



ABENAKI NEWS



Volume 21, Issue 4

“Semper Vigilans!”

Winter 2018

WING CALENDAR

Lesley M. Lara
CAP Executive Administrator

JANUARY

- 12 SAREX Concord
- 15 Staff Applications due for Summer Academy
- 16 Commander’s Call 1900
- 19 NH Wing Awards Conf. indefinite may be postponed

FEBRUARY

- 1-3 Lyme TRAINEX Dartmouth Outing Club cabins
- 9 UCC 0800-1630 Concord NHWG
- 24--2 March Winter NCOLS Center Strafford

MARCH

- 1 CEAP Applications open for Summer Academy
- 2 Winter NCOLS ends
- 9 SLS 0830-1630 Concord
- 16 Wing Aircrew Safety Day McAuliffe-Shepard Center
- 29-31 NER Cadet Competition--CT.
- 30 Summer Academy Staff Selection

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“SEMPERVIGILANS”

COMMANDER’S CORNER

Col. Kevin N. Harbison, NHWG Commander

The end of another calendar year is fast approaching and everyone’s minds are turning to the holidays and the beginning of a new year. This has been a great year for New Hampshire Wing in so many ways. But, it has not been without its heartache in the loss of dear friends.

Once again, NHWG accrued more than 200 flying hours per aircraft. At last look we are the number two wing in the nation in pilot hours and 5th for aircraft utilization. We now have had over 200 hours per aircraft for well over 10 continuous years. This is no small undertaking and reflects the hard work that is done by aircrews and mission base staff to keep us flying. We are opening another flight base in Whitefield. We now have enough active pilots to locate an aircraft there. Thank you, Bill Moran!

Recruiting and retention were a mixed bag this year. We finished with some squadrons down by as much as 15% and others up. In the end, NHWG lost about 4% of our strength over the year. The good news is that we finished strong showing positive growth in the last quarter. Let’s focus on our spring recruiting and make sure you are running a good program. Keep involved. If you are standing around wondering what to do, I can guarantee there is something close by that needs attention. Jump in and help!

We had two significant exercises in late October and November. National held a communications exercise and NER held a Region-wide SAREX. We performed admirably on both. We were able to respond to all requests and kept our communications facilities running. Communications is going to be a significant mission for CAP. It already is exercised regularly, read weekly, and wings are evaluated on their ability to respond to communications requests. This is yet another area that you can roll your sleeves up and pitch in to help CAP be a success and fulfill its mission to support the Air Force.

Continued pg. 6

AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS

<p>EAKER AWARD Abigail DeBow Highlanders</p> <p>EARHART AWARD Elizabeth Forbush Nashua</p> <p>MITCHELL AWARD Daniel John-Zensky Concord James Kelley Highlanders</p> <p>CONCORD Nolan McKivergan C/CMSgt Cody Lucier C/TSgt Nick Angel C/SrA Victoria Burch C/SrA Josiah Hoadley C/SrA Logan Irwin C/SrA Michael Pelletier C/SrA Krysten Proksa C/A1C</p> <p>GREATER NASHUA Elizabeth Forbush C/Capt.</p> <p>HIGHLANDERS Abigail DeBow C/Lt. Col James Kelley C/2nd Lt Christian Johnson C/CMSgt Gavin Hunt C/SMSgt Ella Johnson C/Amn Hannah DeBow C/Amn</p> <p>LEBANON Sachin Kamath C/SMSgt Brianna Wilkinson C/TSgt Anna Numme C/SSgt Raven Bryant C/A1C Caden Brown C/Amn Allyson Decell C/Amn Thomas Shepard C/Amn</p>	<p>MANCHESTER Jack Foley C/CMSgt Ethan Hughes C/SSgt Elijah Dionne C/SSgt Seairah Demers C/SSgt Johannah Dillaway C/ SrA Aaron Jee C/A1C</p> <p>SEACOAST Meredith Madden C/CMSgt Anna Madden C/SMSgt Noah Robinson C/MSgt Ayla McKean C/TSgt Ethan Downs C/TSgt Jack Hatfield C/SSgt Jeffery Denton C/SSgt Christian Filteau C/SrA Tyler Mitchell C/A1C Jake Badelment C/Amn Henryk Beck C/Amn Alyssa Buttafoco C/Amn Emily Chang C/Amn Gavin Chu C/Amn Rebecca Harmon C/Amn Benjamin Kaplan C/Amn Andrew McLaughlin C/Amn Edward Priestly C/Amn Riley Quinn C/Amn Finnegan Scease C/Amn Hailey South C/Amn Anders Umholtz C/Amn</p>
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SQUADRON NEWS

Submitted by Individual Units



CONCORD COMPOSITE SQUADRON

Black FlyDay!!!

