



NEW YORK WING

SOUTH EASTERN GROUP *PROPS & FOGGLES*

SEMPER VIGILANS

JULY/AUGUST 2008

NORTH CASTLE FOUR WINDS CEREMONY

By Senior Member Madeleine Cohen
NY-238 Public Affairs Officer

In a formal Change of Command Ceremony in Armonk, New York, Yorktown Heights resident C/2d Lt Antoinette Miraglia relinquished her role as Cadet Commander of North Castle Civil Air Patrol Squadron.

The new Cadet Commander is fifteen-year-old Austin Rivera, currently a sophomore honors student at White Plains High School. C/2d Lt Rivera was also honored for becoming a Cadet Officer, receiving his Billy Mitchell Award at the same ceremony. On hand to congratulate Cadet Rivera was White Plains Mayor Joseph Delfino, who commended Rivera on his "outstanding achievements at such a young age." Mayor Delfino added that as a former Air Force serviceman, he was especially proud to see this group of local teenagers fostering their interest in aerospace and aviation, while giving back to their community and developing themselves through their time and dedication to CAP's cadet program.



North Castle Cadet Commanders, Old and New:
C/2d Lt Joseph Migliaccio (AFROTC & Boston College);
C/2dLt Antoinette Miraglia (Mercy College); 1st Lt Noah
Stebbins (US ANG); & C/2d Lt Austin Rivera, new Cadet
Commander. (Photo: SM Madeleine Cohen)

Currently studying to be an Occupational Therapist at Mercy College, former Cadet Commander Miraglia feels her CAP and career training have helped

to develop her instructional skills, as she continues to teach aerospace and leadership classes at squadron meetings. Speaking of her experience leading the unit's twenty or so cadets, Ms. Miraglia stated, "I've reaped major personal benefits from my leadership role at CAP, including learning how to manage large groups, how to be an effective leader and communicator, and improved public speaking skills."



North Castle Supervisor Reese Berman; Mayor Joseph Delfino of White Plains; Capt Richard Johns, Deputy Commander, North Castle Composite Squadron, CAP.
(Photo: SM Madeleine Cohen)

North Castle Supervisor Reese Berman was present to praise the squadron for its support of Armonk and North Castle, as its members contribute to local toy and food drives, and carry the colors in local parades and ceremonies throughout the year. She was especially pleased to present White Plain's HS sophomore Jason DeLaRosa with his new status as First Sergeant, second in command to Rivera.

(Continued on page 2)

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Also acknowledged in the ceremony were the unit's outstanding cadets for the month and quarter: Jack O'Brien of Stamford, CT and Nicholas Miraglia of Yorktown Heights were presented with certificates by another special guest, CAP's New York State Wing Commander Kenneth Andreu of Valhalla. Cadets Johnny and Henry Quezada, Ved Patel, and Michael Lovely, hailing from central Westchester County and southwestern Connecticut, were awarded ribbons for recruiting and community service.

Finally, Senior Member Capt. Edward Miraglia, the squadron's Safety, Testing and Aerospace Officer, was congratulated as the unit's "Senior Member of the Year." Capt. Miraglia was previously honored for aerospace instruction, as he earned a National CAP Aerospace Excellence Award for North Castle.



Supervisor Reese Berman with Cadet First Sergeant Jason DeLaRosa and his Wright Brother's Award.

(Photo: SM Madeleine Cohen)



Mayor Joseph Delfino presenting Billy Mitchell Award to Cadet 2d Lt Austin Rivera.

(Photo: SM Madeleine Cohen)

Thunderstorm Safety

By Capt Michael Heath
SEG Operations Officer



With the recent weather, thunderstorms every day for over a week, and seeing damage to a friend's house after being struck by lightning, it might be a good idea to consider what to do before and during a lightning storm.

Lightning damage can come from a direct hit to your house or an indirect hit. In an indirect hit lightning may strike a utility pole miles away which then travels along the wires to enter your home (just as antennas pick up radio signals from a broadcast station).

First, if you have enough warning, disconnect any outside antennas from radios, especially radios like CAP VHF or HF transceivers. Also, disconnect cable TV where it enters the house and turn off and unplug your TV's (many televisions are still powered when the screen is off). Turn off your computer which is susceptible to power surges. And if you don't have a surge protector, make the investment. It is much easier to disconnect and turn off than having to make costly repairs afterwards.

For additional lightning safety information go to the National Weather Service Website at

<http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov/overview.htm>

Stay in the center of the house, away from chimneys, as lightning can vaporize any water in the bricks causing steam that can blow the chimney apart. Stay out of the bath or shower during a storm. Copper pipes can carry a lot of power and you wouldn't want that going through your body! If you get caught in a car you're in a safe place, but keep your hands off metal parts such as the steering wheel or door handles.

Storms usually pass quickly, so sit tight and spend some of the time you have been saving all your life!

Heads Up May/June 2008!

By 1st Lt Bob Kelly

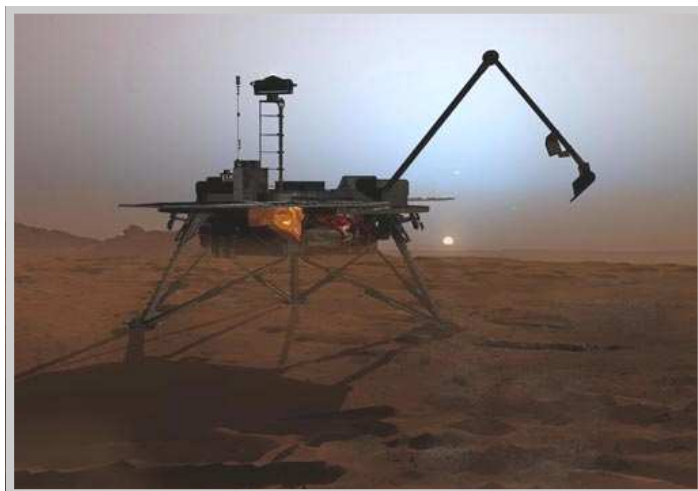
SEG Aerospace Education Officer

This summer's "wow" object in the sky will be the giant planet Jupiter. Some night you'll walk outside and see what appears to be an airplane looking like it's coming in for a landing, but watch it for a few minutes and you'll see it isn't moving. Low in the southern sky, that's Jupiter. Yes, you'll still need binoculars or a telescope to see details, but even to the unaided eye, Jupiter will stand out, unblinking, seeming to stare straight at you. To Jupiter's right will be the Archer, Sagittarius, which really looks like a tea pot, if you can pick it out in the haze near the horizon. The band of milky white haze arcing across the sky is the disk of the many stars in our galaxy. In very dark skies, you can trace the disk of our galaxy from its center in Sagittarius up to the left through the Northern Cross. With binoculars, you can see clumps of stars and dark places. The dark places in the middle of the band of stars are thin clouds of dust blocking out the starlight behind.

For more sights, look to where the sun sets in the early evening. About a third of the way up and to the left three bright stars will become visible as the sky darkens. They are Saturn, the star Regulus, and Mars. Mars will move from lower right to upper left relative to the other two "stars" in early July, passing Regulus on 1 July and Saturn on 11 July. By the beginning of August, Mars and Saturn will be lower in the glow of twilight in the western sky. But the reward for following them will be great as August goes on. In mid-August, four planets will crowd the twilight sky near the western horizon. Look 30 minutes after sunset. Binoculars will help you pick out Mercury, Venus, Saturn and Mars. Saturn will be gone by the end of August, but Mars, Mercury and Venus will be hanging out the twilight through the beginning of September.

Phoenix Lands on Mars...

There's an old comic strip called B.C. where a guy runs excited yelling "Glass, I've found glass! The other guy looks at it and, disappointed, says, "It's only an ordinary diamond." The joke is that in prehistoric times, glass would have been more useful than a diamond. I'm not so sure about that, but the



Phoenix Twilight: In this artist's concept illustration, NASA's Phoenix Mars Lander begins to shut down operations as winter sets in. The far-northern latitudes on Mars experience no sunlight during winter. This will mark the end of the mission because the solar panels can no longer charge the batteries on the lander. Frost covering the region as the atmosphere cools will bury the lander in ice. (Image credit: NASA/JPL-Calech/University of Arizona)

most precious thing Phoenix can find on Mars is... water.

The Phoenix Lander was aimed for the area south of the north polar cap on Mars. They didn't aim for the polar cap, which is mostly carbon dioxide and would not be a safe landing spot. Sensors on previous craft detected the possibility of ice just below the surface of the northern Martian tundra, insulated by inches or feet of soil. The landing area was an area where scientists hoped water ice would be found within the one-meter (3 foot) range of the lander's backhoe. You'll know more about this by the time you read this article, but it looks like Phoenix dug up some ice, which disappeared in the thin Martian atmosphere.

Surface pressure of 8 millibars (1010 mb is typical at sea level on Earth), combined with unbelievable cold (-32 to -80 degrees F) makes ice in the open air of Mars sublimate, that is it goes directly from solid ice to gaseous water vapor. The underground ice does not sublimate because it is protected by a layer of insulating soil. If there is a large amount of ice locked in under Martian soil, then there may have been liquid water in the planet's distant past. Where there was water, there may have been life.

