November 2020

Alaska Wing Public Affairs Update

PUBLIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER OF THE THE CIVIL AIR PATROL, ALASKA WING

Photo: Lt. Vickie Mackie

Established in 1941, Civil Air Patrol is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and as such is a member of its Total Force. In its auxiliary role, CAP operates a fleet of 560 single-engine Cessna aircraft and 1,550 small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) and performs about 90% of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center. Members serve as mentors to about 25,000 young people participating in CAP's Cadet Programs. One of the premier public service organizations in America, CAP benefits the nation with an estimated economic impact of $209 million annually. Visit www.CAP.News or www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com for more information.

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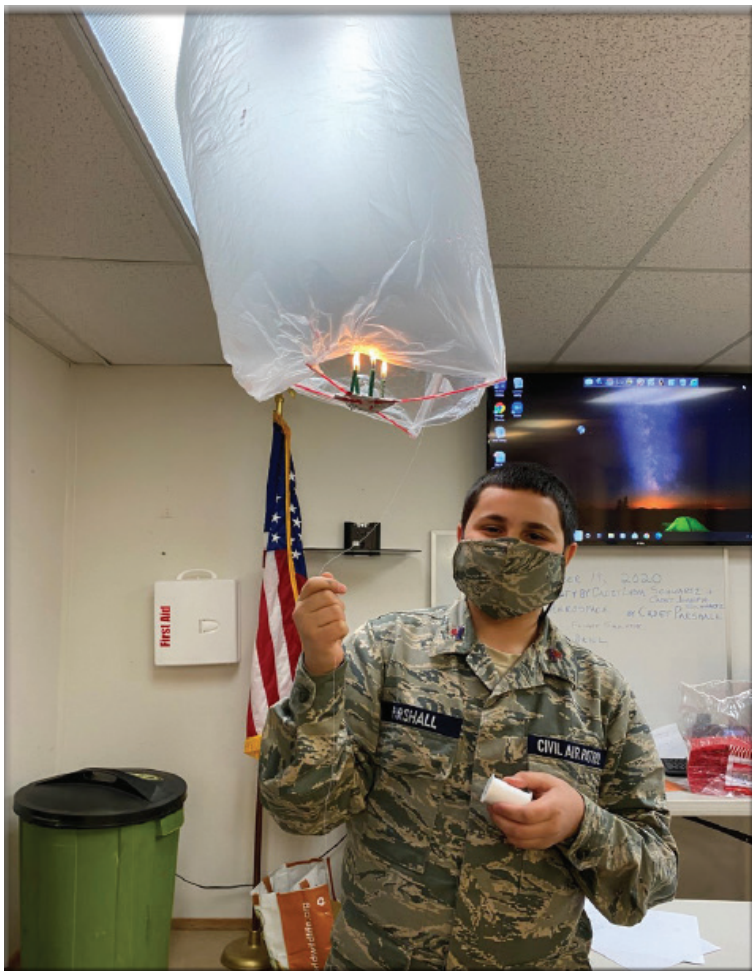
AK-011 Kenai

Kenai Cadets continue to display perseverance and responsible work every week. At each weekly meeting they administer health screenings to all who enter our cadet building, take temperatures and wear masks. The tasks are done efficiently and they take pride in guaranteeing a healthy environment.

A recent Cadet promotion was awarded to: C/SrA Andrew Parshall. We're very proud of him.

Cadets participated and presented in required Safety, Aerospace, Character Development, and Leadership meetings. One of the most educational, hands-on activities was presented by Cadet Andrew Parshall. He taught us how to make hot air balloons that could fly inside our classroom. First, he presented the history which included the Nov. 21, 1783 1st Flight in France which carried a rooster, duck, and sheep. It flew 500 feet up for 25 minutes. On Dec. 1, 1783 the first gas balloons flew.



Materials for the homemade hot air balloons consist of: medium size plastic bag, 3"x3" aluminum foil, 2 straws, 4 birthday cake candles, and hand held fire starter. Cadets made their hot air balloons. Adults and cadets lit the candles. When the air got warm, the balloon went up in the air. It was pretty amazing.

