



NEWSLETTER

Orange County Cadet Squadron

April 2021

Stronger Together

Captain Ezra Kuliszewski, Commander



Shawnee leader, Tecumsa, once said, “a single twig breaks, but the bundle of twigs is strong.”

Our squadron is strong when we all work together to achieve our mission. Our strength begins when we prepare as individuals and we are strongest when we band together.

Recently I published a memo that details the vision I have for our squadron. C/2d Lt Arns, 2d Lt Borges, and I coordinated to set our goals and vision.

Let’s talk about the most important things we can do to move forward.

1. Strong Individuals – Make sure you’re ready to go for in-person meetings. We’re finding that many people (cadets and senior members) do not have their uniforms ready to go. Make sure that yours is squared away. Take some time to practice your individual drill movements on your own. Make sure you study customs and courtesies. If you do not know where to find resources for these topics, ask your flight sergeant, first sergeant, or flight commander. If you don’t know what flight you are in, you’re probably in the Great Start Program, so ask C/1st Lt LaCombe.

2. Strong Leaders – For our NCOs - find a topic that you enjoy and get involved as an instructor. If the subject is related to cadet programs or leadership, talk to C/1st Lt LaCombe about it. If the topic is related to aerospace, talk to C/1st Lt Connell. If it is emergency services, speak to C/CMSgt Borges and me. Be proactive about learning how to teach and develop your presentation skills.

2. Strong Squadron – One of the main goals we have is to achieve the *Quality Cadet Unit Award*. Many of you may ask, “Why does this matter to me?” This award means that our unit is offering a high-quality cadet program for all of our cadets. How can you help? It is pretty simple - be proactive about the things you usually do. Get aggressive with completing your promotions. Take your GES. Participate actively in programs like model rocketry. Most of all, tell your friends about CAP and the things that we do.

Let us make sure that we move forward steadily and deliberately. Our success depends on every one of you.

Semper Vigilans

Capt Ezra Kuliszewski

Welcome New Members

Captain Ezra S. Kuliszewski, Commander

Our squadron is pleased to welcome the following new members. Please make a point to introduce yourself and

- **Samantha Findlay**
- **Guliana Frisenda**
- **Hailey Frisenda**
- **Julien Rodriguez**
- **Austin Spannos**



Off to a Great Start

2nd Lt Guy Borges
Deputy Commander

Seven new members to our squadron are beginning their CAP experience as a cohort in the Cadet Great Start program

Cadet Great Start is a comprehensive introduction to CAP for new cadets. It transforms a cohort of ordinary youth into cadet airmen in 8 short weeks, while giving cadet NCOs and officers opportunities to apply their leadership skills.

The cohort has a full agenda of topics to learn that culminate with earning their first promotion, an Orientation Flight and other memorable experiences.

Upon graduation from the program, the cadets will join a flight to continue their CAP experience.

“Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other.” –

Former President John F. Kennedy



The salute is a gesture of respect and a sign of comradeship between Civil Air Patrol, and military, personnel

Military customs and courtesies like the salute are based on simple politeness and respect.

When knights of old saluted one another, and when cadets and officers exchange salutes today, the salute is not indicating that one person is inferior to another. Rather, when you exchange salutes with an officer, you show that you are polite and respectful of other people, especially those in positions of authority.

C/2d Lt Riley Arns Receives USAFA Appointment

SM David LaCombe, Public Affairs Officer



Please join us in congratulating C/2d Lt Riley Arns for her appointment to the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2025.

Riley has earned a rare opportunity to participate in one of our country's finest officer training programs.

"I started dreaming of academy life after talking to West Point cadets way back when I was in sixth grade" said Arns. "I look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead of me and I will forever be grateful for my time in Civil Air Patrol. I believe that my application would not have been nearly as competitive without my experience in CAP."



