



# Alaska Wing Tips

## On-Line Edition



### Commander's Corner

Charles R. Palmer, Col. CAP -AK Wing Commander

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate all CAP members on our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and wish you and your families a Happy Holidays!

It is the strength and dedication of our members that has made Civil Air Patrol successful for so many years.

Our continued success is truly dependent upon the growth of our organization. I can not stress the importance of volunteer participation in any event that CAP is involved. Over the past year I have watched the Alaska Wing participate in successful search and rescue efforts with the State of Alaska, emergency relief operations,

disaster assessment, glider operations, and cadet development. I am very thankful and proud that Alaska continues to have such dedicated individuals that get the job done when it counts. An organization is only as strong as the weakest link. As valued members of CAP it is your duty to seek out those weak links and mentor their growth.

**Get Training, Stay Current**  
As we venture into 2012 there are a few items that I would like each member to make a concentrated effort to achieve. Safety qualifications are mandatory, and maintaining these qualifications have been a long standing problem for all squadrons. If you are unsure how to

accomplish this task please contact our Wing Safety Officer for assistance. This can be done online in about 30 minutes.

Safety is a very important topic and will remain one of the top priorities for the Alaska Wing. A Cadet Safety Officer must be appointed from each squadron that has cadets per revised CAPR 62-1.. Maintaining your qualifications allows you to be more efficient and safe in the duties you perform. Membership development and training is the key to our continued success. ★



### Alaska Wing, Civil Air Patrol

#### 2011 Conference Awards:

- > **Cadet of The Year**  
Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Ryan Sherwin, Polaris
- > **Senior Member of the Year**  
Capt. Lynette Mote, Arcturus
- > **Communicator of the Year**  
Maj. Nathan Skinner, Arcturus
- > **Observer of the Year**  
Capt. James Duffy, Polaris
- > **Pilot of the Year**  
Col. Skip Widtfeldt, Polaris
- > **Public Affairs of the Year**  
1st Lt. Jennifer Sherwin, Polaris
- > **Chaplain of the Year**  
Lt Col. Blair Rorabaugh, Seward
- > **Wing Staff of the Year**  
Lt. Col. Al Senese, Polaris
- > **Meritorious Service Award**  
Capt. Mike Cresswell, Bethel
- > **20 Years of Service**  
Lt. Col. Gene Moyer, Kenai
- > **Squadron of the Year**  
Baranof Squadron, Sitka, Alaska

### Help Wanted

David Thompsen, Lt. Col. CAP AK Wing Chief of Staff

There are positions available on Alaska Wing staff.

- Administration Director
- Emergency Services Director
- Historian

It is not necessary to live in Anchorage. Conference calls (monthly) are also an option if not available in local area. If you have the interest, we have opportunities for you. Alaska Wing Headquarters is located in Anchorage, on Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson (JBER).

Our Alaska State wide "Graded Exercise" is coming May 2012.

**\*\*EXERCISE\*\*EXERCISE\*\*EXERCISE**  
The scenario will be a simulated state wide disaster that will escalate throughout the week. Sorties will include homeland security, photo recon, damage assessments, SAR, etc. Successful squadrons have successful staff. Many hands are needed to fill all Incident Command Staff (ICS) positions. Community emergencies and missions require mission

base staff, ground teams, mission air crews.

Plan now to join us for the Monthly table-top scenarios and spin up exercises (will be scheduled) to prep for the big weekend May 4-5-6, 2012.

Each member is encouraged to consider what it is that you can do for your squadron. Explore fields that may interest you. This is also a good opportunity to mentor cadets into positions of responsibility. ★

