

# Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol



Wing Staff Reports

12 September 2014

## **CHIEF OF STAFF REPORT**

It's been a busy summer, and here we are finalizing details for our annual Cadet Conference. Again this year we combine this function with a Commanders Call, as well as our yearly vehicle inspection. For the second year in a row we are conducting our Wing COMEX in conjunction with the conference, simulating a mass mobilization of our fleet of vehicles. This exercise is designed to test the communications capabilities and proficiency of our operators, teams, and staff. In addition to this year's exercise is the testing of our mobile HF/ALE units and our state 800MHz system liaison radios.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Lt Col Annette Carlson for her years of dedicated service as the Wing Director of Professional Development. Under her careful eyes, she has grown the program to win both Region and National level awards and set the gold standard for what PD means in the Civil Air Patrol. Lt Col Carlson now hands this program over to Captain Paul Anderson, as she will focus solely on running our Wing Public Affairs program. A big THANK YOU to Annette, and a welcome to Paul!

It is also that time of year when we finalize our finance reports and paperwork due to Wing headquarters, and begin our annual inventory process. Again this year, Northeast Region has set an earlier deadline for annual inventories. The due date is 15 November.

Regards,

Roy Long, Lt Col., CAP  
Chief of Staff  
Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol

## **AEROSPACE EDUCATION REPORT**

1. The new CAPR 280-2 is out. The high emphasis item is report due dates. The following is pasted from the reg.
  - (1) For wings with group-level organization:
    - (a) Squadron AEPOAs are due at Group by 15 Oct
    - (b) Group AEPOAs are due at Wing by 15 Nov
    - (c) Wing AEPOAs are due at Region by 15 Jan
    - (d) Region sends Wing AEPOAs to NHQ/AE by 15 Feb
2. Please have your to your group AEO by the 15 Oct suspense date. Use the PAWGF-15 available from the forms area of the wing website. Previous editions are obsolete.
3. STEM kits are still available from national. Apply for yours today! They are a great deal. Already have one? Did you finish it? Apply for another.
4. AFA Grants. There is some more free money. Capt. Rob Montgomery from 902 got \$250.00 for an overnight trip to Wright Patterson AFB.

Robert M Thorn, Maj., CAP  
Director of Aerospace Education  
Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES REPORT**

Director of Emergency Services: Lt Col Brian Cuce  
Asst Director of ES – Training: Lt Col Ed Flick  
Asst Director of ES – Plans: Maj Dane Carroll  
Emergency Services Liaison Officer: Lt Col James Weller  
Information Technology Advisor: Lt Col Scott Croskey  
Ranger Programs Advisor: Col Thomas Benckert

### **Pillars for Success in 2015**

- 1) Ensuring safety always -- With the rash of safety incidents that forced us to put a pause on flying ops, we seriously dampen our credibility and ability to perform our mission. If we can't operate, we can't save lives.
- 2) Standardizing and professionalizing our training -- We have a bit of a ways to go to ensure our training across the wing is truly to the level we need it to be and people aren't cutting corners to get quals. This will require taking a closer look at training plans being submitted and requests for numbers are for legitimate training deserving of exercise participation credit.
- 3) Advancing and modernizing our capabilities -- With our partnership with DMVA we have made some strides to bringing in new capabilities into our arsenal, we need to continue with this momentum including establishing a functioning, modular, EOC that can be used to synchronize large scales ops and exercise and interface with the state EOC as needed. I also intend to explore ways to incorporate some commercial capabilities I employ at work to help increase our capabilities across the state.
- 4) Bolstering our relationships with local, state, and national mission partners -- Partnering with other agencies increases our technologic capabilities, training, and tasking to conduct operations.

### **Directorate Intent**

In 2014 we emphasized building relationships with local emergency management to include coordinating training with Pennsylvania National Guard's major response exercise. For 2015 it is our intent to continue to foster these relationships to build better partnerships across the state. Aircrews and ground teams continue to respond to state and national needs conducting operations for Homeland Security through Fertile Keynote Air Defense missions, active ELT searches, missing persons, disaster relief, and one of the most successful Counterdrug programs in the nation.

With such a large state and widely dispersed resources, costs to conduct large scale training and wing wide training events are prohibitive. In 2015 it will continue to be our wing goal to conduct a minimum of one major SAREX in each of our six geographic groups and one statewide exercise. As such, we will need to request additional funding than previous but also look for ways to maximize what funds we have through increasing tabletop exercises and sharing funding burdens across multiple organizations. Safety, as always, remains our number one priority and

emphasis on safety will be integrated in all facets of exercise planning, execution, and debrief.

Aircrew proficiency remains high and professional but more emphasis will be taken on increasing the professionalism of ground team and mission base personnel. While this training requires significantly less resources to accomplish and therefore can be conducted more frequently, care must be taken to make sure these training events are conducted professionally, standardized, and of the highest caliber.