39th Anniversary of the First Men on the Moon

By 1st Lt Bob Kelly

SEG Aerospace Education Officer

Here are some recommended books and other media I've used to relive the first landings on the moon:

- The classic book is *A Man on the Moon* by Andrew Chaikin, 670 pages, which details the Apollo program, focusing on the astronauts.
- Another great book tells stories from the people who made the flights happen, *Apollo* by Charles Murray and Catherine Bly Cox, 470 pages.
- If you want a shorter book to get the feel for the Moon landing missions, I recommend *Apollo: The Epic Journey to the Moon* by David West Reynolds. Don't let its 260 page size throw you. Much of the book has really useful illustrations that make it worthwhile. I especially like the drawings used to show the landing sites so you can see the landing areas better than the maps made from grainy Lunar Orbiter photos.
- Need something for the beach or pool? Try a good paperback, *Carrying the Fire* by Apollo 11



Moon Landing Crew: Astronauts Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin.
(Photo: NASA)

Command Module Pilot Michael Collins. This is a very readable account of an astronaut's journey into space.

- HBO recreated the moon landings in the 12-part series *From the Earth to the Moon*. The movie *Apollo 13* is still a well done film for rent-a-movie night. The new series, *When We Left Earth*



Apollo 11 liftoff from launch tower camera (Photo: NASA)

on the Discovery Channel is an exciting whirlwind tour of the American Space Program. If you have a chance, see the IMAX 3D show *Magnificent Desolation*. It uses real and recreated scenes to tell the story.

- Want your Moon landings in as-it happened detail? Then go on-line to the *Apollo Lunar Surface Journal*, which has transcribed every word spoken on the Moon and includes most, if not all, of the photos and movies taken on the Moon.

One of my favorite items is the *Apollo 11 Box*. The Smithsonian Institution made copies of maps, photos and checklists from their collection of items from the Moon landing mission. In addition, as a government employee, I especially like the copy of Neil Armstrong's travel voucher, from Houston to Cape Canaveral, to the Moon, the Pacific Ocean and return to Houston, noting that lodging and meals were provided

International Space Station Sighting Times

Early July—before sunrise

Late July—before sunrise & after sunset

Early August—after sunset

Getting What You Need?

By Capt (Dr) Jill Silverman
NY-219 CISM

President John F. Kennedy stated “ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” That’s the premise we generally work under in our commitment to Civil Air Patrol. But as I have had a considerable amount of time to think recently, I have been pondering whether we pay enough attention to what our members need from CAP. Most of us join for very altruistic reasons and highly value the concept of dedication. I wonder if we are getting what we need from CAP, as this fosters and enhances our commitment to this remarkable organization.

I urge you to let me know what you think about this question. Is the training what you want? Is the pace reasonable? Are there pet peeves that, if addressed, would enhance your CAP experience? Are there aspects that put you off? What would you like to see changed? Do you feel well connected? Are there other concerns?

“Most of us join for very altruistic reasons and highly value the concept of dedication...”

Civil Air Patrol can demand a lot of time, energy and commitment—especially when the pace begins to pick up. The best way to sustain a healthy, dedicated membership is for people to feel that they are heard, they are important to the functioning of the organization, and that their comments are valued.

I will compile a consensus of suggestions from our officers and cadets based on the responses I receive. Hopefully, some of these comments can be integrated into applicable areas to increase and sustain our membership’s sense of connection to Civil Air Patrol.

Please contact me at flyingshrnk@yahoo.com or luv2flyjsk@optonline.net. I look forward to a deluge of emails!

CAP Core Values

By Chaplain, Maj Christopher L. Smith
South Eastern Group Chaplain

As we move through the summer months—ask yourself how what you are doing measures up to core values?

- Volunteer Service—am I truly trying to serve others through my actions or am I more focused on serving myself? Am I truly freely giving of myself or am I expecting certain rewards?
- Excellence—am I holding myself to the highest standards that I can reach (and then even going a little bit beyond)?
- Respect—am I really thinking about how others will receive my actions? Do I have the same respect for myself and for others?
- Integrity—am I always doing what I know I should do even when my unit is meeting less and none would ever know what I am up to?

These four core values are what we have agreed to live by as members of Civil Air Patrol. Taken as a set, it is amazing how well they can serve as a guide to help us as we make decisions. They are emphasized at the encampment (which many will attend this July), but are enduring lampposts for all of our lives. They apply to seniors at work, members together at unit meetings, ground teams and air crews on missions, cadets at school...Think about and use them to assess your decisions and actions.