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## History Corner

### *History of CAP, Alaska Wing Commanders:*

**Lt. Col. Jack Scavenius**  
May 1948 - Sept. 1948

**Col. Jesse R. Carr**  
Sept. 1948 - July 1956

**Col. Harry E. Stiver**  
July 1956 - March 1959

**Col. James E. Carter**  
March 1959 - Feb.1973

**Col. James V. Brown, Jr.**  
Feb.1973 - Oct. 1975

**Col. Russell J. Anderson**  
Oct. 1975 - Oct. 1986

**Col. Troy G. Sullivan**  
Oct. 1986 - Oct. 1989

**Col. John H. Williams**  
Oct. 1989 - Dec. 1990

**Col. Larry F. Grinrod**  
Dec 1990 – Oct. 1992

**Col. Michael Pannone**  
Oct. 1992 - Aug. 1996

**Col. Skip Widtfeldt**  
Aug. 1996 – Aug. 1997

**Col. Robert LaBelle**  
Aug. 1997 – Sept. 1997

**Col. Stephen Franklin**  
Sept 1997 – Sept. 2001

**Col. Robert Brouillette**  
Sept. 2001 – Oct. 2005

**Col. Carl Brown**  
Oct. 2005 – April 2010

**Col. Charles Palmer**  
April 2010 - Present

## Commanders Commendations 2011

Exceptional effort is highly regarded and honored. In recognition for **Operation Round House**— a Pacific Region Wide Training Mission where Alaska Wing delivered exceptional results accomplishing and executing the mission in an outstanding manner;

Lt. Col. Mike Coffing  
Lt. Col. Al Senese  
Maj. Mel Sheppard  
Capt. Phil Dean  
1st Lt. Jennifer Sherwin

The Commanders Commendation Award was also presented to each member of the team who prepared for the September 2011 **Compliance Inspection**, a process that occurs just once every three years.

Colonel Palmer cited excellent performance of operational duties, superior dedication to the mission, commitment and values exhibited instrumental in see-

ing the Wing earn a successful grade;

Lt. Col. Franklin Blodgett  
Lt. Col. Gene Moyer  
Lt. Col. Al Senese  
Lt. Col. David Thompsen  
Maj. Al Damkoehler  
Maj. Lyle Langston  
Maj. Jim McCarthy  
Maj. John Nealon  
Maj. Doug Staats  
Maj. Robert Thomas  
Capt. Glen Morthorpe  
Capt. Angie Slingluff  
1st Lt. Jennifer Sherwin  
1st Lt. Brenda Staats

★

## Certificates of Appreciation

Four Squadrons were recognized for their "Above and Beyond" services and participation with Alaska Wing activities.

The Air Force premier combat training exercise in Alaska is "Red Flag." CAP volunteer members continue to fulfill a key role aiding the USAF "Red-Flag" training for civil defense efforts.

The 9th Operations Squadron in Fairbanks, and 71st Composite

Squadron in Eielson remain the strongest supporters of safe effective joint training.

Arcturus and Polaris Composite Squadrons were both recognized for their ongoing support they provide to Alaska Wing Headquarters, with so many members willing and able to show up and represent a large percentage of the staffing during the May 2011 Guided Training Exercise.



- ◆ PCR-AK-009 Fairbanks
- ◆ PCR-AK-015 Polaris
- ◆ PCR-AK-017 Arcturus
- ◆ PCR-AK-071 Eielson

★

## Test Pilot's CAPF-120 (Recommendation for Decoration)

Captain Ed Ross demonstrates initiative, resourcefulness, and untiring efforts to achieve perfection in all phases of his duties as Assistant Maintenance Officer and chief after maintenance test pilot resulted in increased efficiency of the Alaska Wing.

Capt. Ross rarely refuses an assignment

to fly an aircraft and his outstanding skill almost always finds the smallest problem on these test flights.

With Alaska's vast distances and unforgiving terrain it is of the utmost importance that our aircraft are in top operating order before they are dispatched to our Squadrons. His keen foresight, sound judgment,

professional competence and meticulous attention to detail enables him to perform his duties in an outstanding manner.

Recommendation provided by Maj. Mel Sheppard, Director of Operations/Maintenance for Commander's Commendation, approved by Col. Palmer. ★

## Honoring Lieutenant Colonel Eddy Daly (Recommendation for Decoration)

Lieutenant Colonel Eddy Daly is currently holding the position of Deputy Commander for Cadets for Fairbanks 9th Composite Operating Squadron (COS). He is also a glider instructor, Cadet Orientation Pilot, Mission Scanner and Observer as well as a Transport Mission Pilot. He is directly responsible for a rapidly expanding cadet program, glider and O-ride operations, and maintaining mission readiness for flight operations.

Volunteering to take over the cadet program he immediately filled a large void left with the temporary loss of the past Deputy Commander for Cadets. Stepping up to the plate and taking on this role ensured no loss of leadership or continuity within the program occurred.

With no experience in this position he quickly vectored himself in the right direction to learn and help accelerate the program. Surrounding himself with key contributors he has been instrumental in the successful increase in cadet membership from three to fourteen, up 79 percent in just eight months. His participation as a glider instructor and O-ride pilot directly contributes to the core Civil Air Patrol Cadet and Aerospace Education mission. Dedicating countless hours every weekend, he is providing the instruction, leadership and positive direction critically needed by the cadets entrusted to him.