After their observations and feedback, we decided to continue the project the next week. They scientifically changed materials and procedures to create better flying air balloons. It was hands on, scientific, and just plain fun.

Cadet presentations continue to get better and better. Thank you to Mrs. Parshall for her assistance in supervising, and computer work.

AK-015 Polaris

The squadron was very busy, making the most of the time we had before we started going back into virtual meetings.

Our last meeting of the month was focused on Aerospace. We watched and discussed 'Sully,' the true story of the famous landing of an A320 Airbus on the Hudson, known as the "Miracle on the Hudson."

We did PT at Wendler Middle. After the needed testing, there were some fun physical activities. Fortunately we kept warm despite that it was below freezing.

On the night that Polaris met at the Hangar Two on base for Emergency Services, We worked on search lines, compass headings and survival skills. We also got a special treat and were able to visit some of the Marine F-35B's that were transiting through JBER. We had both F-22's and F-35's in the same hanger. We were able to compare the US's two stealth fighters.

Polaris welcomes three new members to the Civil Air Patrol, Michael Bradley, Creed Cvancara and Jared Conner.
Three Polaris cadets were promoted this month, from left to right; Rachel Anderson became a TSgt, Logan Sabo became an Amn,

AK-017 Arcturus

RCC Mission 20-0116: On October 19, Arcturus Squadron participated in this mission along with Polaris and Birchwood crews. The previous evening, a person on the north side of Cook Inlet reported seeing what appeared to be the tail of an aircraft sinking in the inlet abeam Birchwood Airport (BCV). The FAA had a primary radar contact disappear from their screens around the same time and place, which added further credence to the observer's sighting. An H-60 from Elmendorf searched that evening, and CAP aircrews and an Anchorage Fire Department boat crew picked up the search after daylight the following morning. Jim McCarthy, Steve Prindle, and Denise Saigh crewed Arcturus's C206 and did a creeping line search of the inlet. No aircraft wreckage was spotted, but we did sight a pod of Beluga whales stranded on the mud flats by the receding tide. We reported our find to NOAA and they eventually confirmed that the whales were all able to escape when the tide came back in overnight. The mission served as a reminder to take the squadron's Nikon D7100 camera on all of our flights. It would have provided much better photos of the whales (right), which was taken with a cell phone camera.

Orientation Flight: C/Amn Willow Oberle is shown above on October 17, ready to launch on her orientation flight in the Schweizer SGS 2-33 with orientation pilot, Capt Jason Mellerstig. (Face masks were momentarily lowered for the photo opportunity).

Cadet Promotions: On October 20, six Arcturus cadets received promotions. Danica and Lewis Angaiak were promoted to C/A1C; Adrienne and Andrew Martin were promoted to C/TSgt, Carson Bourget was promoted to C/SMSgt, and Kiara Vera was promoted to C/1Lt.

AK-027 Delta

https://www.facebook.com/bigdeltacap/

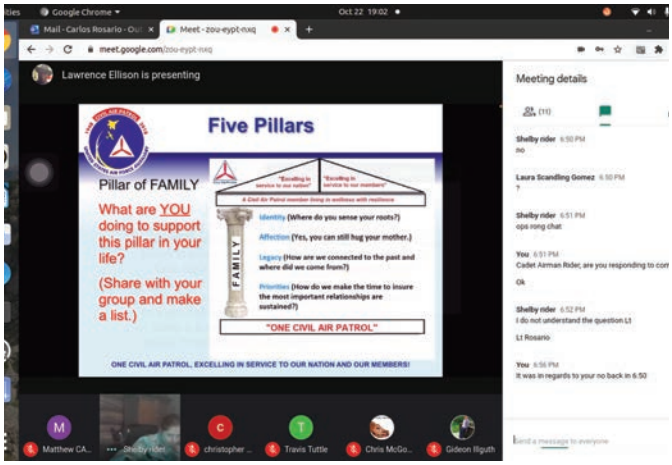
Recognition goes to 1st Lt Jacob Baugh for receiving 2 Commander's Commendation Awards for his work as AKWG Public Affairs Officer and at the 2020 Cadet Competition.
C/2dLt Luke Schmidt was nominated for the AKWG Junior Cadet Officer of the Year award. He also was awarded a Commander's Commendation Special Cadet Aviation Recognition Award for his solo at the 2020 Powered Flight Academy NCSA.

