



Sierra Echo

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Upcoming Events:

- Feb 16—CPR, Location TBA
- Mar 16—TBA
- Apr 20—Squadron Clean up

Achievements

Mary Feik Award

Cadet Tyler Beal

Cadet Anthony Gallad

Gen Hap Arnold Award

Cadet Jonathan Mancuso

Cadet Brandon Winters

CONGRATULATIONS!!

We're on the web!
Sq72.cawg.cap.gov

Blast off! New Squadron Website Launched

By SM Shaunna Beal

As 2012 came to an end we had a former Web Designer volunteer his time to create a new website for our Squadron. Although the site is still a work in progress, it is live and you will find several helpful links and useful information there.

Need to schedule a PRB for your next promotion? Print a request form from home to submit. Have an upcoming activity that requires the form 150? The link to fill it out and print is available on the website. For your convenience, we also have the monthly schedule with UOD

available, so you'll never have to wonder "What night is PT on again?". For new cadets learning how to wear their uniform properly we have the CAP Uniform Guide available. Want to know of upcoming activities? The calendar is on the front page for your convenience.

We have many more helpful resources for you, so please go check it out for yourself at <http://sq72.cawg.cap.gov/>. We will be adding pictures and more information frequently, so check back often.

We want this to be a useful tool for our squadron and

will be working hard to add more information, but we also need your help. We're looking for suggestions of information or things you would like to find on the website. Cadets, Senior Members, parents; if you have suggestions, ideas, pictures or information you'd like to see added to the website please let us know. Your input is important and with your help we can make this a great tool for Sierra Composite Squadron 72.

Happy New Year

By Capt Erin England

December 11th was the last meeting of the year and Squadron 72 really knows how to end the year with a bang! Over 30 members, guests, and family gathered at Col England's residence to celebrate another successful year. In true Squadron 72 style there games and activities for everyone including the challenging "Wreath Toss" where cadets were tasked with tossing

marshmallows through a wreath into a bucket on the other side, the three cadets with the top score all received Starbucks gift cards. It wouldn't be a party without food which was provided by Edith England and Brenda Neto, without them we would have been one hungry bunch.

Now that we have said goodbye to another year we can look forward to a new year

with new goals and more changes. There are a few plans in the works already to make next year even better. We will complete the computer set up giving cadets and seniors access to computers on Tuesday nights, organize the supply area, and continue our recruiting efforts. Thanks to everyone for making 2012 phenomenal and I look forward to 2013!

Quarter One Goals:

Cadet Section

1. Zero (active) cadets on the 120 day non-promotion list
2. Form honor guard team, minimum of 20 min practice once a week
3. Bring Membership from 17 to 20

Senior Section

1. Have all active seniors complete one rating within the quarter
2. Recruit 2 new senior members, bringing membership from 13 to 15

101 Card

Requirements:

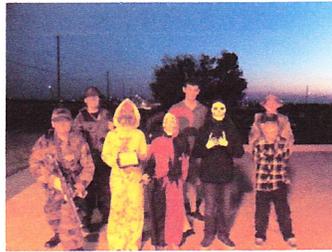
- Current membership card
- Minimum grade:
Cadets: Airman (curry award)
Seniors: SM with Level

Successful completion of the tests below (completed online)

- CAPT 116 Part 1
- CAPT 117 Parts 1-3
- FEMA IS-100

Spooktacular Halloween

By Bianca Mancuso



Cadets are ready for a spooktacular Halloween party at the squadron building.
Photo by Bianca Mancuso

Our Squadron Halloween Party was held on Tuesday night, October 30th. It was a Spooktacular Time for members, family, and friends!

Preparation started mid-morning the Sunday before the event. Captain England, SM Beal, Mrs. Fornaciari and I gathered at the Squadron with tons of Halloween décor, festive and spooky.

Our first order of business was creating an amazing maze from black plastic which we draped from the ceiling. The maze lead everyone entering through zigs and zags filled with all sorts of spooky things. After the decorating was done and the dining area was ready we wrapped things up and headed home.

As cadets arrived on the cold, dark following Tuesday night they waited, in costume, outside the Squadron. Then, we let them enter the door and walk through the maze one at a time, taking in all of the decorations and sights to see. There were spiders hanging from the ceiling, tombstones, eyes peering through office windows, and don't forget the

fog machine! Whooooo.... Everyone then entered the dimly lit (candlelight and Halloween lights) dining area. Spread on the tables along the walls were many festive potluck foods provided by all of the families that attended. Everyone feasted on the finger-foods (no, they weren't real fingers!) and sweets, and then it was time for some fun and games!

Some of the games played were group games, like musical chairs and relay races - filling a tin container with popcorn kernels carried by spoon. We also had a costume contest with fun prizes to be won! This concluded the fun filled Halloween 'Eve Party of tricks & treats for Squadron 72!

Emergency Services

By Lt Alex Lewallen

Squadron 72 strives to keep a ready and willing Emergency Services section. In order to keep this true we have many different training opportunities. These include overnight survival training activities such as Camanche, SABER, and various other search and rescue activities throughout the year.

