



Navigator



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WORDS FROM THE TOP **Squadron Commander** **Maj. Michael Skullr**

A new year is upon us and we're going to have a very busy schedule for 2006. We already have two 5k/10k runs, three FTX's, Wings, Wheels & Rotors, 4th of July and two Rocstocks scheduled. We are going to try to set up an "O" ride or two for you cadets. I would like to attend a couple of air shows and a day trip to the aviation museum at Balboa Park in San Diego. Last year we had a few joint ventures with other squadrons and we plan to do the same this year. There is a lot we can learn from working with other squadrons and they may also learn from us. We have a lot of work and **FUN** to look forward to in 2006.

I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and I wish you all a Happy New Year!

GET INVOLVED **By: C/CMSgt. Jennifer Souza**

CAP Cadet Programs is all about teaching cadets how to live their life, abiding by the core values of Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence and Respect. Here at Sq153 we accomplish this through general flight training and leadership opportunities. Beyond the squadron, Calif. Wing instills the core values by offering many training schools, air shows and community service opportunities, but they will not do you any good if you don't attend. Please sign up to attend activities so that you can continue to grow and gain experience as a cadet and an individual. Not only does attending outside events help you learn more about life, but they also give you the chance to connect with other CAP cadets and build friendships with people you will be working with at future CAWG activities. The more people you know, the more fun you'll

have working and leading outside of CAP and within it.

MY 1st TWO MONTHS IN CAP **By: C/B Sarah Hamilton**

My first 2 months in Sq153 have been educational and interesting. My first night at CAP, I was kind of nervous, but that changed when I saw I wasn't the only new cadet in the squadron. When we formed up outside for inspection I was worried that I might mess up, but fortunately I didn't. We went back inside the building and listened to the assistant flight sergeant talk about the various insignias in different branches of the military, it was interesting, and I learned a lot. Next we went outside and did some drill practice. At first I was with the regular flight, but I was then put with a more experienced cadet, who taught me some of the basic movements. The 1st sergeant then helped me with the command, "To

the rear". At the conclusion of the meeting the squadron commander told us about some of the upcoming activities. It was a great first night! I haven't been able to participate in all the activities yet, but I did attend my first "Fox Hunt". We cleaned the building from top to bottom. All the cadets helped do the jobs needed and everything went smoothly. My job was to clean windows and weed around the building. When we finished we went to lunch. When we returned, we learned about the rocket that was going to be launched at Rocstock. I was amazed at how much thrust was needed to get that rocket in the air. I am now looking forward to doing more activities, and I hope to attend the "O" flight in January.

CADET HELP & TESTING **By: 2nd Lt. GALATI**

This article is for the benefit of all cadets of the squadron. If you want to promote, you need to test.

I know you didn't join Civil Air Patrol to do homework, but rank is something you have to earn, it is not just given to you. It is important to promote and advance, as a matter of fact, you must promote at least once a year or you could be dropped from the cadet program. You can promote every 2 months, that is six promotions in a year, so what are you waiting for? Here is how it has been made easier for you to test and promote. First off, study your modules and know the material. Next go to the website www.geocities.com/cadet_help or <http://sq153.cawg.gov> and go to the bottom of the first page and click on ring hub, follow it till you find the cadet help website, bookmark it, it can help you through all levels of the cadet program. This can be a great help by allowing you to take a practice test for both the leadership and aerospace portions of testing. You won't get the answers to the questions, but it will tell you whether you passed or not. You will be directed where to go for the correct answer to questions you got wrong. By practicing in this way, you can be ready to take any test and pass with a great score.

Remember to sign up for testing on the 2nd or 4th Wednesday for taking the test on the following Wednesday night. Be aware that any problems that you might be having in the program there is help for you from both your fellow cadets and also the senior staff. If you need help, ask for it, it is there for you. Attend the "Fox Hunt" Saturdays' that is when you will be able to take the physical part of the testing procedures. If you miss one of these you will have to wait another month to be able to take this phase again. This year after the Saturday cleanup, we will be having training in Emergency Service and Aerospace. So, there you have it, TEST, TEST and PROMOTE!