The squadron was selected as a first-time recipient of the CAP Quality Cadet Unit Award. A huge thank you to everyone in the squadron for their contributions to make this happen!
C/MSgt James Fox received the Red Service Ribbon for 2 years service in CAP. C/2dLt Luke Schmidt was awarded the Civil Air Patrol Recruitment Ribbon with 1 device for recruiting 5 new members to CAP.

Maj Houghton, Commander leads the cadets in the character lesson about Gratitude.
C/2dLt Luke Schmidt presented an aerospace lesson on flight take-off this month, which included instruction on the flight simulator for each cadet. He also instructed the cadets in writing a resume and letter of application, and detailed the responsibilities expected in the squadron's leadership positions.

On Election night, the squadron watched videos about the process and had a lengthy discussion regarding voting and elections. Capt K. Schmidt virtually attended the NVWG PAO Academy this month. Plans for the remainder of the month include participation in the AKWG quarterly ES UDF training, as well as Level 1 introductory training for new SMs. The squadron hopes to do some powered flight training as well as a Promotion Push event sometime in the near future. Cadets are readying their resumes and letters of application for various cadet leadership and service positions in the squadron for the next calendar year. Discussion of the duties has generated great enthusiasm in the cadets. Squadron meetings are held on Tuesday nights, 1830-2100, in the Family Medical Center basement in Delta Junction.

AK-071 Eielson



Keeping CAP activities going and the members connected during COVID-19 times are priorities at the 71stsquadron.

1Lt Carlos Rosario leads the cadet program and focuses on interesting ZOOM meetings and health protection during in person activities.

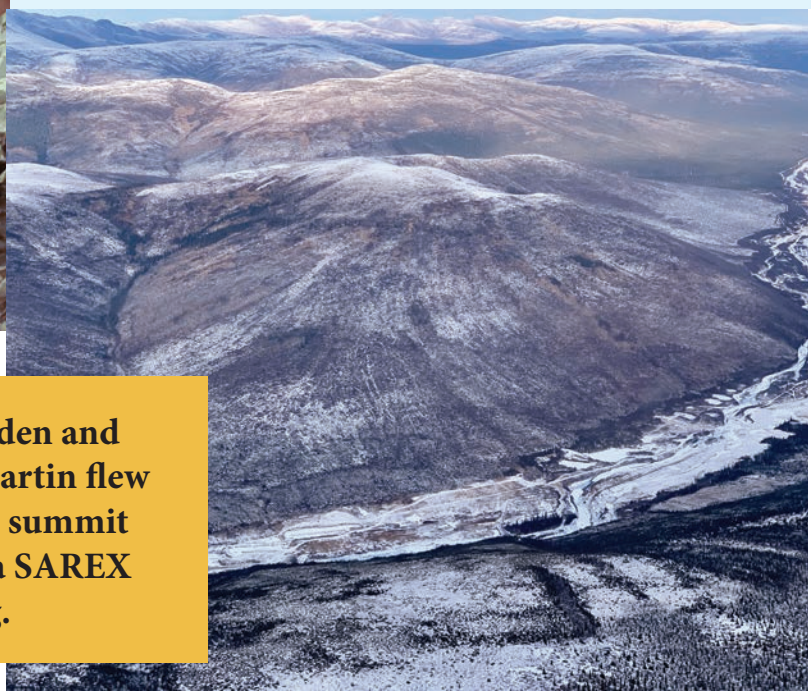
Due to Eielson AFB restrictions only ten members may be present at the cadet meetings. Other members join virtually.

On November 5th, Lt Jon Orr taught a class on engines for Aerospace Education. Cadets watched interesting videos and looked at engine components at the CAP aircraft.

Congratulations to C/Lt Col. Auston Osborn. He was presented the CAP Eacker Certificate on November 12, 2020. This is the CAP Cadet programs' 2nd highest award.