On 23 and 24 November Concord Cadets enjoyed the Thanksgiving break partaking in their first aviation flights with Civil Air Patrol. There were 6 cadets flown on Black Flyday and 5 cadets on Saturday. For many it was their first flight, while others continued their journey in aviation. Great job to our cadets and senior members that made such an event happen.

On 17 November the Concord Composite Squadron marched in the Concord NH Holiday Parade. Many cadets and senior members marched in this parade to celebrate the beginning to the holiday season. Thanks to many that have helped out with the logistics for such an event. Members also participated in the Wreaths Across America project laying wreaths at the Blossom Hill and Old Fort Cemeteries on 15 December.

GREATER NASHUA COMPOSITE SQUADRON

The squadron participated in the Nashua Veterans Day parade on 11 November. Twelve SMS attended TLC training in November. Cadets planned to attend a robotics event in Windham in December. A CPR/First Aid course is planned for 27 January and an Open House for April. Lt. Rich Levangie has taken command of the squadron and C/Capt. Elizabeth Forbush is the new cadet commander.

HAWK COMPOSITE SQUADRON

The squadron's Cyber Patriot teams are still in contention. Nine cadets completed the Great Start program and seven cadets were added to the roster. Members assisted the City of Laconia with the annual Christmas Village charity event and marched in the Light Up Laconia parade. The squadron also supported wing in the Wreaths Across America ceremony at NH State Veterans Cemetery on 15 Dec.

HIGHLANDERS CADET SQUADRON

The squadron took a third place for altitude in the wing rocket competition. Three cadets participated in the December SAREX. They also supported the Foley Memorial Race in Rochester where Cadet Folger also ran the race. A trip to the Maine Military Museum in So. Portland was enjoyed by all with veterans giving a tour of the displays. Members marched in the Rochester Christmas Parade in December. Cadets James and Ethan Kelley traveled in the WAA convoy to Arlington National Cemetery, presented the colors at several locations along the way and helped with the wreath laying at the cemetery. The squadron's annual Christmas party was held on 20 December. The squadron's spring Open House is planned for 31 January. A trip is planned for the first quarter of 2019 to the New England Air Museum. Capt. Adam Behr received his Grover Loening award recently.



Highlanders at visit to the Maine Military Museum

LEBANON COMPOSITE SQUADRON

The squadron participated in a community service project as parking marshals for One Starry Night. Former cadet commander 1st Lt. Ben Stallman returned to visit over vacation and spoke to the cadets about the USAFA, flight school and flying helicopters. An Open House was held on 29 Oct. Plans are to attend the Lyme SAREX/TRAINEX on February 1-3. A group of cadets attended the West Point Camporee back in the fall.



Lebanon members at "One Starry Night"

MANCHESTER CADET SQUADRON

The squadron recently welcomed Lt. John Mitchell as their new commander on 20 December. A Christmas party was held that evening as well. Members participated in the Manchester Veterans Day parade on 11 November.



Lt. John Mitchell taking command of Manchester Squadron

SEACOAST COMPOSITE SQUADRON

Seacoast Squadron has had a very busy fourth quarter with a BBQ in October for family and friends. The color guard presented the colors at a UNH hockey game in November. Marksmanship training continues at the Exeter Sportsman’s Club twice a month on Tuesdays. The last session saw 9 cadets working on various stages of the program. Nine cadets got first flights in November. The squadron participated in the wing rocket competition and took home a first place in duration as well as in altitude. After fundraising for several dates in November the squadron laid wreaths and conducted a brief ceremony on 15 December at the Exeter Cemetery for the fourth year. The cadet Christmas party was held on 20 December. Cadet Humphrey received a Red Service ribbon and completed Ach. 8. Cadet Robinson was chosen as Cadet of the Quarter for quarter four. The seniors will have a Post-Christmas party on 9 January at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard O’Club.



Preparing to lay ceremonial wreaths at Exeter Cemetery

WHITEFIELD COMPOSITE SQUADRON

Six members recently completed requirements for mission scanner. One senior member and three cadets are in the pipeline for joining. It is hoped an aircraft may be located at Mt. Washington Airport at some point now that there are pilots to fly it.

NH LEGISLATIVE SQUADRON

The squadron has four new members but lost three others due to the fall elections. One transferred to Concord Squadron. A new round of recruiting is planned for the squadron once the legislature is back in session, with several cadets and seniors attending a session in Concord.

Commander's Corner continued

Lt Col Mike Hall went to Indiana on very short notice to participate in CAPs "Train the Trainer" program for our new Small UAV program. This program is apart and separate from our AE STEM program that uses UAVs. This program will directly support ES and other missions that the Air Force has in mind. This program will be standing up through the next year. So keep your ears and eyes open and jump in to help.

We will hold our wing conference on 19 January. Details will be published shortly. There will be several break-out sessions along with our annual awards. I look forward to seeing each of you there. In the meantime, have a safe and happy holiday season. Thank you again for a great year and may next year be even better!

Col. Kevin Harbison, Commander

Senior Member Promotions

Mark Wendling, Capt. Lebanon

Jan Kratochvil, Capt. Lebanon

Michelle Wegner, Capt. Seacoast

Heidi Salvail, 1st Lt. Lebanon

++ IN MEMORIAM ++

Col. Rita Carter, former cadet member of the Keene Squadron, served as Comm. Officer at NHWG for many years. She received a Congressional Gold Medal for her participation in CAP during WWII. She also received the Distinguished Service Medal promotion to Colonel and a Life Membership in CAP after her 50 years of service.

Thoughts from Chaplain Gary:

One of the most difficult tasks a chaplain or clergy person can ever have is to console family members after a suicide. Thoughts of grief and of guilt (why didn't we see this/ what could we have done) comingle in the souls of family members and there are no answers... only the consolation of presence and support.

Civil Air Patrol Senior Members and Cadets are not immune from the challenges of life situations that create great stress and can tragically cause individuals to carry out this irreversible act. The CAP Chaplain Corp has been tasked to present programs on the topic of "Resilience" to strengthen ourselves; I feel it a most worthy program and am proud to present it to the members of Seacoast Squadron. If for some reason you were not present on October 25, please contact me so that I can give you some of the material.

It is challenging to take on the difficult task of addressing the specter of suicide that our members face. General Smith, National Commander, has created a broad multi-discipline approach that used experts from operations, cadet programs, health services and the chaplaincy. A National Task Force for Resiliency and Suicide Prevention was created. He writes that the plan created "exceeded my expectations."

The second part of the program was the recently carried out unit-wide October Down Day. The intent of this Down Day was for all of us to pause our normal activities in order to reflect on the subject of wellness and resiliency. The audience was broadened to include not just our cadets, but our senior members and interested family members as well. The goal, familiarizing this broader audience to the CAP Five Pillars of Wellness and Resilience program, is to ensure that all of us are made stronger to face life's stresses.

If you know anyone who seems to be "at risk," reach out to that person... many support resources are available. It may be as real a saving of life as any of the Emergency Services Missions that we carry out.

AF Secretary Heather Wilson accepting Congressional Gold Medal for her grandfather George G. “Scotty” Wilson who served CAP during WWII.



National Commander Maj. General Smith with Secretary Wilson

Wilson was a pilot for CAP in NH during WWII, a member of the Keene Squadron and a former NH Wing Commander. He flew for the courier service out of Grenier Field in Manchester as a member of Tow Target Unit No. 5 based at Otis Field in Falmouth, MA. He served as NHWG Commander after the war from 1948 to 1952.

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Did you know that Abenaki means “People of the Dawn”