ROCSTOCK
By: C/A Frank Galati

There's nothing like seeing a 6-8 foot rocket sitting on the launch pad gleaming in the sun. Suddenly, with the flick of a switch the rocket comes to life soaring up to the heavens trailing smoke and sometimes even sounding like a real rocket. This is Rocstock, where the hobby of Model Rocketry is more than just a hobby. This past Nov 11-13 Sq153 attended and

participated in Rocstock Cadets were both first timers and veterans of this event. Squadron members got to launch a rocket project that cadets had been working on since July. On Sunday Nov. 13th the cadets got to see the result of their efforts. With the help of Lt. Col. Laisure and Mr. Beal we got the rocket to the launch area. We took a group photo by the rocket on the launch tower and after a check by the launch officials, a quick run down on our launch card and clearance from the FAA the rocket was ready to launch. The launch control officer set the switch and the rocket flashed to life and raced up into the clear blue sky. After a few seconds the second stage motors kicked in and then a few seconds later the third stage motors fired and the rocket went to its maximum flight level. The rocket arched over and the ejection charge blew, and the nose cone came off, but the main chute didn't deploy and the drag chute brought the rocket down to earth. The only damage to the rocket was a broken fin and some cracks in the paint, all totally repairable and the rocket will be ready to launch at the next Rocstock in June. A big thank you goes to Lt. Col. Laisure and Mr.

Beal, who put a lot of time and money into our effort.

**CADET PROGRAMS
CONFERENCE**
By: C/CMSgt. Souza

Want to have fun and meet many other CAP cadets? Then attend CPC this February at Camp San Luis Obispo. CPC is all about giving cadets the opportunity to go to different seminars related to what their interests might be. Seminars on radio classes, planning an activity, model rocketry, even etiquette and dance classes. When all the seminars have completed, there is an awesome banquet held in a fancy hotel. At the banquet a nice dinner is served, some awards are given out and then everyone dances. The banquet is a good way to get to know all the friendly cadets you meet while attending the seminars a little better and maybe swap contact information to maintain your newly formed friendships outside of CAP activities. If you can't be there all weekend, at least try to come to the banquet and remember friends and family are always welcome. Hope to see you there!

FOXHUNT

By: C/A Vyas

Scrub, scrub, wash, wash and make those windows shine! Every month we participate in the cleaning process known as Foxhunt. Group 7 Headquarters pays the squadron to maintain the building, this is the way the squadron earns money for cadet activities and the Group gets the best cleanup job possible. The name Foxhunt doesn't correlate to the task other than we work to make the building free of dirt. Early in the morning, all rooms are vacuumed, dusted, swept and windows shined. Each cadet enjoys different chores. The dreaded bathroom is one of the last choices, along with trash detail, but we work as a team to get the job done. Foxhunt teaches responsibility, forms personal pride and duty. There is always laughter and conversation to make the time pass and the jobs aren't too difficult. Teamwork is important and critical to the success of any job or goal. Together we can accomplish anything!

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

By: Maj. Walters

Well it's a new year and maybe some or all of the cadets of the squadron should think about their commitment to the cadet program and the squadron. If you like the program, then pay more attention to detail in the ordinary things you do on a regular basis at squadron. Think about what you can do as cadet to improve yourself and in turn the squadron. Sometimes what you perceive to be small things, actually do a lot to improve you and the squadron at the same time. Do what you can to bring in new cadets to share in what you have found to be rewarding for you. Share the wealth, as the saying goes!

We, on the senior side give it our best efforts to support you in your program, we only ask that you cadets do the same, which is all anyone could ask.

Have a great 2006 in the program!



Sq153 members at Rocstock

Future Event Dates

- Jan. 7 Foxhunt
Air show at Cable
- Jan. 14 Cadet Staff Trng
- Jan. 28 Cadet "O" Flights
Radio class at
Sq68 in CM
- Feb. 4-5 Joint FTX with
Sq64 at Joshua
Tree
- Feb. 11-12 Alternate date
For FTX
- Feb. 18-19 CPC at Camp
Slo
- Feb. 25 Race on the Base

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Major David Walters
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