Promotions were performed for c/SSgt Matthew Medlin to Technical Sergeant and c/MSgt Morrison to Senior Master Sergeant.

Maj. Kaden and Capt. Martin flew to Eagle summit during a SAREX training.



AK-076 Birchwood

October 20th was our last outdoor PT test due to the current conditions of cold, ice, and darkness. We look forward to moving outside again in the spring. October 27th supplied us with a Character Development class by Capt. Anderson on fortitude and when fear is a good thing. We also gained some intensive training on uniforms. Our November 3rd meeting involved a Safety Brief by Maj. Nealon on pilot error, a Cold Weather/Winter Survival Gear class by Capt. Anderson, and an exciting TLP. Maj. Nealon also awarded some Wing Conference awards which came through the mail. Lt. Anzilotti and SM Garrett Anderson received their "Certificates of Recognition for Lifesaving" and C/CMSgt received his "Commander's Commendation". On November 10th, cadets made and launched paper rockets, reviewed GES with Lt. Anzilotti, and enjoyed some impromptu speaking. C/AB McArthur shared details about his favorite aircraft, the Beechcraft and C/CMSgt Edwards taught us five ways to eat an Oreo.

This past month, Capt. Anderson realized his dream of becoming a certificated Private Pilot (Single Engine Land). He gratefully acknowledges CAP for all of the aeronautical teachings, experiences, and scholarships he received as a cadet.

Birchwood Squadron just launched our annual Wreaths Across America fundraiser. We hope to surpass our record for number of wreaths sold and teach others to REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom. Welcome to our newest cadet member Liam Connelly!

AK-085 Tok

Submitted by Capt Richard Dennis, PAO
CADETS

Meeting info.

- Cadets meet weekly, normally; 1st 2nd 3rd 4th Tues. 1830hrs @ Tok School.
- We will be moving our Cadet meetings of Monday, 9 Nov to Zoom for the next few weeks. This change is intended to meet both the Governor's and CAP's response to the recent COVID outbreak.
- Details forthcoming. Stand by for the agenda etc.
- C/Lt Col David Briar, Cadet Commander, 406-0414

A WREATH TO HONOR A VETERAN

The Civil Air Patrol, Tok Squadron, a US Air Force Auxiliary is again sponsoring Wreaths Across America. This is the event that places a wreath at the gravesites of veterans across our nation. The Tok Squadron enrolled in the program last year for the first time under the leadership of Commander Capt. Harry White. Wreaths Across America emerged from the State of Maine. There, a company producing wreaths for the holiday season found itself with a surplus of wreaths. The owner/founder recalled in his youth a visit to Arlington National Cemetery as part of a trip to our nation's capital. That visit to Arlington left a lasting impression on him. Together with his surplus of wreaths, he now had an opportunity to honor our country's veterans. That year was 1992. This year, wreaths will be placed not only at Arlington National Cemetery, but at over 2,100 additional locations, in all 50 States.

The 2019 Wreaths Across America sales effort was led by 2ndLt Leland and Donetta Monroe. Last year was the first year of participation for the Tok CAP unit. What started out as a fundraiser project, eclipsed into a community service project. It primarily became a project to honor servicemen. Just before Christmas a special ceremony was held at the Tok Cemetery with the placement of a wreath on all identified servicemen's gravesites. This year the sales effort is being led by 2nd Lt Barbara Pine. A special sales effort has been held at Three-Bears resulting in a number of individual wreath sales. In addition several local businesses have purchased 10 or more wreaths in support in this effort to honor our veterans. The Tok Squadron of Civil Air Patrol would like to thank; Tetlin NWR, Fast Eddies, Tok NAPA, 40 Mile Air, Three-Bears, Young's Chevron, and Alaska Power & Telephone.

The ceremony this year will be held on Monday, December21. The program with the placement of wreaths at the gravesite of Veterans will occur at 2:00pm. The public is invited to honor our veterans.

