

At Ease!

The daily newsletter of the GLR-N Michigan Wing Encampment

Thursday, 23 July 2009

Edition 4 of 6

Welcome To Encampment!



By Maj Machcinski, Executive Officer

If you are a cadet or senior member at the 2009 GLR Encampment at the CRTC, many words may come to your mind to describe your experience here. AMAZING is one word that comes to my mind. As XO (Executive Officer) for Encampment this year, my main responsibility is to ensure smooth operation for all areas. Sometimes that includes being everywhere and knowing everything that goes on, however, it also includes staying out of sight and out of the way.

Amazing changes take place during this week. The biggest changes that are seen are in the basic cadets. They arrive not knowing what awaits them, armed only with the stories from fellow cadets and the encouragement received from senior members to attend this activity. From total confusion and not knowing what to do, the week's training turns them into focused team members and a strong asset to this organization. These basic cadets go through an amazing transformation, not only seen by the staff and other cadets at encampment, but also by their parents when they arrive home.

Senior members also go through an amazing experience as they watch the cadets develop and mature in front of their eyes. They see young boys and girls turn into cadets, leaders and future staff. All this is thanks to the amazing experience we call Encampment...

Welcome Maj Gen Amy S Courter

By 2d Lt Bowden

We are honored to have Major General Amy S. Courter, the Civil Air Patrol National Commander, Col Charles L. Carr Jr. Great Lakes Region Commander, as well as Col Michael A. Saile, Michigan Wing Commander, joining us for the rest of the encampment. Maj Gen Courter is a former MIWG Commander and currently lives in South Lyon Michigan. Maj Gen Courter is a huge supporter of the cadet program and is often heard saying that Michigan wing is her home. WELCOME HOME MA'AM



One Big Family

By 2d Lt Bowden and 2d Lt Vinson

Many of you may have been wondering about all of the different wing patches you've been seeing this week. This year at the GLR Encampment, along with our usual Michigan Wing members, we have members from the New York Wing, National Capital Wing, Kentucky Wing, Texas Wing, Indiana Wing and Massachusetts Wing.

Everyone in MIWG has heard of this encampment and how great it is... and the word is spreading. This year we have twenty out-of-wing members from three different regions. Friendships are forming that may carry on for years. This week at encampment will bond you with many others for a lifetime. Take the opportunity to get names, addresses, phone numbers, etc., so you can stay in touch. When you get home, you can sign up to become a fan of Great-Lakes-Region-North-MIWG-Encampment on Facebook. That's another great way to stay in touch and also view the many photos that have been taken over the week by our PAO staff.



Look out below

A few quotes from the rappelling tower

C/CMSgt Neil Liagve Awesome! Everyone should do it. It's not as scary as it looks and it's a lot of fun!

C/SMsgt Gerard – There is nothing better than the feeling of free falling off a wall.

C/SMSgt Joel Cortright – My spidey senses tingled as I crawled carefully up the wall. I became spiderman.

C/SrA Anastasha Collins – It's one of the best experiences I've ever had free falling off of the wall.

C/Ssgt Nate Weil – In just three days, I've gone from a quiet, unsure follower to a confident leader and there's still two days left! I also have a bunch of new friends.



Daily Safety Moment...

By Maj Rutherford

Flash – Boom!!!

Yes, we still have the threat of thunderstorms and other severe weather. If you can hear thunder, you can be close enough to be struck by lightning. So, what to do? Get indoors. You are far safer indoors. There are safe areas to go to on base:

*In the bathrooms of your barracks away from windows, such as, under the sinks or in the showers. *Building 440, especially in the center of the building. *The Collins Center restrooms. Or, as a last resort, any building that is open; go to an area away from windows.

Exercise Exercise Exercise ...

By 2d Lt Bowden



How many times this week have we heard this coming from the loud speakers on base? The 220th Buckeye EI squadron, which is part of the Ohio Air National Guard, is on base training and upgrading the base communications equipment. These Guardsmen specialize in front-line installation of telecommunications and every other type of communications equipment you can think of. Yesterday and today they are conducting war games simulating a chemical attack. This unit is often deployed with the current war on terror. The chemical gear that they wear is around 60 Lbs and very hot. This is a very specialized unit which is one of only five in the country. The 220th consists of about 120 airmen and officers that work very hard to keep everyone connected in today's world of electronics.

Greetings from Facebook

Steve—Looks like way too much fun, folks! And no calls to me as legal officer yet, so everyone must be doing it right! (Asst. Wing Legal Officer)

Shannon- Keep up the great work Cadets Kelly and Derek Funkhouser from Blue Water Composite Squadron. We know you are doing your Squadron proud and making great friends! Miss you both very much. Mom, Dad, Carol, Al, and Danni

Mark Looks like perfect days for all the training at encampment! Special hi to C/Amn Miller from the folks!

Candace Lt. Jerry Murray, Glad you are having such a great time at Encampment. But I miss you and can't wait to see you soon. Love Bullet

Susan- To Cadet Kyle Wiggins - Hope you are having fun and we can't wait to see you on Saturday. Keep trying to do your best. Love ya lots, Mom and dad

Andrew Hi Hollowood--Looks like you are having fun!! How are the rockets blasting off?? I sure hope you have big engines in them. Have fun. Mom

Ron Hi Jill, Nice looking rockets! Did they fly? Thanks for your encouragement notes to the cadets. Sue Brown

Denise Warms my heart to see you smile Troy. Looks a though they are keeping you quite busy! Glad to see you enjoying it.

To see more comments please visit the Encampment fan page once you get home.

Random Photo Goodness



1st Lt Herb Aukett

By 2d Lt Vinson

Most of you may have noticed a special person among us this week. He is 1Lt Herb Aukett of the Detroit 100th Composite Squadron. He has been a CAP member for over five years and this is his fourth encampment. While enrolled in the ECI-13 class over the week he has some spare time to help out in Flight Ops. He is a natural out there with the gliders. And we sure appreciate his help and expertise.

Lt. Aukett has been flying planes and gliders for 50 years. He originates in U.K. where he joined the Sea Cadets. He moved to the U.S. in 1956 where he learned to fly. The first plane he learned to fly was the Cessna 120 and his primary flight instructor was a young woman pilot at Detroit City Airport.

He sees the noticeable difference in cadets after they've been at encampment. "After being here for a week, the cadets grow and mature and present themselves well."

According to Aukett, another good reason to come to encampment is, "You can start putting names and faces together. You suddenly realize how big an organization CAP is."



HONOR FLIGHT

GOLF

Give 'EM the Brick !

Keep an eye out for Capt Dave Watts' brick. Maybe you can catch him without it and he will earn a second one. C/Maj Bacero learned that 2d Lt Bowden remembers getting tackled by her last year.

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Have Photos? Please see us at the PAO Office in 440 after the duty day for us to make copies!