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NEWSLETTER OF
LEWIS COUNTY COMPOSITE SQUADRON 46110
WASHINGTON WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL

Commander's Call

Al King, Maj., CAP, Commander of Lewis County Composite Squadron

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“Some people are always grumbling because roses have thorns. I am thankful that thorns have roses.” -- Allophones Karr

With these words, I have stepped in as your INTERIM Commander. The emphasis is quite appropriate as my commitment to both the Group and Wing Commander was 4 to 6 weeks. I firmly believe that there will be no reason for me to continue beyond the end of February.

Why the quote, and what happened to Fire Mountain?

Because I was asked to take this short-term position to help the reconstituted Lewis County Composite Squadron, WA110 move ahead, not dwell in the past. I am working with Senior Staff to correct some of the issues that led to this change, and to set the stage for the next permanent commander to move forward in a positive manner. Other issues are outside the purview of either the current squadron members, or me and our only course is to move forward as a unit, with resolve to build upon the great traditions that come with you.

While I recognize this will not answer all of your questions, it is important to acknowledge the changes and to move forward for the benefit of the squadron members, parents, and the community that you serve. The people who made up Fire Mountain Composite Squadron are, to a very great extent, the same great people who make up Lewis County Composite Squadron. Your resources and great attitude are what set you apart, not a name. As for me, I look forward to the roses blooming in the spring, even when I'm pruning the thorns in the fall!

So who is this Al King guy?

Most of you probably do not know me other

than as a name you may have heard through the flying and emergency services side of the program. I have been a member of the Olympia Squadron, Civil Air Patrol since 1987. Some of you may know that Olympia also went through a name change several years ago, and is now the South Sound Composite Squadron. As you might guess, that caused some angst among the squadron members at SSCS. However, SSCS is going to be at the top of your competition in 2006 for Best Squadron!

I have been actively engaged in the program during that entire time, moving from Senior Member to the rank of Major, having been Deputy Commander for Cadets when my sons were in the program, to Commander (at which time OCS earned Best Squadron!), and now am active as Operations Officer, SAR Pilot, Form 5 and Form 91 Check Pilot. So, if you fly, we will almost certainly cross paths, perhaps soon! My wife Linda has also been active in the program over the years, and is my best Scanner.

Outside CAP, I am a father of two sons, both of whom were members. One, Troy continued into the United States Army, is a Staff Sergeant, Military Policeman, stationed at Fort Richardson, Alaska, and currently serving in Afghanistan. Linda is a retired Registered Nurse, and together we now thoroughly enjoy our three grandchildren. I am a licensed Professional Engineer, Civil, and have worked in transportation for over 30 years. My career has included stints

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Cadets!

Please have your parent or guardian sign here to indicate that they have received and read the FIREBALL.

Parent Signature:

Cadets should bring a signed FIREBALL with them to the first drill after they receive it.

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as a County Public Works Director and Assistant Secretary of the Washington State Department of Transportation. Currently I work at another state agency, the County Road Administration Board. The obvious outside tie to CAP is that I am also a Commercial Pilot and Certified Flight Instructor.

Why am I here at LCCS?

A fair question since I've not been a member of this squadron. I cannot speak for either Lt. Col. Lewis, or Col. Schnabler, but I've known both for many years, and consider it an honor to be asked to serve in this capacity. My experience with both of them has been that they both work hard to be scrupulously fair, and try to give their best for the benefit of CAP and you, the members who make it all happen. That is my goal as well.

I believe the primary reason I was asked to serve in this capacity is that I can do so as a fair neutral party. Further, that I've served in many capacities in a successful squadron gives me the ability to look ahead a bit, to help train new staff and keep the squadron moving in a positive direction.

My primary mission is to assure that any issues that may bar your way to success are addressed promptly and fully, and you can proceed as needed. For most of you, particularly the Cadets, it will be virtually invisible to you. The Cadet programs should proceed

with the only change being to the squadron name and patches.

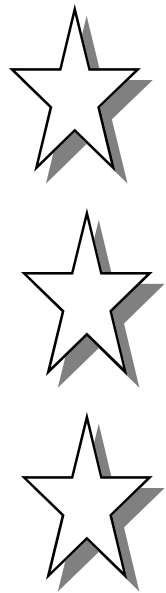
What is the future of LCCS?

This is the easiest question of all! It is bright indeed! You have a superb core of both Cadet and Senior members. They are among the best leaders that Civil Air Patrol has to offer anywhere. Along with that, you have great enthusiasm, again both in the Cadet and Senior programs. You have extraordinary support from parents and your community. Finally, you have great traditions to build upon, and from which to build new traditions under the new banner.

With your great tradition of maintaining a **110%** attitude, I say to the entire squadron and community, as I did to senior staff; *I fully expect that Lewis County Composite Squadron, WA110, will be recognized as the Best Squadron in Washington Wing for 2006.*

**CIVIL
AIR
PATROL**

***Drug Free
and
Proud!***



January Cadet Promotions—110%

These Cadets Earned their Curry Award and their Airman Rank

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| ● Eli Spencer | Theresa Glenn | Thomas Witt |
| ● Paul Anderson | Josiah Beresford | Robert Marlow |
| ● Elizabeth Witt | Kerry Hoksbergen | Jonathan Peterson |
| ● David Figueroa | Benjamin Witt | Dustin Day |
| ● Tiffany Wehnau | Kayla Hughes | Brandon Witt |
| ● David Jackson | | |

Emergency

SERVICES

As a spoken formality to the members of our squadron, I wish to say that it is an absolute pleasure to train you in Emergency Services. When I joined Civil Air Patrol, the very first activity I attended was an Emergency Services Training event that our squadron was hosting. I think that weekend laid out a course for my CAP career, and I find it encouraging that it will also be a rudimentary part of

“That we may learn, and others may live”

By C/SMSGt. Jonathan Shea Emergency Services Specialist

your time in CAP.

At one time, our squadron was sharp and proficient at search & rescue, but as we practiced less, our skills were dulled. As we progress into 2006, now is the time to relearn those skills. Recently, the term “saber” was used to represent the idea of “forging new cadets”, a challenge that has been accomplished. Now, we will use it again as we rise to the occasion and face a new challenge,

“honing the saber’s edge”.

In the next three months, we will train to complete the requirements for basic Ground Team Member. We will train in environments realistic to actual missions, such as forests and urban areas. We will use all resources available to accomplish tasks set before us. We will conduct all missions with uncompromised safety, and most important, we will have



fun and learn from each other.

I look forward to working with you all as we sharpen our “saber” so that, once again, we can be of service to our community, state, and nation.

FORTY SEVEN SENIORS AND CADETS COMPLETE FIRST AID COURSE

As members of CAP, we are often called upon to perform in any number of emergencies. An important part of being prepared for an emergency is being trained in first aid. On 14 January, forty seven cadets and seniors received first aid and CPR training. Major Ken Rollins and Keith Shepard from the PeEll fire department taught the class. Three different areas of first aid were covered:

1. Identifying and caring for people who are ill.
2. Identifying and caring for people injured in accidents.
3. Identifying and caring for people involved in different environmental hazards.

The last portion of the class covered CPR. All students were required to perform CPR on the Fire Department manikins before they could pass the class. All the members of our squadron who attended passed and will receive their first aid card. This is an important step toward having cadets who are ground team certified.



Instructor Keith Richards looks on as Cadet Simons and Cadet Jackson perform CPR.



Cadet Ian White performs CPR on a dummy.



Civil Air Patrol

Websites of interest for Cadets:
 National CAP Website
 (Check out the National encampments! You must sign up for them by the end of Dec.)
<http://www.cap.gov/>
 Washington CAP Website
<http://www.wawg.cap.gov/>
 Capmart
<http://www.capmart.org/>



We are working on a squadron website that will allow cadets to find information about upcoming events, forms, and other information. Check us out at:
<http://www.firemountaincap.org>



SENIOR TRAINING SCHEDULE

THURSDAYS IN FEBRUARY

6:30 pm— YOUTH LODGE

DATE	TOPIC
Feb. 2	Business Meeting:
Feb. 9	Pilot's Meeting & AE
Feb. 16	Training-Communications
Feb. 23	Command Team Planning

Important Dates—Add to your Calendar TODAY!

February 18 - All Day Radio Training Class (BCUT). This class is being held in Vancouver, WA, so the van will be used to transport cadets and seniors.

March 10—12 - Cadet Competition at Camp Murray, WA

March 11 and 12 - Group 3 SAREX - Location and details to be announced.

June 9, 10, and 11 - The 50th Basic Marksmanship Encampment in Centralia Cost - \$75. Apply as soon as possible with Form 23 and 24 completely filled out and signed. Be sure to also apply for scholarships!

Standby for more info on the following:

April 7, 8, and 9 - Spring Conference in Bellingham.

June 10 - 11 Training Leaders of Cadets at Camp Murray

July 12 - 23 - Flight Encampment, Ephrata, WA

July 26 - August 4 - Camp Murray, WA Cost - \$140

PLEASE NOTE: Deadline for articles is on the 15th of the month. Schedules must be in by the 20th. Send to the editor at Grpete@centurytel.net The Fireball is an unofficial newsletter, published monthly in the interest of the members of Lewis Co. Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol. Opinions expressed by the publishers and writers are their own, and are not to be considered official expressions of CAP or the Air Force. Advertisements in this publication do not constitute an endorsement by CAP or the Dept. of the Air Force of the products or services advertised.