With a large group of new cadets there is a lot more training to be done in the upcoming year. Each cadet wishing to participate in ES will need a 101 card. As the

squadron ES officer I intend to get all of these cadets familiarized with the Emergency Services mission in CAP and assist them in completing the requirements for a General ES card (101 card). Emergency services training happens every fourth Tuesday.

Please check the squadron calendar and schedule accordingly.



Cadets practice direction finding Camanche 2011
Photo by Capt Erin England

Aerospace

By SM Walt Mancuso

During the month of November, on AE night (Aerospace Education - for those newer cadets), we began the first stage of the CAP Model Rocketry program. This program is just one of many educational opportunities that are provided to cadets wishing to further their knowledge of aerospace.

Together, over the next several months, we will continue to work as a team through this Rocketry Program. Cadets will learn the science, technology, construction and flight of model rocketry. There are three stages in this program; Redstone, Titan and Saturn.

Each stage contains three parts; a written stage, log and test, and hands-on phase. We began this achievement program covering the basics of rocket history. Next will be rocket building, and safe launch and recovery, followed by the second stage of the program.

Upon successful completion of all stages, cadets are eligible for the official CAP Model Rocketry Badge. Don't miss out on upcoming AE Nights when we complete the stages of this exciting Rocketry Program!



Cadet Fornaciari sets up to launch his rocket
Photo by Capt Erin England

Aerospace Fun Facts:

1. If you look closely at the top of a jet airliners wings, you'll probably find a row of small metal tabs standing about one inch (2.5cm) tall, especially in front of the ailerons. These are vortex generators, which actually help the air follow the shape of the wing during flight by creating tiny whirlwinds over the wing. You can sometimes find vortex generators on the tail and in front of the rudder, too.
2. The windows in an airport control tower must be tilted out at exactly fifteen degrees from the vertical to minimize reflections from both inside and outside the control tower.

Safety Section: Thorough Preflight

By Capt David Johnson

How seriously do you take your preflight inspection? Do you take the time to truly check the condition of the aircraft? Preparation for flight is just as important as actually piloting the aircraft, driving a car or riding your bicycle.

I've seen pilots do extremely fast walk around. The reasons are many but the result could be inconsequential to disastrous. It could be they are behind schedule, bad weather, or even complacency.

Can you imagine taking off without one of your elevators, or a cowling missing from an engine. It has happened. When doing an aircraft walk around take your time, focus on your task, and be consistent.

If you're distracted for any reason stop and take note where you are in the preflight. Whether its exterior walk around or flight deck checklist, go back a few steps and double check. On you exterior preflight there are items to you can check and it doesn't matter the size of aircraft or what FARs you fly under.

- 1) Dents on fuselage, wings, tail, engine intakes, damaged props, or fans.
- 2) Fluids leaking from fuselage, wings, engines, landing gear.
- 3) Missing panels, cowling, flight control locks removed.
- 4) Flat or worn tires, flat landing gear struts.



How can aviation preflights apply in the everyday world? The next time you take a car, or bicycle ride apply the same idea to your vehicle. What can you check to make sure your vehicle is safe and ready for your trip?

Safety Briefings:

- Remember safety currency expires every 30 days
- Safety briefings can be completed online at eservices or on the 4th Tuesday
- If you are not current on safety you will be required to complete a briefing during the meeting before participating in the nights activities

In the Spotlight: Cadet Swanson

When did you join CAP?

I joined the Civil Air Patrol in September of 2010

How did you hear about CAP?

I had heard about the program from my father and independent research..

What are your hobbies?

I enjoy playing video games, hanging out with friends, and hunting. CAP activities are also great fun and I try to make it to all of our squadron activities.

Do you have a favorite subject in school?

I would have to say my favorite subject in school is history, but math is a close second, because they are ever-expanding fields and can actually help you more than you can imagine at times.



If you could attend any CAP activity what would it be?

If I could attend any CAP activity, it would be either National Blue Beret or the Cadet Programs Conference.

What is the best activity you have attended so far?

The best activity I have attended so far would have to be CAWG encampment, it challenged me to be a part of a team and showed me how much more a cohesive unit can accomplish than any individual.

What is your greatest accomplishment?

My greatest accomplishment would have to be when I was named the First Sergeant after one year of service, it felt like the greatest honor to be recognized for all of my work and to be given such a great responsibility as one of the junior people in the squadron at the time. It was simply awesome.

What is your number one goal?

My number one goal is to become a police officer, and the Civil Air Patrol has given me the discipline and confidence that the job requires

If you could give one piece of advice what would it be?

If I could give one piece of advice, it would be to carry a pen/pencil and a piece of paper at all times and use it, because you never know when someone is passing on their wisdom to you.

Meeting Details

Tuesday Nights at 6:30pm—9:00pm

Location: Sharpe Army Depot, Lathrop CA

* proper ID is required to get on base

Contact Us

Phone: 209-982-2401

Squadron Website:
Sq72.cawg.cap.gov

National Website:
<http://www.gocivilairpatrol.com/>