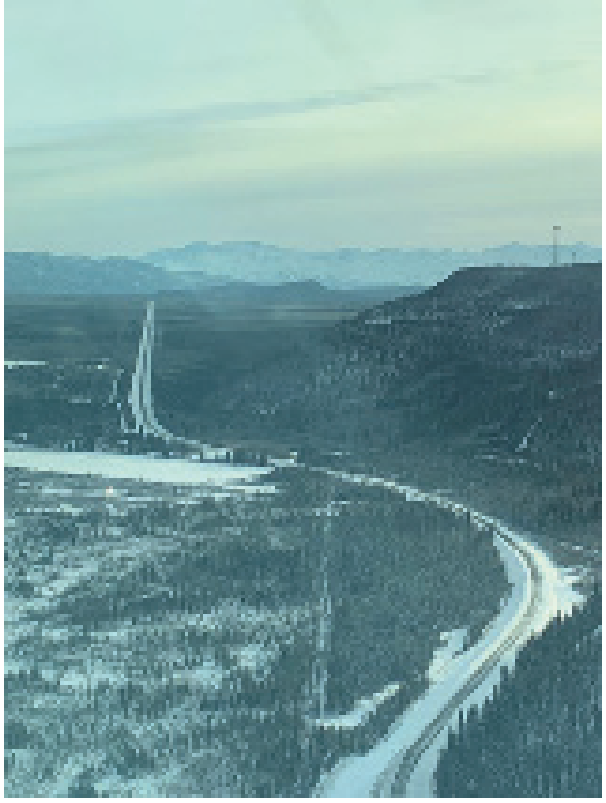
PRACTICE SAREX for an actual missing person in early November. Here 2nd Lt Mark Helmer and Lt Col David Briar flew several hours in search of a missing person. This is only one location of three possible geographic spots to be searched.

SENIORS

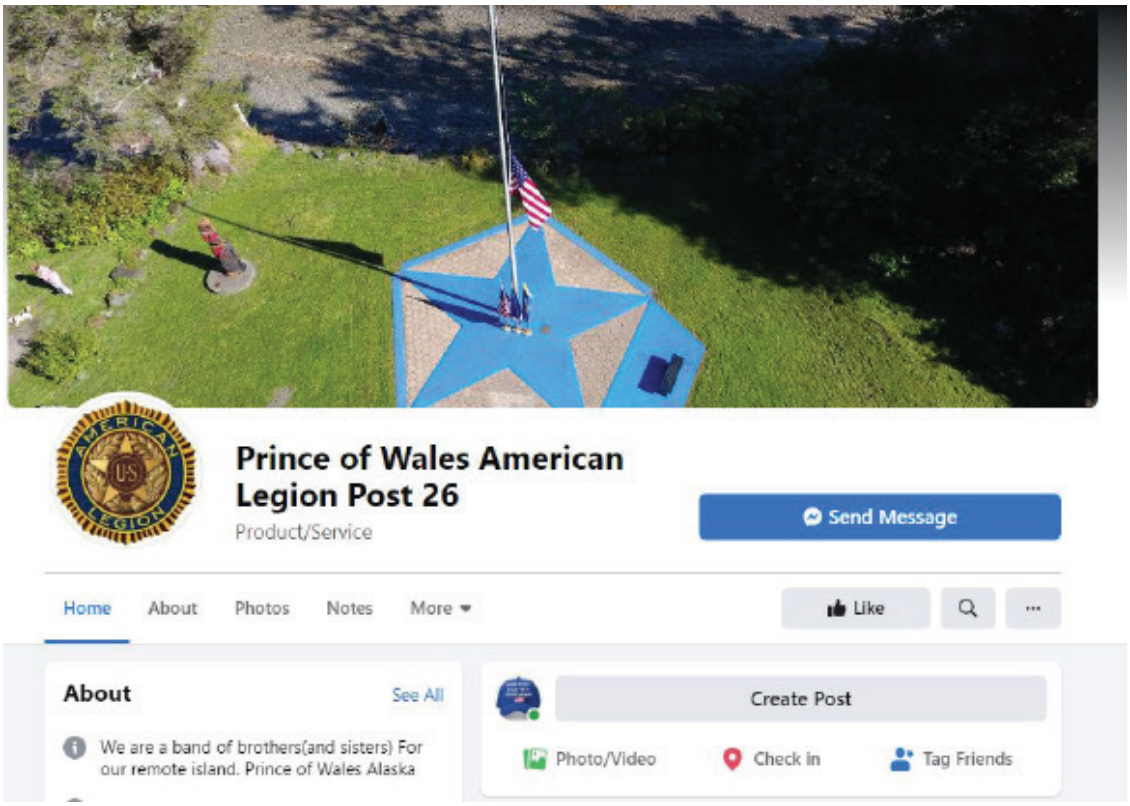
Meeting Info:

- Seniors generally meet twice a month, but not in November. Our next meeting will be Monday 14 December.

- A special ceremony to place wreaths at the gravesites of veterans will be held at the Tok Cemetery, Monday, 21 December, 1400hrs



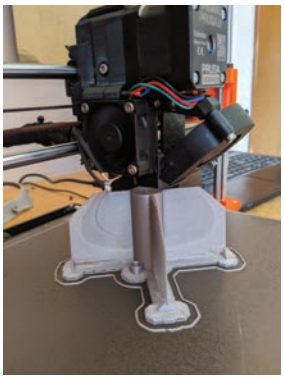
AK-091 Gateway



The colors went up in Craig, Alaska today as the sun came up. For Veterans Day. Here's the list of days our CAP Squadron will be flying it, and bringing it down before dark, unless we rig a 12 volt powered LED so it can fly 24x7. https://www.almanac.com/content/us-flag-etiquette-rules-and-guidelines A project in which I am working on as we speak. Guarding the colors 24x7 is one of our core missions here at Gateway Composite Squadron.

Welcome new Senior Members Josh and Melissa Bergtold! Alaska Power and Telephone graciously donated the installation of a High Speed Broadband line in our meeting facilities. Thank you AP&T!

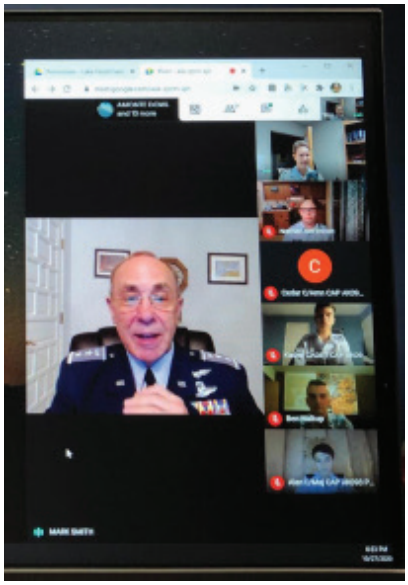
Our in-house designed 3d printed rockets flew beautifully. A cadet was positioned at a specific distance from the launch pad, and measured the angle to apogee of each flight. During the following meeting the cadets calculated total altitude flown for each rocket.



AK-093 Lake Hood

By C/MSgt Katherine LeBlanc

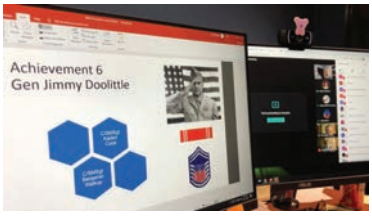
Cadets litter carry C/SSgt Raymond Patterson. He's fine—it's just practice! (left). Cadets use a compass, map, and pace count to work on land navigation skills at Weigh-Point Unsan north of the Radio Club (right).



On October 18th Lake Hood had a SAREX in the public use land just north of their new squadron home, the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club. Cadets worked together on a mission which allowed them to develop and practice ground team skills. The scenario involved finding evidence of a downed aircraft, finding the injured passenger, carrying him spot suitable to be evacuated by helicopter, and preparing the landing area for a helicopter. He practice mission was a success!

For monthly PT, cadets met outside at the Radio Club parking lot on October 20th. Cadets participated in the PT test as well as some fun games. Drill tests were conducted as many cadets worked on requirements for promoting.

Maj Gen Mark E. Smith talking with the cadets of Lake Hood (left). A virtual promotions and awards presentation (right).



