



**CIVIL AIR PATROL
NELLIS COMPOSITE SQUADRON**

NEWSLETTER

Vol 1 # 3 DEC 09, 2008 weekly

VOICE OF THE NCS, NV

Editor: arnyk6pxa1@wmconnect.com

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Dec. 13, 2008

It was a beautiful Saturday morning in Las Vegas, NV. We headed toward Boulder City, NV to attend the placing of the wreaths at the Veteran's Cemetery. This was a time in which we the members of the Nellis Civil Air Patrol Squadron along with many other squadrons had the great honor and privilege to participate in celebration. I would like to say to those who did not attend what a great celebration that they missed out on. They missed the opportunity to honor those who made the greatest sacrifice of all.

The MC of the program was our own Lt. Col. Richard C. Brown. What an outstanding job that he did. The invocation was done by Lt. Col. Thomas Miller of the Pacific Region CAP. Our NCS CAP COLOR GUARD presented the colors.
(1-r; Cadets SPANN, DREDLA, MOREHARDT & CRISP)



Oh what a great job that they did! They were sharp and crisp and they brought

life to that room. The Star- Spangled Banner was sung by Krystian Eklund. She did an excellent job in her singing. Lt. Col. Brown had some inspirational words for us to make sure that we understood that this was not just another beautiful Saturday. He spoke from his heart. The words rang throughout the room. As he spoke tears ran down some eyes and others just sat as though time had stopped.

At the completion of his remarks, he then announced the first group of wreath barriers to enter the room. Army was first, second was the Navy.



In the center carrying the wreaths was a veteran, on his right was an active military person, and on his left was a cadet that came forth. The active person slid in front of the veteran and saluted. He was then given the wreath in which the veteran saluted the wreath. The active member slid in front on the cadet. He saluted the wreath and then received the wreath. The active member returned to his first spot. The cadet then placed the wreath in front on the Navy flag and did an about face and returned to his

spot. All three of them saluted the American flag and marched to their seat. This same activity was repeated by the Marines, the Air Force, then the Coast Guard, then Merchant Marines and then a mother with a son missing in action along with a Nellis cadet placed the wreath in front of the flag.

It was then followed by the playing of Taps by Bugler, Lt. Col. Barry Keller. This was followed by the playing of the bagpipes. This concluded our celebration. The huge glass doors swung open. Cadets from across the Valley entered the room with addition wreaths



in which they followed different family members to the grave site of their love ones where the wreaths were placed. This was repeated until all the wreaths were placed. What a beautiful, memorable day!



By SM Edward Watson

CAP AT LAS VEGAS MARATHON

Dec. 07, 2008

The Annual Las Vegas Marathon started Sunday Morning, December 7th at 6:00



am and was 26.6 miles in duration. This year's event was the fourth held in our community and attracted thousand of runners from all over the world. On hand to support the runners

were 19 Civil Air Patrol Cadets and Senior Members.

The CAP members got up very early Sunday morning and arrived at course mile marker eight (8) between 4:00 am and 4:45 am to help set-up the Channel 8 water station. The Cadets and Senior Members pitched in to help Channel 8 personnel unload trucks, layout tables, pour hundreds of cups of water and prepared for the thousands of runners who signed up for this year's event.

Approximately 6:30 am, the first of the runners began to appear at mile marker 8 and the cadets began passing out water and keeping the area clean of used paper cups and other trash dropped by the runners. This process continued over the next two hours until the last of the runners passed the mile marker 8 location. Once the area was cleaned up, the Cadet and Senior Members returned home.

A special thanks to all those who participated in this annual event. Your service to the community truly reflects the best traditions of the Civil Air Patrol.