### **Training Goals**

Pennsylvania is a widely geographically dispersed state with resources scattered throughout. Assembling a ground team on one side of the state to respond to events on the other could take upwards of seven hours in transit time alone. Each group covers a geographic distances roughly two square hours driving distance which is about the maximum driving radius for ground team response. The major population centers are found in the east and west boundaries of the state. These areas provide the bulk of our events related to ELT searches while the more rural areas typically encounter more calls for missing persons searches with the east garnering the most support for homeland security and disaster relief missions.

To estimate a minimum requirement across the state we use a formula roughly equivalent to a requirement to have 5 fully qualified and resourced aircrews and 5 fully qualified and resourced ground teams per group. This number merely serves as a bare minimum to self-sustain operations across the state. A desired number is far greater than that as Civil Air Patrol is a volunteer organization and is depending on working age professionals to make themselves available during what are usually work hours to man, staff, and deploy with our ground teams, mission base staff, and aircrews.

Additionally, it is our goal for 2015 to ensure all eligible aircrew are also Counterdrug qualified and all ES personnel are ICUT qualified.

BRIAN J. CUCE, Lt Col, CAP  
Director of Emergency Services  
Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol

## **COMMUNICATIONS**

The current focus of Communications is the completion of ROS items. Many items are moving from ROS back to retirement. Other items are being submitted by the investigators for the next step in the process. There are still a number of items requiring a report of survey investigation and I am confident that this will be completed very soon.

With the cooperation of the communications staff, the Communications Retirement items are being initiated and in various stages of the process.

Change over inventory will be the next focus of the staff and mine energies. The annual inventory close behind. Making that roughly 9 hands on inventories in approx 18 months.

The staff and I are working together to evaluate our capabilities and anticipate the wing's communications needs as we take on the task of administering the tables of allowances.

Rod Thomas 1st Lieutenant., CAP  
Director of Communications  
Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Capt. Paul Anderson was appointed to Director of Professional Development for PA Wing in July 2014.

Lt. Col. Carlson's service is very much appreciated. She has agreed to stay on as assistant during the transition.

### **UPCOMING PD TRAINING:**

SLS – Sep 11-12, 2014 Group 4 Contact Lt Col Pat Devlin

SLS – Nov 8-9, 2014 Group 5 Contact Maj Suzanne McBride

Northeast Region Staff College – Oct 18-25, 2014 Contact Lt Col Darren Cioffi

Also see [http://www.pawg.cap.gov/professional\\_development](http://www.pawg.cap.gov/professional_development) for neighboring Wings upcoming PD courses.

To review the PA Wing policy and guidelines for approval for the online SLS and CLC see: [http://www.pawg.cap.gov/professional\\_development#OnlineSLSCLC](http://www.pawg.cap.gov/professional_development#OnlineSLSCLC)

### **RECENT PD TRAINING:**

SLS – Group 1 September 14-15, 2013 – Pittsburgh, PA

SLS – Group 2 April 12-13, 2014 – Lancaster, PA

SLS – Group 6 May 31-June 1 – Clarion, PA

#### Comments:

Lt Col R Long and Lt Col A Carlson have been very helpful with the transition. Their time and comments have been very much appreciated.

Contact info: Capt Paul Anderson – [dpd@pawg.cap.gov](mailto:dpd@pawg.cap.gov)

Respectfully submitted:

PAUL ANDERSON, Capt, CAP  
Director of Professional Development  
Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol

## **SAFETY REPORT**

Currently all mishaps have been closed or at either National or Region Safety offices. The reporting of incidents has again surfaced as being problematic. Even after numerous briefings to the members concerning the write-up of incidents in part 1 in the incident reporting system under SMS, members are still writing way to much information. In the next Tele-conference in October, the correct procedures will be discussed again with the unit safety officers. We are recommending that all members take the "part 1" tutorial of the SMS reporting system and also read the CAP Regulations concerning this subject.

We have had numerous incidents in the past few months that could have caused major injuries or property damage. The concept missing was thinking what possible outcomes could result due to the members' actions. In other words, the members' failure to utilize Risk Management in the operation of the aircraft or vehicle. In the coming months, Risk Management will be the subject of unit's safety meeting. This would be a good time to really review the unit's RM procedures.

We attended the National Conference in Las Vegas and attended several very informative sessions. Meeting with your counter-parts in other wings gives a good idea where we stand in Safety compared to other wings and regions.

And finally, we have added a new assistant safety officer to the staff. Lt Jose Rios has an extensive background in safety and is a real asset to the wing safety program.

Barry Metz, Lt Col., CAP  
Director of Safety  
Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol