

THE SENTINEL

[THE 2007 MAWG ENCAMPMENT NEWSLETTER] [12 AUG 2007]

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In Case of **EMERGENCY**

please contact:

LtCol William Duffey:
(Commandant of Cadets)
Barracks Phone:

1 (508) 968-5667
or
1(339)234-0439

ONLINE WEBSITE

During the course of this year's encampment, daily updates of the encampment may be available on the Mass. Wing's website:

<http://mawg.cap.gov/>
(Go to "Cadet Programs", and follow the links "DAILY UPDATES")

However, technical difficulties may prevent us from making these regular updates.

Message from the Commander:

In years past the Encampment setting has been a place of learning primarily for the Corps Cadets. This year, everyone is expected to learn something from myself right on down to the Cadet Basic, for whom this is their first encampment.

This year will mark my tenth encampment and I'm just as excited about this one as I was my first. The Encampment Staff is good mix of seasoned cadets and officers. We make a solid team that is united in providing the best possible encampment experience for the cadets of the Massachusetts Wing.

This year we also have cadets from Connecticut, Maryland, New York, and Ohio who will be taking part in their first encampment with us. Plus we have an instructor from Wisconsin who will be in attendance.

The calendar for the week is busting full of training activities and tours of units based at the Massachusetts Military Reservation on Cape Cod. The weather looks to be on our side as well with sun and 80-degree temps all week long.

My staff and I are committed to doing all that we can to provide the cadet staff with the atmosphere and tools they need to have a successful encampment, all while being safe and having a good time. The encampment staff is looking forward to having a great week and I know that your son/daughter will also have a great week.

I encourage you to check back here often to see some of the training and activities that your child has taken part in throughout the week. We will also post information and instructions for graduation on the site.

On behalf of the entire encampment staff, I wish your son/daughter all the best for a successful encampment and look forward to seeing all of you on Sunday 19 August at Graduation.

Respectfully,
John S. Flaherty, Major, CAP
Commander
2007 MAWG Encampment

Interview: the Cadet Commander

Name: Cadet Lieutenant Colonel Stephanie Grzelak

Q. When did you join Civil Air Patrol?

A. November 1999

Q. What Squadron did you originally start with?

A. Westover Composite Squadron.

Q. What did you like during your Basic Encampment?

A. U.T.E.S, the rides in the Black Hawks, and The Rappelling Tower

Q. What is your job outside of Encampment?

A. I am an Emergency Medical Technician

Q. What do you do for Activities outside of CAP?

A. CAP is what I do, but I do run long distance.



Q. Are you thinking of going into the military?

A. I am.

Q. Which Branch?

A. The Marine Corps. Or the Navy?

Q. What is your favorite thing to do in Civil Air Patrol?

A. Precision Drill and I love Emergency Services; I am a Ground Team Leader.

Q. What are your goals for this years Encampment?

A. I want all Cadets to get to have a learning experience.

-c/SSgt Javier Melendez, CAP

Words of wisdom from LtCol Duffey, CAP:

"I am confident you will all do your best, stay positive and go through this Encampment with the attitude that this will be one of the best experiences of your life. Stay safe, and stay smart!"

Lt Col Duffey is this year's Commandant of Cadets for the whole encampment. His main goal is to make this experience an enjoyable one and he wants all cadets in the Corps to feel at home in this environment.

-c/AIC Abhiram Iyengar, CAP

A Message from the Chaplain: Captain Vendt

Captain Vendt is this year's full time Chaplain of the Encampment. If you have any issues that need to be dealt with personally or otherwise, the Chaplain is the man to see. He just wanted to tell you that he is always available to talk to anyone. You can find him in his room which is right outside the Administration Office on the first floor. However most of the time he is outside, alongside the Corps. A point to be stressed is that you should not hesitate to see him to solve your problems; there is no need to use the chain of command to see the Chaplain; because he is outside your chain of command. An interesting event for this coming weekend is that the Chaplain will be holding worship services for cadets to attend if they so wish to do so. Services will be made to all faith don't feel shy about coming. In addition, there will be multiple moral leadership classes this week. On a final note, the Chaplain would like you all to know that he is looking forward to meeting you all.

- c/AIC Iyengar, CAP

What is my child going to do for the week?

This will be a challenging and fun week for cadets attending the encampment. They will be practicing and developing their abilities to accomplish various tasks through teamwork during the entire week, through marching practice, preparing with their "flight" (a team of cadets) for inspections of their barracks, etc. They will also complete a Leadership Reaction Course, which is a series of challenges designed to be nearly impossible to complete without the use of effective teamwork. Additionally, there are many other activities planned that the cadets will participate in, such as: rappelling from a 60-foot tower, taking tours of the MA Air National Guard F-15 and US Coast Guard Air Station hangars, going on a Blackhawk helicopter ride, possibly a C-130 cargo aircraft ride and a ride through the woods in an armored personnel carrier (APC)! These activities provide a variety of experiences for the cadets, and new knowledge and training that they can take back with them to their home and local squadron.

Why do I have to complete so many Release Forms? Is it really that dangerous?

The encampment is held on the Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR). On the reservation are several military and federal units, to include; Otis Air National Guard Base, Camp Edwards Army Training Site, and US Coast Guard Air Station Cape Cod to name several. Therefore the cadets and senior members will be on real estate belonging to different groups. Since there is a chance that one of us can get injured, and as you can probably guess, the numerous lawyers for the different groups on the MMR cannot agree on the perfect release of liability statement, each group has their own. Therefore there are a few different release statements to cover the respective groups. True the paperwork does make it seem like the place is very dangerous but this requirement is merely a formality. As always, safety comes first in CAP, so we will make every effort to lessen the potential for injury to all of our members.

What do they get to eat?

Encampment personnel will eat in a military dining hall. We will get three hot meals a day with usually two choices. There are vegetarian meals available if required (Please indicate on Medical form). While we are not talking high cuisine here, it's real food, and provides a balanced diet.

What about the medical care?

We will have on staff several Nurses and Emergency Medical Technicians to provide medical care if needed. Highly competent personnel will staff an area dedicated to ensure that the proper level of care is given to any medical issue that may arise. On a daily basis, there will be a "sick call" for any person desiring medical attention. The medics will also monitor persons on mandatory medication to make sure that their medications are taken at the proper times. Additionally, there is a Coast Guard medical facility on the base and we transport to Falmouth Hospital if needed.

Can they call me?

Cadets are encouraged to call home. However, at past encampments, many cadets have been reluctant to do so because of the limited pay phones available and their desire for independence. Please rest assured that we will contact you if needed – otherwise your sons and daughters will be fine.

Can I call them?

The Squadron Commanders will have the phone number for emergency contact. However, the cadets' schedule is quite full, so please let them call you as they have time.

Should I come to Graduation?

ABSOLUTELY YES! It will begin at 10:00AM on Sunday the 7th in the base theater with the graduation ceremony and finish with a pass in review.

What if I have specific questions?

Check with your local squadron commander or their designated Point of Contact for encampment, who can likely answer your questions. If not, then please ask them to contact me and I will either communicate the answer using a wide distribution or contact you directly.