By Lt. Col. Roberts – DC Seniors
Photo jeremywomack.com

MOUNTAIN MAN RENDEZVOUS, 2009

upcoming

The Mountain Man Rendezvous is sponsored annually by the Las Vegas Area Council, Boy Scouts of America. This year's Rendezvous is scheduled for Feb 20 and 21 for us. The Rendezvous sight is the same as last year, on the Moapa Indian Reservation, about eight miles northwest of the Glendale exit off I-15 between the Valley of Fire and Logandale exits. The rustic theme attracts about two thousand scouts, thirteen years and older, including over

200 adults. Many of the adults and some youth dress in Mountain Man garb and there is a primitive camping area restricted to only Mountain Man and Indian shelters and equipment. There will be a campfire program Friday night and Mountain Man style competitive events on Saturday, such as black powder shooting, archery, bull whip, log sawing, caber toss, tracking and trapping, gold panning, knife and hawk throwing, and many more. There will be a canteen for food, drinks, and snacks. The “trader’s row” will have commercial vendors as well as youth with trading blankets stacked with items to swap. You can experience rope making and flint and steel fire building. This is a fun, fun activity.

The Squadron’s Venture Scout Crew attended the Rendezvous last five years. We impressed the staff such the first year that they invited our Squadron to participate as “staff” every year. We assist with “security” tasks like crowd control and safety. For example, we will help arrivals find their assigned camping spaces, monitor parking, limit unauthorized access to the event areas prior to opening, and with general site surveillance. We will work in shifts so Cadets can participate in the fun events. We will work in pairs and have radio communications.

We will camp and eat in the staff area. The uniform will be BDU’s with NCS hat for unit recognition. If you do not yet have a complete BDU uniform, do the best you can, but buy or borrow a NCS hat. Dress smart, in layers to accommodate the cold night and warm day. Wear your uniform properly when you can, but good sense rules. It is more important to be warm than regulation, We will travel in the CAP van and personal cars and vans. There will be two departure times, one for those who can leave early and one for later Cadets, leaving from the McDonald’s on the

corner of Nellis and Las Vegas Blvds. Please make sure you are on time for your assigned departure time. Cadets will be delivered to their homes Saturday night, hopefully before 10 PM. Each participant must submit a separate Staff Application and \$20 fee to Lt Col Brown no later than 1 January 2009. The fee covers a souvenir belt buckle, food (including steak the last evening), and logistics provided by BSA. Any contributions to your driver for gas would also be appreciated. Any questions, please call Lt Col Brown, 438-6003.

NCS ACHIEVERS 



C/1Lt MARIE BROWN has been selected by Senator Jon Porter as a nominee for the U. S. Air Force Academy. Shown here with her Grandfather Lt. Col. Brown, former Commander NCS.



SM ARIYA LE has been promoted to 2nd Lt. His son (also Ariya) is an NCS Cadet, recently promoted to C/SMSgt.

Aerospace Dimensions
The following quizzes will help prepare for your aerospace education exams. GOOD LUCK!
<http://www.capwyhq.org/drupal-5.0/?q=node/296>
 C/Lt Col James Andrew McLaughlin

Newsletter Profile

C/Lt Col James Andrew McLaughlin

Years in CAP & Responsibilities

- Joined in August of 2004/4 years and 3 months
- I became a flight sergeant in January 2005 and retained that position until June of that same year
- After that I attained the rank of flight commander and color guard commander in June 2005 and retained those positions for exactly one year. Shortly after attaining my Mitchell Award I moved to New Mexico and joined Thunderbird Composite Squadron, which was based on Kirtland AFB, where I was given the position of cadet administration officer, which I held, from January to April 2007.
- I was then given the position of flight commander which I held from April to August 2007
- After flight commander I was assigned the position of Executive Officer which I held from August to November of 2007
- In September of 2007 was also given the position of Cadet Aerospace Officer which I held until February 2008
- During November of 2007 I was assigned to the position of Cadet Deputy Commander which I held until May of 2008
- I was given the position of Cadet Commander of the Nellis Composite Squadron in July of 2008 which I currently hold



