



June/July Issue 2009

LCCS Members Participate in Wing SAR Eval

1st Lt Ruth Peterson

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) members of the Washington Wing spent two weeks in June training to respond quickly and effectively to a variety of emergencies. CAP is the civilian auxiliary of the Air Force and is under the authority of the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center to perform tasks that support local, state, and federal agencies. Washington Wing was tested this week by exercise scenarios created by an Air Force team, and they were evaluated on how they were able to respond. Tasks were varied and included a non-emergency request for aerial photographs of important infrastructure in Western Washington, aerial photography that accompanied an imagined Homeland Security emergency, a lost hiker, and several aircraft that had been reported missing.



1st Lt Terry Williams returns from a search sortie at the 2009 SAR Eval

During the first portion of the exercise, dubbed Silver Viper, CAP pilots were asked to fly missions over the state taking high quality photographs of important structures in Western Washington. This mission not only provided critical practice for CAP air crews, but the resulting photographs will be available to authorities who are planning for future events such as the Olympic Games being held in Vancouver, B.C. The scenario became more complex when a few days into the exercise there was an imagined discovery of a terrorist threat against an event where large numbers of people might gather. The air crews then had a new and more urgent list of structures to photograph in Washington and to the south as far as Ashland Oregon. The CAP Wings in both states were able to cooperate to get the photographs taken and sent to the Washington State Emergency Management Department.

The scenario tasking for the final weekend of the Silver Viper Exercise required staffing a Mission Base at the Pierce County Airport in Puyallup, WA. Over 60 CAP members were on hand to coordinate the various emergencies that were ongoing. On Friday evening, CAP was notified that there was a

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C/2d Lt Jonathan Shea and C/SSgt Arnie Yoder use equipment used to locate downed aircraft.

supposed aircraft that had been missing for several hours. An aircraft was immediately dispatched to search the route that the pilot was thought to have taken. When the aircraft was not found, the search had to be suspended until daylight Saturday morning. Early the next morning, the CAP search flights resumed, and several hours later, some possible wreckage was spotted in an area near Enumclaw. The aircraft was then able to direct two CAP ground teams into the area where the crash site was discovered and the acting pilot was found “safe and sound”.



Capt Whalen was joined by LCCS cadets Wolfe, Shea, and Yoder for SAR Eval ground team missions. The incredible views in the search area setting was a bonus!

The same morning, it was discovered that a Boy Scout had been missing from his group since the previous evening. CAP ground crews used their search skills to discover the young man in the woods near where he had been camping. It was another successful find for CAP.

Soon after the missing hiker and pilot were found, there was a call about another missing aircraft in Eastern Washington near Walla Walla. CAP pilots were dispatched from the Walla Walla area and an Urban Direction Finding

(UDF) team started along the route that the missing aircraft would have taken. Within a few hours, the UDF team located the electronic signal from the “downed aircraft”, and they were able to hike in and find the missing pilot.

Other missions completed by CAP during the weekend included air transportation of some very critical equipment from the Pierce County Airport to Hoquiam and several other aerial photo requests. Training also included some unexpected incidents at the Mission Base including a simulated fire, a missing person, and simulated weather problems.

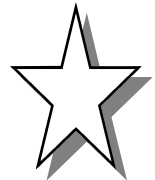
After the successful completion of two weeks of training and unexpected twists and turns in the emergency scenarios, the members of Civil Air Patrol’s Washington Wing demonstrated their ability to respond to emergencies in their local communities as well as for the entire state and Pacific Region. The Air Force Evaluation Team gave Washington Wing a grade of outstanding, the highest score possible. Civil Air Patrol has been in existence since 1941, and its mission has always been to stand ready to help in times of emergency and disaster. The outstanding performances by the members of Washington Wing prove that they are ready to fulfill that mission today.



While Pilots, Air Crews, and Ground Teams worked out in the field to accomplish the assigned missions, there were over 30 CAP members working at the Mission Base to provide oversight.

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The Flower bowl Sales were a huge Success! Thank you to all the cadets, families, and senior members who helped to sell them. It is a lot of work, but it is a great fund raiser for our squadron.



ROCKET WEEKEND!!!

Capt Eric Corder, LCCS AEO

Lewis County Composite Squadron, you missed one exciting weekend! Well, all but seven of you. Congratulations to Cadets Bartlow, Bell, Carlson, Denton, Z. Hail, Sibitzky, and Voorhis. These fine cadets struggled through the tough academic requirements and then persevered through the grueling Rocket Weekend. During this harsh weekend they built and flew no less than four of their own rockets – Fizzy Flyers up to two stage monsters. Further, they observed some fine cinematic offerings (watched movies) while eating popcorn. After launching dozens of single and double stage rockets, we capped the weekend off with the three-stage behemoth with a purported altitude of 2,600 ft. We saw this for ourselves – it was awesome! I will see all, and I mean *all*, of you next time.



August Birthdays

- **CITSGt Kayla Hughes**
- **Capt John Pope**
- **Capt Gil White**

- Cadet Ellen Lamphere**
- CIA1C Tiffany Wehnau**

- CISSGt Jake Maderis**
- 1st Lt Rita Whalen**

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/>



The LCCS squadron website is filled with pictures, articles, information, and important links. Check us out at:

www.lewiscountycap.org



OFFICER DRILL SCHEDULE

THURSDAYS IN AUGUST

6:30 pm— SCOUT LODGE

At 3rd and Adams
Chehalis, WA

DATE	TOPIC
Aug. 6	Drill & Ceremony
Aug. 13	Drill & Ceremony
Aug. 20	Senior Training
Aug. 27	Cadet Programs

Important Dates—Add to your Calendar TODAY!

If you have any questions about events (price, how to apply, etc) call your 'higher-ups', and they can help you out!

1-2 August - Chehalis Air Fair - Saturday morning 9:00 am for set-up at the Chehalis Airport. ES & AE classes on Saturday. Sunday, cadets will be helping with the Air Fair. This is an overnight event, so be prepared!

8 August - ES day. Be ready to have some fun from 0800 - 2000.

15-21 August - Summer Encampment. Get you applications in NOW!!

18-23 August - Southwest Washington Fair. Everyone who is not attending the encampment needs to be available for at least one shift at the fair.

September is the start of the school year, and we tend to slow down a bit after that. We are planning on a field trip toward the end of September so stay tuned!

Be sure to check the website on a regular basis to find out about upcoming events, calling tree, and a multitude of other great resources.

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

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