US Air Force Academy Facts

- Location:** Colorado Springs
- Year Established:** 1955
- Campus Elevation:** 7,258 FT
- Current Cadets:** 4,000 +
- Acceptance Rate:** 11%
- Tuition Value:** \$416,000

2020 Awards

Captain Ezra Kuliszewski, Commander

Upon the recommendation of the Squadron Awards Committee, and approval of the Commander, we are proud to recognize the following cadets for their excellence.



Air Force Association Award to Outstanding Cadets

C/Amn J Racite



Air Force Sergeants Association Award to Outstanding Cadet NCOS

C/MSgt Kittel



Veterans of Foreign Wars Cadet Officer Award

C/2d Lt Arns



Veterans of Foreign Wars Cadet NCO Award

C/CMSgt Narain



Daughters of the American Revolution Award

C/CMSgt Martini



National Society Daughters of Colonial Wars Award

C/MSgt Saenz



Daughters of American Colonialists Award

C/CMSgt Phang

Guest Speaker Program Continues to Inspire

SM David LaCombe, Public Affairs Officer

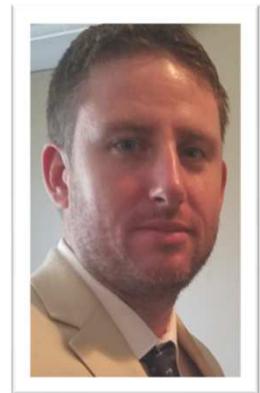
Since January of this year, our squadron hosted guest speakers representing commercial aviation, U.S. Air Force survival training, woman's air racing and the National Weather Service.

Presentations typically range from 30 – 45 minutes and afford members opportunities to ask questions. These sessions provide invaluable introductions to future career opportunities. They also shed insights on how successful professionals think and perform.

The Guest Speaker program is led by C/1st Lt LaCombe who created the program to augment squadron meetings during the pandemic.

When asked how he attracts national level speakers, LaCombe said "CAP has helped me to develop the confidence to talk with anyone. So, I just ask people to speak, and no one has said no yet."

Our next speaker is Major Michael Knapp, USAF who works at the Pentagon and most recently served at the 89th Airlift Wing (Special Air Mission - Joint Base Andrews).



THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMOTING REGULARLY

C/ 2nd Lt Stephen Racite,
Cadet Deputy Commander

Cadets who promote regularly achieve physical, academic and character-related benefits. They also help the squadron earn the Quality Cadet Unit Award.



Physical Conditioning – With each promotion, cadets participate in fitness activities which help grow their strength and stamina.

Academic Success – Each achievement level has coursework on either leadership or aerospace topics – usually both. The readings and activities are core to the cadet program and are filled with interesting information.

Character Development – CAP chaplains and character instructors lead important discussions about integrity, excellence, vision, persistence and more. These discussions help shape our values.

Quality Cadet Unit Award – On top of personal gains, the squadron also grows when cadets promote. The squadron gains a leader who may fill roles such as element leader, flight sergeant or flight commander. Promotions are an important metric for the Quality Cadet Unit Award – Squadrons should strive for 40% of its cadets earning the Wright Brothers Achievement (Cadet Staff Sergeant).

Why Earn the General Emergency Services Qualification?



Senior Master Sergeant Jim Gessman
Emergency Services Training Officer



Civil Air Patrol serves its local communities in Emergency Services missions such as Search and Rescue and Disaster Relief.

Even as a new member you may participate in Emergency Services missions when you possess a CAP Form 101, aka “101 Card.”

The CAPF 101 [Specialty Qualification Card] is used to identify mission qualified personnel.

Earning the General Emergency Services (GES) qualification results in the issuance of the CAPF 100. This is the first qualification you will earn, and it is essentially CAP's license to learn.

How to Earn Your 101 Card:

1. Download & read CAP Manuals:
 - [CAP Regulation 60-3](#) provides direction for operational mission training, qualification, and actual mission activities
 - [CAP Regulation 173-3](#) covers disbursement of federal funds to pay covered expenses related to missions, maintenance and training
2. Complete open book exam CAPT 116 in the Learning Management System.