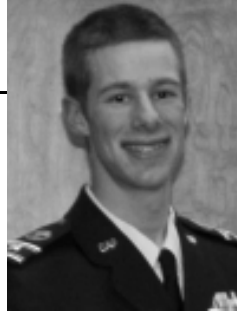




December Issue 2006



AFTERBURNER BY C/MAJ DAVID PETERSON OUR NOW AND TOMORROW



Hello cadets and officers! Well, as some of you know, and as the rest of you may not know, I will be leaving the position of Cadet Commander at the banquet at the end of January. But I won't be leaving, not even remotely! I will be assuming the position of Motivation Phase Flight Commander!

Okay, that's what I'm doing, but what about everyone else? What is your job, those not in the direct motivation phase staff, during this time? Plain and simple, it is to recruit. Encourage your friends to join, or at least to come and check us out. Here are some simple guidelines for encouraging someone to come.

- It is not the military. Although we are members of the USAF Auxiliary, you are not required to even *consider* joining the military just because of CAP.
- There is something for everyone. For those Aerospace buffs, you can get a pilot's license easier than anywhere else. For those into Search and Rescue, well that part is obvious. There will be those who want a head start for a military career, and this is where they can get it. There's also shooting, C-17s and Blackhawk Helos, hot air balloons, the USAF uniforms, international exchange programs, color guards, rifle teams, and the list pretty much goes on forever.
- All this stuff looks good on resumes. Some people naturally like to excel, and this program is one way to do that, both for instant benefits and for those further down the road.
- Girls can join too. Sometimes, cadets talk only about the macho things like the helicopters and rocket launchers (yes, I have gotten to shoot an M72-A2 LAW shoulder-fire launcher...), but that's not all there is. Be sure to keep that in mind when talking to any one who may be interested.
- Don't just start with the generic, "in CAP we have three missions: AE CP and ES and you can do SAREX's and FTX's and you can get to C/Col and...." Because a) they probably were lost on about the 4th or 5th word, and b) they might not care about half of that stuff anyway. Find out what the person's interests are and figure out how CAP might be interesting to them!

If you need any tips or help, make sure you have the phone number of someone they can go to for more info! Mine works (245-3960 and 880-2090). I have been all over the country and state many times, and I have lots of good stories. With everyone's work, this will be an awesome motivation phase, and we will continue to be WAWG's example of a great squadron. I have every faith in you guys. Even though I am stepping down as commander, I am proud to have served, and will continue to proudly serve alongside you all. You have been the reason that I liked my job so much. Keep up the 110% All the Way!

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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.

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Utilizing Our Most Important Resource - TIME

As we move our Squadron into the new year, it is important to keep ourselves organized. Our time is our most precious resource, and we need to be constantly be working toward utilizing that resource more efficiently. Many people use their memory to keep track of active projects, things they need to do, and commitments they've made. They behave as if their brain is a computer capable of storing and recalling every detail of their work and personal life.

The reality is that our brain is not like a computer at all. When you rely on your memory to “**remind**” you of things you are working on, commitments you've made, things that still need to be done, or where you need to be at some future time, you are putting a tremendous strain on it. This is increasingly true as our work shifts away from the predictable routine of manual work into the highly variable knowledge work. Your memory is just not made for storing and recalling this type of information. Your brain has to work extra hard to try to remember all these things, and there is a point at which it cannot handle it any more. This is where the common feeling of anxiety comes from. Relying on your memory to keep track of your projects and tasks is a worst practice for several reasons:

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