp in our uniforms. The simple fact is that people notice the littlest details that you think might not get noticed. The fact that the Gentlemen noticed my boots caught me off my guard a little; I mean really, how often do you look at people's shoes when you are going about your day? Those that know me well will tell you that when it comes to wearing the uniform I put in the extra effort to make sure that everything is spit shined, polished and pressed; and when I am not wearing my uniforms, they are hung up neatly in my closet. I do these things for a number of reasons:

1. I take pride in my uniform.
2. I take pride in the Civil Air Patrol and my Country.
3. It shows respect to those who have served and those who currently serve.
4. It reflects my attention to detail.
5. It highlights me as a professional.

A little pre-planning can go a long way when it comes to putting your uniforms together. You don't necessarily have to do it all at once, but taking a few minutes here and a few minutes there to look over your uniform can make the difference between a good uniform and a great uniform. How you wear your uniform says a lot about you and a lot about our Squadron.

## Challenge Coin Recipients 2019

C/1st Lt Stephen Keaton

C/SrA Caleb Fischer



### Promotions

**Mitchell** - David Petzold

**Armstrong** - David Petzold, Hunter Ruhl

**Goddard** - Isaac Duerr, Kristin Worth, Joshua Fischer

**Doolittle** - Abraham Berg-Arnold, Joshua Fisher, Connor Schwab, Lauren Staup

**Lindbergh** - Abraham Berg-Arnold, Connor Schwab, Alayna Schwab

**Rickenbacker** - Abraham Berg-Arnold, Connor Schwab, Alayna Schwab

**Wright Brothers** - Alayna Schwab, Aiden Staup, Michael Thielen

**Feik** - Caleb Fisher, Aiden Staup, Michael Thielen, Preston Thielen, Ashley Eblen

**Arnold** - Tobias Dvorak, Ashley Eblen, Caleb Fisher, Samuel Hoover, Caleb Larson, Hunter Nelson, Aiden Staup, Michael Thielen, Preston Thielen, Nathan Wiener, Logan Thomas

**Curry** - George Berg-Arnold, Caleb Fisher, Samuel Hoover, Samuel McCoy, Hunter Nelson, Logan Thomas, Ryan Wirz

## Wreaths Across America

14 Dec 2019 - Saturday

Our Squadron is currently participating in the sales of the wreaths and we will also be going down to help lay the Wreaths at Fort Snelling this year. We will be taking the Squadron Van and more details will be coming out via email.

Please continue to sell wreaths to honor the men and women that gave their lives for our freedoms!

## SCCS Bell Ringing and Annual Holiday Squadron Potluck

16 Dec 2019 - Monday

Join St Cloud Composite Squadron's Annual Holiday Celebration by volunteering with us to ring bells for the Salvation Army. We follow the Bell Ringing by gathering back at the Army Aviation Support Facility for a Potluck to enjoy warmth, good food brought in by our members and lots of laughs and comradery. The potluck is a family event.

## NCSA - National Cadet Special Activities Application Deadline - 15 Jan 2020

<https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/programs/cadets/activities>

For Cadets that are in their second year and have already attended an encampment. NCSA offers many opportunities to expand on your knowledge of Aviation, Military, Technology, and Leadership. A few of the offerings are

- ◇ National Flight Academy Powered or Glider
- ◇ National Blue Beret
- ◇ Hawk Mountain
- ◇ Cadet Advisory Council
- ◇ Cadet Officer School

If you are interested, the deadline for applications is 15 Jan 2020. It is quite an extensive application process and it is recommended that you start early. For the application instructions please go to:

<https://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/programs/cadets/activities/national-cadet-special-activities/national-cadet-activity-application-instructions>