Lake Hood met virtually and had a very honored guest, Maj Gen Mark E Smith the CAP National Commander, joined them for part of their meeting on October 27th. Cadets had the opportunity to listen to him speak and ask questions. The monthly Character Development discussion covered ethical decision making, and afterwards included a lively kahoot. Promotions and awards followed with 5 cadet promotions and six SM and cadet awards recognized.

C/CMSgt Sigge Mellerstig briefing MSgt Kent Petty, USAF (Retired) the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club on the mission and activities of the Civil Air Patrol at the radio club's monthly general membership meeting.

Cadets met virtually on November 3rd for their Emergency Services meeting. C/Maj Ryan Padgett helped cadets navigate eservices to learn what they need to do to achieve their ground team ratings. C/CMSgt Sigge Mellerstig hosted a jeopardy lab. Lt Col Jeff Matthews then discussed flight medics and aviation medicine.

On November 10th, Lake Hood cadets met on Zoom for their Aerospace Education meeting. The meeting started out with a presentation by Nik Butler who works with SpaceX. Cadets participated in an engaging Q&A with Mr. Butler about his job, his involvement in the company, and the areospace aspects of it. C/Capt Zeismer and C/CMSgt Mariah Adler both presented their promotion speeches on Staff Duty Analyses and background papers, and on leadership vs. followership, respectively. Capt Ben Padgett then continued on aerospace education with examples and discussions on Apollo 13.

Lake Hood Cadet Squadron promotions and awards from October 15 to November 15, 2020:

C/SrA Maddy Ashlock
C/SMSgt Kaden Cook
C/SrA Taran Harris-Barnes
C/A1C Nathan Northcutt
C/SSgt Raymond Patterson

2nd Lt Kerry Adler 2-year membership award
C/Capt Annika Zeismer 3-year membership award & 3rd C/Capt Achievement

Stay tuned to hear about our future guest speakers including cadets and midshipmen currently serving at the service Academies, NASA, military search and rescue helicopter pilots, a Blue Angels pilot, and others. To see what we have planned, go to events at lakehood.cap.gov. All CAP members are invited to all Lake Hood virtual meetings.

Donors

Please thank and and keep them in mind when you need these services!

Red Eagle Lodge captures the beauty of Alaska's Copper River Valley adjacent to Wrangell-St. Elias National Park. It sits on the historic Chistochina Roadhouse site, which served foot and sled traffi c on the old Valdez to Eagle Trail. 907.822.5299, www.redeaglelodge.net

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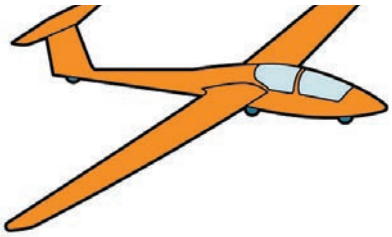
In Other News...

AKWG Glider Program

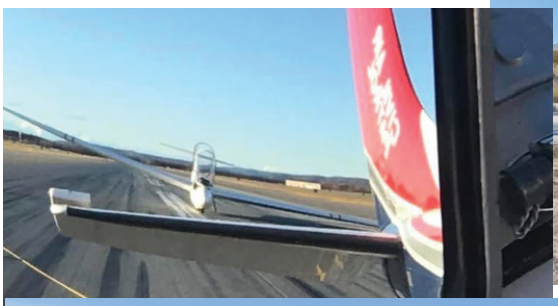
On October 24, the AKWG Glider Program ended its 2020 flying season with several sorties launched from Birchwood Airport. C/1Lt Luke Holman and LTC Jim McCarthy were photographed by hikers on nearby Bear Mountain while flying the Schweizer SGS 2-33 along the ridgeline.

