

Tuesday, 31 August 2010

Parents Meeting

Captain Alyson White called the meeting to order by introducing herself and clarifying her position within our squadron; Major Andrew Dice has been promoted to group and Captain White is now the Deputy Commander of Cadets. Captain White has been in CAP for 11 years, was a former cadet (joined when she was 16) and then became a senior member. She has served in four wings: Florida, New Jersey, Louisiana and now Texas. Captain White served in active duty in the United States Air Force for two years and is now in the Air Guard. Captain White's contact information was given to attendees:

Cell phone: 281-750-2508

Email: nucadet2004@yahoo.com

Captain White indicated that she encourages parents and cadets to contact her with problems and questions as they arise. She is available on her cell phone (either by text or voice) and via email.

CADET TESTING

Online testing for cadets is now operational. All testing will be done online for any cadet joining after July 2010. Enlisted cadets joining prior to July 2010 have the option of continuing with the hard copy test or switching to the online testing option. At this time officers do not have an online option. Once an exam has been taken online, Captain White will receive the exam grade and will then address the promotion request. Should a cadet fail an online exam, the cadet must wait a minimum of 7 days to retake the same exam. ALL aerospace testing for enlisted cadets is online.

For cadets that joined prior to July 2010, the paper testing will be done on the 1st and 4th Tuesdays of each month. The current schedule states testing will be done on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday. This oversight will be corrected as soon as possible.

The drill portion of the test will be done at the squadron hanger. Wright Brothers, Mitchell, Earhart, and Eaker will all continue to be paper testing and will be done at the squadron hanger - not as online testing. ALL books are online for leadership. There is no special process to switch from paper testing to electronic testing - just go to the CAP website, read through information and take exams.

CADET BOARDS

Cadet boards are the 2nd Tuesday of each month. This is a BDU night and if cadets have blues, they will need to bring them to change into for boards. Boards are oral questions posed by Captain White, a senior officer and a cadet officer. Captain White will then approve for promotion. If there is a serious problem, this will be discussed with cadet and/or parents. As soon as cadets are approved for a rank, they are eligible to test for next rank. Promotion ceremonies are on the 3rd Tuesdays of the month but they do not have to wait for that ceremony to test for next rank. Cadets should promote a minimum of twice a year. If cadets do not promote, they should be counseled by Captain White. Parents should

encourage cadets to attempt testing if they are due for promotion. PT night is not the night to start training for PT testing. PT should be done continuously at home.

ATTENDANCE

Cadets will need to attend ½ of the meetings or they will be placed in “inactive” status. Excused activities (school events, sports) should be communicated to Captain White.

HYDRATION

Squadron Health Services Officer, Naomi Hays, RN spoke briefly to parents regarding hydration of cadets before CAP meetings. Hydration is particularly important on PT nights due to the heat index and physical demands on the cadets during PT. Parents should encourage their cadet to drink a minimum of 6 to 7 bottles of water throughout the day on PT day to avoid a dehydration issue during CAP meetings.

ESERVICES

eServices is available online to cadets and parents of cadets. Parents should regularly check their cadet’s status and encourage advancement within CAP. Questions should be forwarded to CAPTAIN WHITE. Many more opportunities arise as the cadet’s advance up the ranks. Encourage cadets to attend wing, and national events to foster enthusiasm in advancement. Encampment is highly encouraged and cadets benefit in many ways from each of these activities.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Can cadets wear uniforms to church or school?

Generally CAP uniforms cannot be worn outside of approved CAP activities. However, appropriate ceremonies (i.e. posting the colors in a Veterans Day ceremony) can be approved through Commander Rose for uniforms to be worn.

Can cadets wear uniforms to school on December 1st (CAP anniversary date)?

Captain White will research and inform parents as to protocol. At this time she is not aware of permission for cadets to wear their CAP uniforms on this date but will release information as she receives it.

What is the current status of O-Flights (orientation flights)?

As a squadron without a airplane assigned to us, we are at the mercy of the availability of a plane for the squadron’s use. As soon as we can arrange use of a plane, we will be scheduling orientation flights for cadets. It should be noted that cadets MUST have their proper uniform and ID card on the day of an orientation flight.

Any further questions can be addressed to Captain White via the above contact information.

Meeting was dismissed.