Previous CAP & Military Experience

- My father Brig Gen (S) James K. McLaughlin was commissioned in 1983 upon graduation from the United States Air Force Academy. I have been interacting with the military for my whole life.
- In February 2005 I attended the Colorado Wing Conference held in Colorado Springs
- In February of 2005 and March 2006 I participated in a Leadership weekend activity hosted by Group 3 COWG.
- In CAP I attended the 2005 Colorado Wing Encampment as a basic. In 2006 I attended the same encampment as Hotel Flight Sergeant.
- In fall of 2005 I attended the Air Force Academy Teen Security Forces Training activity
- In February of 2006 I led the first color guard that my unit had trained for over five years to place second overall in the COWG Cadet Competition.
- In April of 2006 I held a Color Guard training Activity at my unit headquarters
- In June of 2005 and 2006 I participated in a NDMS exercise in Colorado Springs and Denver
- In July of 2006 I attended the Advanced Technologies Academy at Peterson AFB, Colorado
- In November of 2006 I attended the New Mexico Wing Conference held in Albuquerque
- In February of 2007 I attended an ES training exercise held in Gallup, New Mexico.
- In April of 2007 I was the protocol officer for a visit from Congresswomen Heather Wilson

- In May of 2007 I delivered a briefing to my unit on “the 7 Habit of Highly Effective Teens”
- In the summer of 2007 I attended Cadet Officer School in Montgomery, Alabama, National Flight Academy in Muskogee, Oklahoma, and National Blue Beret in Oshkosh, Wisconsin
- In June of 2007 I was given the position of my unit’s primary Cadet Advisory Council representative, which I held until April of 2008
- In August of 2007 I participated in a SAREX with members of my unit
- In 2007 I developed the activities “Operation Wingman” an activity to develop a “sister squadron relationships” with squadrons outside of the wing, and the “Iron Cadet Competition” which was developed to promote Espirit de Corps within our unit
- In September of 2007 I participated as a Flightline marshaller during a EAA Fly-In
- In 2007 I participated in Recruitment booths at the New Mexico State Fair and the 60th USAF Anniversary
- I was active in Color/Honor Guard activities within my previous units
- In July of 2008 I attend the International Exchange Program to the United Kingdom

School/Work

- I am currently a junior in High school, but because I move every two years I have been homeschooled my whole life. And do not currently hold a job

Awards & Achievements

- Wright Brothers Achievement Award
- Colorado Wg Color Guard Competition 2006:
- 2nd place overall, 1st place Outdoor Practical, 2nd place Standard Drill
- Recruiting Ribbon
- Community Services Ribbon
- Red Ribbon
- National Cadet Special Activities Ribbon with 3 pips
- Billy Mitchell Achievement Award
- Air Force Association Squadron Cadet of the Year: 2006
- Who’s Who Among American High School Students: 2006, 2007
- Unit Citation Award: 2006, 2007
- Amelia Earhart Achievement Award

Things Liked Best About CAP

- I like that Cap has taught me things that I probably would never have learned if I had not joined. It has had a major impact on develop me into the person I am today

Changes I would like to see in CAP

- I would like to see less division and chaos that I have seen too often in wing command structures.

Goals in CAP & Personal Goals

- My ultimate goal in CAP is to achieve my Spaatz Award before I graduate High school, I would like to leave behind cadet NCOs and officers that I have inspired to be best they can be like I have ever since I first joined CAP
- I would like to join either the Air Force or Army as an active duty officer and put what I have learned and have still to learn in CAP to good use in the service of my country.

Comments

- One my most keen interest is military history and the history of Scotland where my ancestor’s lived and where branches of my family’s clan still live.

EDITORS NOTES

If you have the achievements, your newsletter has the space.
Your newsletter has been thoroughly checked to assure NO MISTRAKES!!
Send all inputs to 1Lt Gamson arnyk6pxa1@wmconnect.com

DEC MEETINGS

DEC 16, 23 & 30, 2008

There will be an activity the last meeting of the Month/Year on Dec 30; to be determined.
Nellis AFB, Airman Leadership School 1830-2100, Tuesdays

ALL WELCOME

2009

JANUARY 9 – 11 FRI– SUN WEEKEND

NV WING CONFERENCE – RENO

**BE SURE YOU NOTIFY 1LT. TOLIS, DC CADETS IF YOU ARE ATTENDING
THE CONFERENCE, NO LATER THAN MONDAY DEC. 15. INDICATE IF
YOU ARE REGISTERED OR NOT.**

DON'T DRINK & DRIVE!!!!