South Eastern Group staff

Commander	Maj Paul Ghiron
Deputy Commander	Capt Michael Heath
Chaplain/DDR	Maj Christopher Smith
Aerospace Education	1st Lt Bob Kelly
Communications	1st Lt Peter Gottlieb
Emergency Services	1st Lt Steven Dewey
Finance	1st Lt Eric Morrow
Inspector General	Capt Eric Steinberg
Logistics/Transport	1st Lt Jan Desiato
Operations	Capt Michael Heath
Personnel/Recruiting	1st Lt Sharon Brana
Professional Development	Capt Nicole Ludwig
Public Affairs/Newsletter	Capt Peter Milano
Safety	1st Lt Peter Gottlieb
Standardization/Evaluation	Maj Howard Kravitz

eServices...Getting the Hang of It

By 1st Lt Sharon Brana

South Eastern Group Personnel Officer

Life is constantly changing, and so it seems does eServices. The eServices Website has a new look, and yes, there are changes, but for the better! The opening page looks different but is actually more explicit and easier to navigate.

One of the best changes is in the far left column under *CAP Utilities*. If you click on the word “edit,” a column will open listing applications with check-boxes next to them. As you go down the list of applications click on the “Save” check-off box next to it, if it is something you plan on using regularly. You can save as many applications you like. When you have gone down the length of the list, click on the grey “Save” button to finalize your selections. The column will now reopen as “My Favorites.” Notice that only the checked-off applications appear. Applications you rarely use are not visible, cluttering up the column. You now have quick and easy access to the applications you most often use.

If you need to use one of the unlisted applications, just click on the “Other” link (located directly below “My Favorites”) and all of the hidden applications will appear, ready for use. Clicking “Other” again will hide these items.

One point of note is renewing membership. To obtain a picture ID card you must click on the “Membership Picture ID Payment” link, even if you currently have a picture ID card. The picture ID fee must be paid annually as it is not issued automatically when you renew your membership. Membership renewal is also a good time to update your contact information. Click on the “Review/Edit My Info” link and make any necessary updates.

There is going to be more use of online capabilities, gradually phasing out the use of certain forms. All duty performance promotion requests should be done online. Commander’s, personnel, and administration officers should have this capability listed under “Restricted,” located on the top right of the page. Transfers, duty assignments and specialty track administration is handled in the same manner. It’s a good idea to print a copy of all online requests and to

keep an administrative log indicating date of action, member involved, reason for the action (promotion, duty assignment, etc.) and completion date.

Not Just Say No and Not Just Say Yes

By Chaplain, Maj Christopher L. Smith

South Eastern Group Chaplain/DDR Officer



One often forgotten element of the CAP Drug Demand Reduction Program is that we are not simply a “Just Say No” type of program. No, that doesn’t mean we are a “Just Say Yes” program either.

Civil Air Patrol members should consider their own drug use and understand what is not appropriate. Members should be saying no to a whole range of drugs—including the commonly listed drugs like heroin, meth, marijuana, and cocaine. Members should also be saying no to less focused on drugs such as prescription drugs (taken in ways not prescribed for the person taking them), inhalants (there is a whole range of these), and inappropriate use of alcohol and tobacco. As members discuss this, there are other areas that are often overlooked because of their legal status—most notably caffeine.

The CAP DDR program also has a positive emphasis within it. What are those fun activities that can be engaged in when members are not involved in drugs? Summer is a great time to explore new activities that might be of interest to you or to reengage in fun activities that you used to do. What are those fun diversions that you like to take part in? When is the last time you went flying? How often do you get to engage in a group sport (sand volleyball is great in the summer!)? What about a run by the light of dawn? When did you last read a book that you weren’t required to read?

During these summer months (whether you are off from school or simply have a different pace at the office), take inventory of the activities that are on the “I’m Allowed to Do This” side of DDR. Share your interest with others in your unit and recommit yourself to engaging in the activities you enjoy.

South Eastern Group Barbeque & Cadet Encampment "Send-off"

Who: All CAP members, family, friends (bring friends and introduce them to CAP)

What: SEG Group Social

Where: South Eastern Group HQ

When: Saturday 12 July 2008; 12- 4PM

Cost: \$5 per person

UOD: Civilian attire

RSVP: your Unit Commander ASAP

Unit Commanders, Please RSVP to Maj Paul Ghiron with numbers for your unit.



