

The Encampment Sun



Welcome to the 2009 Maryland-Delaware Encampment!

On Sunday 28 June 2009, between 1800 and 1930, you embarked on the journey of your Basic Cadet Encampment. You will be very busy throughout this week so there is no room for goofing around. This will also be a challenging experience, especially if it is your first time away from home. You may have those times where you say, "I want to go home, I'm not having fun." Believe me, those thoughts will pass and the friendships that you make over the course of this week will last a lifetime. Also keep in mind that the Staff is not here to put you down but to build you up. All you have to do is be the best that you can be and you should be fine. Good luck on the most challenging week of your Civil Air Patrol career!



A-10, Retire or Not?

The A-10 Thunderbolt was considered the greatest aircraft in the USAF in the early 1970's. It was designed directly for close air support (CAS) and is able to carry a heavy weapons load, unlike other aircraft which require an upgrade to provide CAS. As time passed, the A-10 proved its superiority in the air as it provided CAS to troops on the ground. Currently, new aircraft are being developed to replace the A-10 Thunderbolt.

As these aircraft were being designed and built, generals debated whether or not to retire the A-10. Now, in the year 2009, they are again debating the merits of the A-10 versus the F-35. The generals are split in half – one half says that the A-10 is still superior in CAS and the F-35 Lightning II does not have the same accurate fire power or payload, while the other half argues that the F-35 is faster and can fly circles around the A-10 thus it should be retired. So as the generals debate the A-10's retirement, it is up to pilots to show that the A-10's are still superior.

A-10 Thunderbolts: should we retire them or not? The debate is still on.

Col Feik, Aviation Engineer, Talks with the Cadets

On 29 June 2009, Col Mary Feik visited our Encampment. We are very fortunate to have her here to speak and give out some of her own certificates to the Basic Cadets. After listening to her discuss her amazing life and what she has done, and still is doing, for the community, C/SMSGT Ruiz remarked, "It's something that no other person has done with so much dedication to this state."

Many people have been inspired by this female who, in her early life, kept fighting for what she wanted most until she achieved it. "Be convinced within yourself that you can be whatever it is you want to be," noted Col Feik, whose initiative helped her excel in her field. Reminding cadets of the opportunities that lie ahead of them, Col Feik said, "Look what can happen in your career. Look at your options. It is mind boggling."

She is an amazing aviator and engineer who still inspires us to this day, continuing to visit Encampment every chance that she gets for which we thank her from the bottom of our hearts.



Capt (Dr.) Kukucka Teaches Basics about Aerospace Education

On 29 June 2009, Capt (Dr.) Mark Kukucka visited the Encampment to teach the Cadet Basics about Aerospace Education and the history of Civil Air Patrol. Capt Kukucka let the Basics answer questions about Aerospace Education and design their own model rockets. These rockets were made out of 2-liter soda bottles which were propelled by air pressure and water. When the Basics were asked questions, they needed to come up with one answer as a team. "Capt (Dr.) Kukucka explained things well, he was a hands on trainer, and expressed excellent team work," noted C/Amn Moore, Foxtrot Flight, Squadron 3.



Menu for Day 2

Breakfast

- * Sausage and scrambled eggs
- * French toast sticks
- * Cereal
- * Fresh fruit
- * Toast and Bagels

Lunch

- * Ready made sandwich packs
- * Fresh fruit
- * Chips
- * Juice

Dinner

- * Pasta and meat sauce
- * Peas
- * Breads
- * Salad bar

Question of the day

What surprised you most when you arrived at Encampment?

"The way they rushed us to get our water bottles at in-processing."

*- C/Amn Abrams,
Foxtrot Flight,
Squadron 3*

"How everything was organized and problems were resolved."

*- C/MSgt DeBoissere,
Comm./Info Tech NCO*

"The Tuna Fish on the door."

*- C/2d Lt Gnau,
Logistics OIC*