He participated in the Wing glider academy held a Clear AFB in May giving flight and ground instruction to cadets contributing to a safe and successful program. Lt. Col Daly has worked closely with members of the 9th and 71st Squadrons and the Alaska Wing to increase the number of O-

rides provided to cadets. Doing this is another key to increasing and maintaining a strong, growing cadet core.

He has participated in no less than six Red Flag missions, the Air Forces premier combat training exercise in Alaska. Flying as a Mission Observer

and Mission Pilot-in-training, his precise navigation, communication, and keen attention to detail have reflected greatly the Civil Air Patrols ability to provide realistic training for the Air Force. To date he has flown over 32 hours of real world and exercise missions combined. These mis-



**Instructor Cadre at AK Wing Glider Academy, Clear AFS/Anderson Alaska; May 2011**  
Left to right; Capt. Ed Kornfield, 2nd Lt. Ute Kaden, Lt. Col. Eddy Daly, Cadet 2nd Lt. Jennifer Coisman.

sions included searches for missing individuals near Anderson and Allakaket, GPS photo link training flights, and training flights to practice and prepare for meeting requirements for Mission Pilot qualification. He has helped develop checklists for Observers and Scanners to use during pre-flight to ensure all emergency and back up communication, navigation, and camera equipment is in the aircraft ready used during all assigned missions.

The positive leadership and devotion to mission engrained in Lt. Col Daly motivates and guides the professional attitude of other members of the Squadron. His abilities are highly respected by cadets, parents, and the staff. ★

**“Surrounding himself with key contributors he has been instrumental in the successful increase in cadet membership from three to fourteen, up 79 percent in just eight months...”**

## Honoring Captain James Low, (Recommendation for Decoration)

Captain Low is the Deputy Commander, Operations Officer, Flight Release Officer and a Mission Pilot at the 9th COS; critical duty positions that require experience.

He is directly responsible for all real world and exercise mission coordination, assigned aircraft status, tracking pilot qualifications, aircraft record keeping, maintaining mission pilot qualified, releasing flights, and coordinating with and keeping the Commander informed of significant events related to the squadron. He also is also responsible for acting for the Commander in his absence.

Over the past year he has requested, written scenarios for, and tracked the results of five search and rescue exercises. Experienced gained from his efforts include the first testing of and successful hand held radio drop mission to establish communications with ground personnel. This first test led to three subsequent successful radio drop missions and the inclusion of the needed gear into the squadron's emergency response package. He was directly involved in no less than five real world searches, two of which he flew as the mission pilot. Of the five, two involved ELT searches, both successfully located and turned off. He personally located one of the aircraft in a mountainous area and was able to drop a message to the pilot who retrieved it and silence the alarm. Capt. Low's extremely hard work has kept track of assigned pilots and aircraft ensuring the squadron has the manning and assets to meet any emergency, training, or cadet orientation flight operation. Flying nearly 400 total hours over the past year the squadron has been very active.

As the Operations Officer he reviewed every flight and associated paperwork making corrections and

informing aircrews of mistakes when necessary. As a good example to all, he took the lead on pushing aircrews to properly fill out the electronic 104 forms required to keep Air

Force and Wing leadership informed of each flight. In short, he has devoted countless hours over the past year keeping the squadron trained and always mission ready. He is has been the most called upon Flight Release Officer this year responsible for at least half of all flights flown including Red Flag missions.

As Deputy Commander he has been an integral part of the growth and mentoring process the squadron. All members, both new and old have looked to him for guidance and answers from training, to mission objectives. He was called upon a number of times over the past year to act as Commander in my absence. His demon-

strated ability to lead the squadron during those periods ensured that there was never any change in the mission status of the unit. In short, a great majority of the squadron's success is a direct reflection of the time, energy, organizational and leadership skills demonstrated day in and out by Capt. Low. ★



**Captain Jim Low**, Fairbanks Alaska. Face Book Photo used by permission.

**“In short, he has devoted countless hours over the past year keeping the squadron trained and always mission ready...”**

## Wing Conference & Ira C. Eaker Award!

For those of you who were unable to attend the 2011 Conference - it was a wonderful event - and we certainly hope you can attend in October 12-14, 2012.