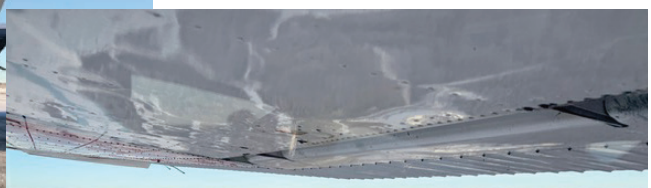


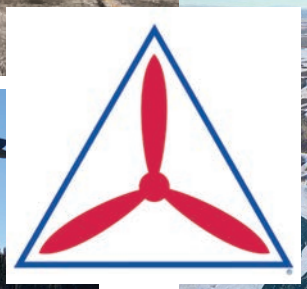
Today's STEM Bag Distribution Success

Look at the lines of people to pick up their Aerospace Education STEM bags! Thanks, Lt. Lynda MacPherson, for all you do for CAP around that state.

Kudos to SM Shook and SM Justus for coordinating and assisting an airlift for a CAP vehicle from JBER to Juneau. Great work for CAP! Some photos from flying in the interior add to the CAP story.







CAP Helps Propel Cadet Toward High-Flying Performance

https://www.cap.news/cap-helps-propel-cadet-toward-high-flying-performance/

Alaska Wing Women's Leadership Forum

By 1st Lt Karen Padgett, November 15th, 2020

Alaska Wing Women's Leadership Forum is very excited to announce a virtual Holiday Celebration from 9-10:30am on Saturday, December 5, 2020 on Google Meet (www.tinyurl.com/AlaskaWingWLF)

Uniform is Dress Blues for cadets, and Dress Blues, Aviators (Salt & Pepper), or Corporate Unform for Senior Members.

Colonel Kirsten G. Aguilar, Commander of the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER) and the 673rd Air Base Wing will be our guest speaker. She is excited to tell you about some of her adventures and answer questions from the group. All CAP Members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

(Photo by Alejandro Peña)

We will also discuss group initiatives that are in the works such as an all-female Color Guard/Cadet Competition Team and a patch/logo.

Then, we will have a group discussion to determine future activities. Please be prepared to briefly introduce yourself and let us know your interest in the group (To support your female wingmen better? To be a better leader? To be a better follower? To know what issues women have? To be a mentor? To find a mentor?) Bring your great ideas for future guest speakers, other organizations to partner with, female recruiting & retention, uniform tips and tricks, and other topics as they arise.

The Alaska Wing Women's Leadership Forum hopes to strengthen skills and relationships to build a stronger organization with a more diverse and engaging membership.
The forum is open to people of all genders at any time. For information on upcoming events and other items of interest (all still in development stages):

(1) Email karen.padgett@akwg.cap.gov to be added to the group email list

(2) Look on the Alaska Wing website under the Member's tab at https://akwg.cap.gov/members1/womens-leadership-forum

(3) Follow the "Alaska Wing Civil Air Patrol Women's Leadership Forum" Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/AlaskaWingWLF)

Future Forum activities in planning stages:

Quarterly get-togethers:
9am Saturday, January 9, 2021
9am Saturday, April 10, 2021
9am Saturday, July 10, 2021
2021 Alaska Wing Conference Session and Social Gathering, Saturday, October 9, 2021

In Closing...

Wing Links/General References and Social Media

- http://www.akwg.cap.gov
- http://www.facebook.com/AlaskaCAP
- https://www.facebook.com/AlaskaWingWLF

Please coordinate submissions to those pages through Lt. Jacob Baugh (514445@akwg.cap.gov)

All units are encouraged to keep copies of their internal and external Public Affairs activities. Those documents can be attached to the A-1 Public Affairs worksheet that is required from each unit. In addition, if all the units would do their Continued Compliance that is required and upload their activities with this information monthly, it would keep them current in the requirement.
The entire Alaska Wing Staff thanks you for all you do on behalf of our wing and our organization. Your membership, dedication, and hard work are most appreciated.

V/R,

Maj Bryan Emerson, CAP
Alaska Wing PAO, DC

e-mail: Bryan.Emerson@akwg.cap.gov
Cell: 1 (907) 795-5586

P.S.: Let me know if you wish to be removed from this distribution list or if you know of someone who might like to be added. Also, please join me in thanking Lt. Mary Stella for her editing prowess on this, Maj Ute Kaden for her assistance with graphic design and Lt. Karen Padgett for suggesting we honor our donors!