Aerospace Education Day & Cadet Recruitment Drive

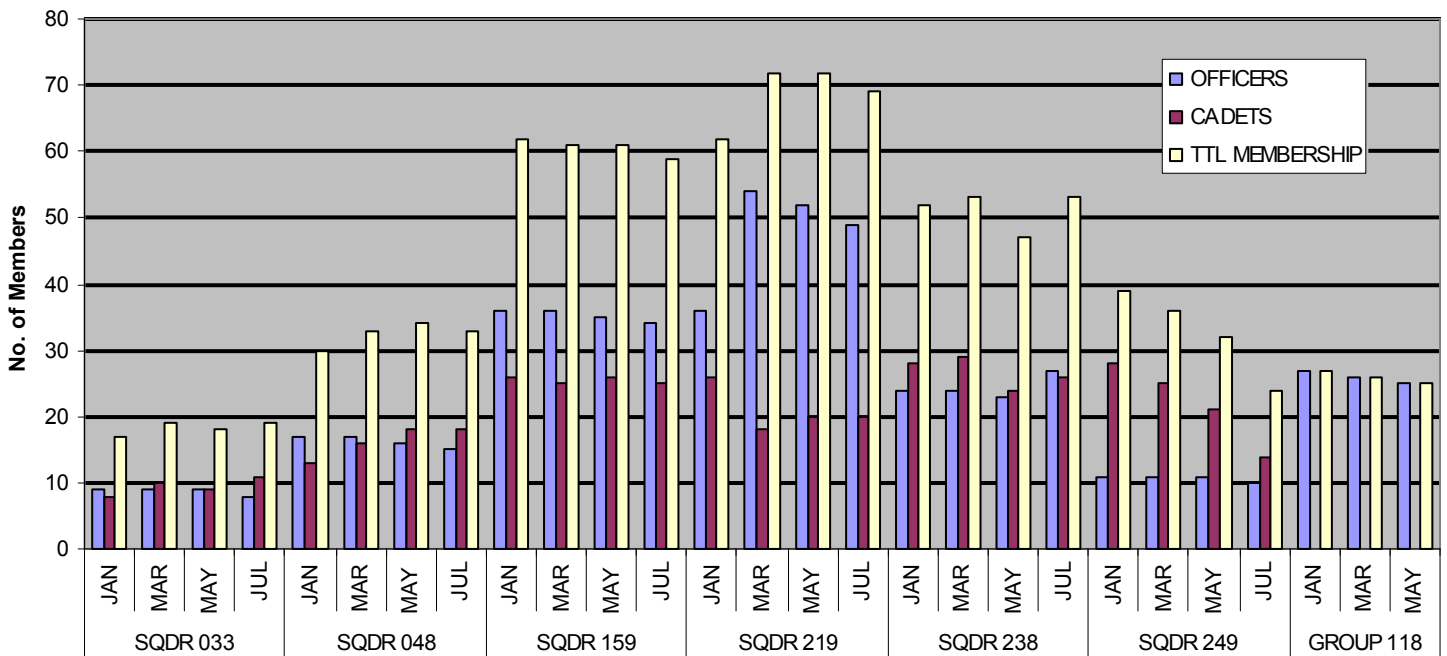
South Eastern Group will be holding an aerospace education and cadet recruiting drive on Saturday, 20 September 2008. There will be many activities for cadets and a wonderful chance for potential members to see what Civil Air Patrol is all about.

Times and details will be provided as they are coordinated. Volunteer your time and submit your ideas or suggestions to 1st Lt Sharon Brana (NY-118) at capaviatrix@yahoo.com.



C/A1C Alex Fontane (NY-033) on a flight simulator, SEG Aerospace Education Day 30 Sep 2006 (Photo: Capt Peter Milano)

MEMBERSHIP 2008



JULY/AUGUST 2008 CALENDAR

7/1	Advanced Radio Course	NY-219	7:15 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.
7/3	Group Meeting	SEG HQ	7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
7/12	SEG BBQ	SEG HQ	12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
7/17 - 7/27	NYW Encampment (Staff)	Scotia ANG	
7/19 - 7/26	NYW Encampment	Scotia ANG	
8/7	Group Meeting	SEG HQ	7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
8/9 - 8/10	NYW SAREX	Bases TBD	TBD

South Eastern Group Contact Information

Website: www.nywg.cap.gov/seg/

Phone: (914) 428-8426 **E-mail:** pao@capseg.org

Submission Guidelines

Send submissions via email to pao@capseg.org in MS Word format (limit to approximately 250 words).

Photos should be sent as attachments, in JPG or TIF format.

Include photo credits, cutline information, and an electronic copy of the associated story.

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