Conference concentrated on foundation level courses. Three highlights were the Training Leaders of Cadets (TLC), Squadron Leadership School (SLS), and a Corporate Learning Course was also held. (CLC). Other seminars included Web Mission Information Reporting System (WIMRS) training, wing forms, how to enter them into eServices, navigating the wing and national web sites, Inspector General (IG) squadron inspections and preparation, mission

photographs and practices, and several tracks for the cadets.

We were very impressed with the Cadet Courses that took place and a special thank you to Cadet

### CAP CORE VALUES:

- ◆ Integrity
- ◆ Volunteer Service
- ◆ Excellence
- ◆ Respect

Lieutenant Colonel Victoria Beck for her coordination of classes and activities. Her dedication and professionalism is exemplary. Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell was the guest of Honor at our Saturday Night Banquet. He had the honor of pre-

senting the Eaker Award to cadet Lt. Col. Beck.

The General Ira C. Eaker Award is the fourth milestone in the cadet program. This award is earned for completion of all sixteen achievements. Approximately 100 cadets per year complete Phase IV and receive the Eaker Award.

Congratulations to Lt. Col. Beck on your accomplishments. You are a great role model for our upcoming cadets. There is no doubt you will be very successful in any career you choose. Beck is a student at U.A.A., and is already preparing for the final exam and ultimate achievement the Cadet Spaatz Award. ★



During the October 2011 Alaska Wing Banquet, the Guest of Honor, Lieutenant Governor Mead Treadwell presented Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Victoria Beck with the Ira C. Eaker Award.

## Cadet Advisory Council (CAC) Elections

During the October 2011 AK Wing Conference – the CAC had the first meeting for Fiscal Year 2012 and elected a new Chairman, Cadet Second Lieutenant Sarah Peyton.

Each Squadron has a representative on this council. The CAC meets monthly and follows an agenda dis-

cussing business within the Wing as well as the Region, and even sometimes National.

Squadron representatives have the opportunity to ask questions of Wing, bring up problems within their unit, and offer help or advice to other units. We also get reports on what their cadets are doing, what they may need, where they're struggling, and any announcements they may have.

Uniforms, orientation flights, fundraising, and recruiting and retention are some topics discussed. Minutes are distributed after each meeting by AK Wing CAC Recorder, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Lynda Bahe, Kodiak C/CC. ★

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The Cadet Advisory Council Elections Oct 2011. (Standing on left), Cadet 2nd Lt., Myles Kiefer (Past Chairman), (middle) and newly elected Chairman, Cadet 2nd Lt., Sarah Peyton, and (right) CAC Recorder, Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Lynda Bahe.



The Oct 2011 Cadet Advisory Council meeting with cadet representatives from all squadrons.



October 2011 New Chairmen Elected Cadet 2nd Lt., Sarah Peyton was selected by votes of CAC representatives.

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## Honoring Our Past!

In the late 1930s, more than 150,000 volunteers with a love for aviation argued for an organization to put their privately owned planes, and flying skills, to use in defense of their country. As a result, the Civil Air Patrol was born one week prior to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. December 1, 1941, Fiorello LaGuardia, U.S. Director of Civil Defense, signed Administrative Order No. 9 establishing the Civil Air Patrol.

Thousands of volunteer members answered America's call to national service and sacrifice by accepting and performing critical wartime missions. The contributions of Civil Air Patrol, including logging more than 500,000 flying hours and saving hundreds of crash victims during World War II.

After the war, a thankful nation understood that Civil Air Patrol could continue providing valuable services to both local and national agencies. In 1946, Presi-

dent Harry Truman signed Public Law 476 incorporating Civil Air Patrol as a benevolent, nonprofit organization.

In 1948, Congress passed Public Law 557 permanently establishing Civil Air Patrol as the auxiliary of the new U.S. Air Force. Three primary mission areas were set forth at that time: **aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services.**



Alaska Wing was Chartered in 1948. at the American Legion-Jack Henry Post when it was at 5th Avenue and G street in downtown Anchorage. The Wing Headquarters were initially at Merrill Field in an old Quonset hut. ★

## Engaging the Future!

**Visitors and New Members**  
**are always welcome**  
**to attend Squadron Meetings!**  
**Find a Squadron Near You on our**  
**Alaska Wing web site**

**We're On The Web!**  
**AKWG.CAP.GOV**



Interested in Wing Staff Meetings  
and Cadet Activities?  
Scan QR code  
Check out AK Wing Web Calendar