



Anoka County Composite Squadron Minnesota Wing Civil Air Patrol



Newsletter No. 8 July 2008



(Second from Right) Lt Col Dick Kirchner

First Anoka Composite Squadron member to retire

The following is a letter received from Lt Col Dick Kirchner

I've been with the Civil Air Patrol for over 28 years.

CAP has had a lot of changes over the years--much of it for the better.

Back in 1982, Anoka Squadron died! It's Commander quit and Anoka became a Flight under North Hennepin Squadron.

I started in 1980 with CAP and in late 1981, transferred to Minnesota Wing as Professional Development Director. In those days there wasn't a lot to do. Col. Lionel Bourquin was the Wing Commander and was really a nice person to work for and with. I was 2nd Lt at the time.

I found out about Anoka Squadron's fate and without hesitation went into Col. Gourquin's office and told him I didn't want Anoka to be dissolved. I asked him to make me the Squadron Commander that night, which he did and Anoka broke ties with North Hennepin. I also promised I would give him a Squadron within 6 months.

I then called Lt Col Mike Moen, who was a Captain at that time and Squadron Commander of St. Paul Squadron, and asked him to be my Deputy Commander, which he did. In 6 months a Flight was turned back into a Squadron. I kept my promise and the rest is history.

I have always said, "When I'm not having fun anymore, it's time to move one". My time in Cap is complete. I saved Anoka and wouldn't let it die. I had 3 Commands at Anoka.

We have a building and an airplane. A big thank you to the people who acquired the airplane.

I am retiring from Cap this year. I feel it's time.

The Squadron has grown tremendously. You are a wonderful group of people. I've been invited back and I shall be back. As Bob Hope always said, "Thanks for the memories".

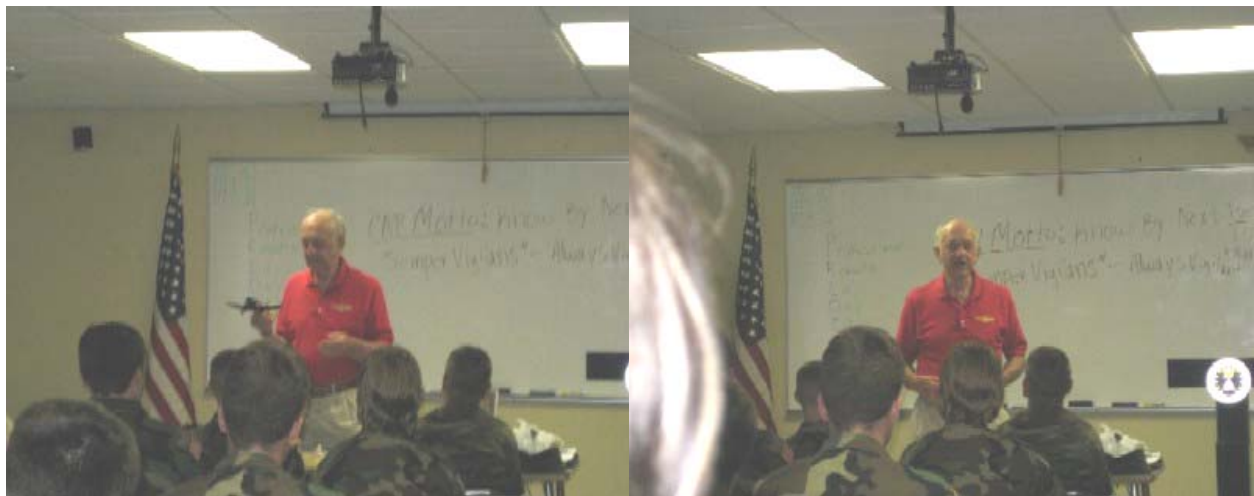
God Bless you all,

Signed

Lt. Col. Dick Kirchner

Col Kirchner, from all of us at the Squadron we want to say THANK YOU for your many years of service to CAP and the Anoka Composite Squadron. I know the letter was hard to write but as you quoted Bob Hope, I'm sure you have many memories.

WWII Presentation



Col Lyle Bradley a WWII Vet, Pilot, trainer and speaker came to the Squadron and shared some of his many experiences with all of the members. It was a great presentation and the Cadets had a lot of very interesting questions. He suggested to the Cadets to know everything about what you are doing. He memorized the complete manual of the airplane that he flew. "You never know when you need to know what the airplane can do. It can keep you from crashing" said Col Bradley. It paid off many times for him. After the presentation Col. Bradley said "You have a very interesting and sharp group of Cadets. I enjoyed all the great questions".

2008 Minnesota Wing Cadet Encampment

A number of Cadets attended the Minnesota Wing Cadet Encampment this year. The Award Recipients for Squadron Distinguished Graduate – SDS C/MSgt Dane Bjorkman, Anoka Composite Squadron. Great work.

Article in the Media

Coon Rapids CTN Studios reporter Steve Antus arrived at the Squadron on July 1 and started his camera rolling. He didn't stop for over two hours. He then put together a news article that aired on CTN and the District 11 channel.

The airplane arrived, an "O" flight was taken, along with many pictures and TV coverage.



(L-R) Reporter Steve Antus, 1st Lt Supan, Capt Bosshart

Tuesday July 1, at our CAP meeting the Anoka Squadron Airplane was there and so was CTN Studios. The CTN reporter did several interviews, video taped the airplane group picture, departing and returning from an "O" flight. He also had the camera on the cadets in drill and in the classroom doing training. He has over 2 hours of video.



(L-R) Lt Col Tim Swanson, CAP Reserve Assistance Officer Capt Andy Bosshart and Reporter Steve Antus

C/TSgt Hanna Olson, Pilot Capt Bill Menkevich

Thanks to all that helped to get the airplane and to all who are in the video along with the many pictures that were taken.

CTN aired the edited portion of the video as follows:

July 3 starting at 1700 on there internet ctnstudios
July 4 at 1700 on Channel 15 News for the Coon Rapids area Viewers
July 7 at 1900 on Channel 17 for School District 11 Viewers.

Channel 15 and 17 carried the coverage for a week. They also provided me a copy of the news program.

Two articles in North Central Region News <http://ncr.cap.gov/cgi-bin/index.cgi?page=newsletter>
Blaine Aviation Weekend and the July 1 Airplane Celebration

Cap News Online www.cap.gov/ July 21 item has the article and pictures of the July 1 event.

Promotions



Promoted from C/MSgt to C/SMSgt Matt Frame
(L-R) 1st Lt Shelly Supan, C/Capt Keyona Sanchez, C/SMSgt Matt Frame



Promoted from C/SMSgt to C/CMSgt Peter Mayhew
(L-R) 1st Lt Shelly Supan, C/Capt Keyona Sanchez, C/CMSgt Peter Mayhew

Safety

The Sentinel is the official safety newsletter of CAP. Items were reviewed by our Safety Officer 1Lt Jody Veek. He suggested everyone access www.cap.gov/safety, find and read The Sentinel for the month of July. Access the web site, click on Newsletters (Archived), 2008, then July to pull up the July issue. Accessing and reading The Sentinel should be a regular monthly activity for everyone. Heat and how much water you should drink was the topic this month.

New Members

Cadet William Heitland

Cadet Ryun Hobbs

Welcome to all.

If you have any comments please contact me.

Have a great day,

2Lt George Supan

Public Affairs Officer

Anoka Composite Squadron

NCR-MN-021

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