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Commander's Corner

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Change In the Lewis County Composite Squadron

It has been said that the only thing in life that never changes is the FACT that EVERYTHING changes. Change can be disappointing, scary, frustrating and down right hard to deal with. Often change can be exciting, wonderful and challenging (in a positive way). When things change you have choices to make in how you are going to “deal” with the changes.



The exciting, wonderful, and challenging changes make the choices easier to make but they still must be made. The hard part comes when the changes are difficult to cope with or affect you in a way that you at first perceive as negative. As you work your way through life it will become very important how you deal with change, whether it is good change or bad.

The choices you make as change and challenges come along will affect your life and the lives of those around you. You need to work into your life a process to evaluate changes as they occur in your life and try to decide how you can make the most of the change. This is not to say you should be a self-ish decision maker and only think of yourself. In fact, it means thinking the change through fully, weighing all the factors that will come into play during the change. Not only for you but for other people also.

As we begin to utilize the new T.O. (Table of Organization) we will see many changes and challenges. You need to work through any problems you have in a logical way and when you can not find the answer find someone with more experience and talk to them about it. Questions and discussion can solve a lot of problems before they become huge issues.

The big challenge for us as a Squadron, as we continue to grow, will be communication and utilizing the calling tree system. This is going to be a huge change for us as a Squadron. When you have the responsibility to make a call and pass on important information it is vital that you carry out that mission.

Change is a good thing. The new T.O. will help us to get more information out sooner to our TEAM and in turn allow us to get on with our training that will allow us to perform our missions for America!

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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.

Integrity - Abstract Idea, or Essential Life Skill?

Afterburner - C/Capt David Peterson

Hey everyone, good to talk to you all again! One of the most confusing concepts that I have experienced in my career is that of integrity - and I'll do my best to explain it. Integrity is briefly summed up in another abstract word that is a little more common; honor. Integrity is your own satisfaction of knowing that you are doing the right thing, and presenting yourself as an upstanding individual.

Integrity can be gained and lost by the simplest of actions, so any leader or follower must be very careful in his or her actions. Integrity is gained by always being honest, and more importantly, by putting the good of others above your own. Integrity is lost by letting down others and by taking actions with the intention of only benefiting yourself. For instance, assume two cadet NCOs, C/TSgt Jones, and C/MSgt Smith. C/TSgt Jones does all he can to promote, knowing that he has a better chance of getting encampment flight sergeant as a Sr. NCO and being a good example to the cadets in his own squadron. Now C/MSgt Smith also does all he can to promote, but only so that he can put another ribbon onto his blues and look better in the parades that the squadron participates in.

Looking at these two examples, both having the exact same actions, which is showing integrity, and which cadet is not? Obviously, C/MSgt Smith is losing his integrity, only wanting to make himself look good. As a cadet, you are always reinforcing or breaking down your integrity. By doing the right thing at all times, no matter who is looking, and no matter whether you get credit or not, you are building up integrity. This goes for actions anywhere, not just CAP. In school, respecting those with authority over you will build up your integrity. Another thing that will build up a sense of integrity is the ability to stand up for yourself and create respect. Being able to convince others of your ideas will create respect, and sometimes that must be done forcefully. I would take the example of a school bully in this case. Being able to stand up for yourself will create respect; do not bow down to the whims of those who think they are better than you simply because they are older or just because they are a higher grade or rank.

Simply put, integrity is an inward respect for yourself and the ability to make honest actions and decisions that you can stand behind. Perfect this skill, and you will build your confidence, gain respect, and learn skills that can be put to use in any career you will ever pursue, in CAP or the civilian world. Integrity will carry your reputation no matter how far you go and what you do, so make sure you have a sense of integrity that others will see and respect - give it your all - 110%!!

July Promotions—110% All The Way!

- Ashley Lobb - C/SMSgt to C/2d Lt
- Elizabeth Witt - C/SSgt to C/TSgt
- Josiah Beresford - C/SSgt to C/TSgt
- Thomas Whalen - C/SSgt to C/TSgt
- Jonathan Peterson - C/SrA to C/SSgt
- Karrie Hoksbergen - C/A1C to C/SrA
- Ashly Mowry - C/AB to C/Amn



**CIVIL
AIR
PATROL**

*Drug Free
and
Proud!*





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/>
 The Hock Shop (For Uniforms)
<http://www.thehock.com/>



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 AUGUST

6:30 pm— SCOUT LODGE
At 3rd and Adams
Chehalis, WA

DATE	TOPIC
Aug. 3	Business & Finance Meeting
Aug. 10	Senior Training
Aug. 17	No Thursday Meeting
Aug. 24	Command Team Planning

Important Dates—Add to your Calendar TODAY!

For More Info, go to www.wawg.cap.gov. Click on Members. Under Members, click on Cadet Programs. All the info is there! If you have any questions about events (price, how to apply, etc) call your 'higher-ups', and they can help you out! That's what they are there for!

15 - 21 August : SW Washington Fair - Please do not miss this! We need help from every cadet. Our job at the fair is to look for lost children. We use teams of cadets to patrol the fair and do hasty searches when the need arises. Please choose at least one 4 hour shift, preferably 3 or 4. Remember, you will get a pass to get into the fair free to pull your shift. Afterwards, you are free to change and enjoy the rest of the day at the fair. This is one of the activities that is deemed one of the most fun by many cadets.

19 August : Cadet Maj Matt Hall and Cadet Lt Holly Burlingame will be married. All of LCCS is invited. See article inside for details.

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.