



U.S. CIVIL AIR PATROL
SQUADRON 442
KERRVILLE, TEXAS

MONTHLY NEWS

“ReCAPping what you need to know ... April 2024”

Maj THOMAS KING CAP
SQUADRON COMMANDER

Maj GEORGE OTTO CAP
ADVISOR TO THE COMMANDER

LTC JOHN MURRAY CAP
DEPUTY SQUADRON COMMANDER

1st Lt. MARK DEL TORO CAP
DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR CADETS

Capt DIANN BLACK CAP
ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

SM Dan EnglishE CAP
SAFETY OFFICER

COMMANDER’S CORNER (Tom King)

Tom welcomed those in attendance at last night’s monthly squadron meeting. The meeting included a guest and active pilot: Isaac Deal who is interested in joining CAP and our squadron. Our newest member is John Larson, an active pilot and resident of Tierra Linda. Welcome to the squadron, John! This next squadron monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 1 May 2024 and will be conducted both in-person and via Zoom.

DATES & EVENTS TO REMEMBER

WHAT	WHERE	WHEN	WHO
Spring Eclipse Mission	Kerrville Airport (KERV)	7 – 9 April 2024	ES-Qualified members
Mountain Flight Clinic	Alpine, Texas (E38)	26 – 28 April 2024	ES-Qualified members
Squadron Monthly Meeting	KERV Conference Rm + Zoom	Wednesday, 1 May 2024	Squadron members and guests

For additional information on these activities, contact either Tom King (210-467-7678) or John Murray (830-285-3248).

ADMINISTRATION (Roberta Himebrook, D. Black, G. Black and others)

TXWG Annual Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas 2-4 May 2024. The conference will be held at the Marriot San Antonio Airport, 77 NE Loop 410. Group V will play an active role in helping conduct the conference. Several in our squadron have indicated interest in attending the conference. The annual CAP National Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas 15-17 August 2024. This will be a great opportunity to attend a national conference close to home! More on this in the next couple of months.

Tom discussed the Subordinate Unit Inspection (SUI) scheduled for August 2024 for our squadron. An SUI is conducted by the Wing Inspector General and his team. Our last SUI was in August of 2022. A squadron-level SUI consists of reviews and evaluations of Administration, Aerospace Education, Cadets, Command, Finance, Personnel, Professional Development, Public Safety, Safety, Supplies and Transportation. Tom will plan a staff meeting to organize for our SUI.

The squadron bank account balance remains at approximately \$7,000.

OPERATIONS/EMERGENCY SERVICES (Bob Hamm; George Otto)



N794CA was returned by John Murray, Tommy Hayes and Gary Black) from Denton, Texas where the airplane was a part of the USAF RPP the last two weeks in March. Bob said that he continues planning for March and April ES (SAREX) training mission including the scheduling of air sorties. A number of sorties were conducted in late February – early March, operating out of KERV.

The C182Q (N96821) based in San Angelo, Texas (KSJT) was brought to KERV by Bob Hamm and Tom King flew that airplane on Proficiency flights on 25 March. The next day, John Murray together with Tommy Hayes and Diann Black flew the San Angelo C182 (N96821) in support of the Felix Hawk Mission (USAF intercept). N96821 was then returned to San Angelo. Tomorrow, Bob Hamm, Tom King and Tommy Hayes will use N794CA to bring N96821 back to KERV as a back-up for N794CA in support of the upcoming eclipse mission (see below).

The squadron’s planning for the spring 2024 annual eclipse mission is essentially complete. Bob Hamm, Mark Del Toro and Tom King have participated in a series of MS Teams conference calls conducted by Chris Baker, TXWG ES Officer to assist other Group V squadrons in their planning for the eclipse. The annual eclipse will occur on 8 April 2024. Our participation in this mission will be very similar (but not identical to) the fall eclipse mission last October 2023. We also continue to work with the Kerrville-Kerr County Emergency Management team in coordinating funding via the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) for this mission. Our air crews will again provide aerial reconnaissance and aerial photographs along major highways and intersections as well as streets and visitor viewing areas to support Kerrville and Kerr County efforts to analyze crowd sizes and observe critical infrastructure before, during and immediately after the April eclipse. At this time, we expect to fly a total of four sorties on the day of the eclipse, each approximately 1.3 hours in length (and on a prescribed route very similar to that flown for the fall eclipse).

The Mountain Flight Clinic (MFC), which our squadron hosts each year, will be conducted on the weekend of 26 – 28 April 2024 in Alpine, Texas. If you plan to attend this exercise, you should make your hotel reservation at the Hampton Inn – Alpine (432-837-7344), requesting a room within the CAP

block of rooms. The final MFC planning session was held on Tuesday, 19 March 2024 in-person in the KERV conference room as well as via Zoom. Staffing needs were finalized during that meeting. Gary Black distributed (Win-wide) a registration questionnaire and has received a significant number of responses. He and Tom are starting to put together lists of initial and requalifying trainees, safety pilots and high bird crews as well as available aircraft.

The 166th AVN BDE training exercise (U.S. Army ATC training) will take place in May (24-1-3994). Bob and Tom will fly in this exercise on 5 May; Hayes together with either Gary Black or John Murray will fly in the exercise on 11 May. Each day's participation involves flying first to Temple, Texas. Then over to Ft. Cavazos (formerly Ft. Hood) where each CAP aircraft will fly continuously around the traffic pattern to give the Army ATC trainees practice working with multiple aircraft. The exercise will also include diverting a single CAP aircraft at a time to conduct a PAR approach under the control; of these Army ATC trainees.

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE (Tommy Hayes)

The squadron airplane (N794CA) airplane was flown a total of 29.3 hours (Hobbs / 24.6 hours tach during February. The airplane has a total of 83.8 hours (Hobbs for Fiscal Year 2024, keeping us in track for the required minimum of 200 hours each fiscal year. N794CA will go to Denton to be utilize in the USAF Rated Preparatory Program (RPP) for active- duty Air Force members who wish to enter the USAF pilot training program. The next 100-hour inspection will be due in less than 50 hours. Thus, the airplane will go from Denton to 100-hour inspection at Tac Aero (T82). Bob Hamm has been working to secure our use of one or more other CAP aircraft for our participation in the Eclipse mission and the MFC if needed. Tommy asks crews to please continue to be diligent when checking oil levels and let him know each time oil is added.

CADETS (Mark Del Toro)

The cadet squadron meets each Monday evening at the Ingram HS. The cadet squadron continues to be very active.

There will be no cadet orientation flights sooner than sometime in late April or in May because of the squadron airplane not being available. Bob will continue coordinating with Marquel McNeill, squadron O-Flight Coordinator, on schedules for cadet orientation flights.

In May, Scott Purdy will work with the cadets on the CAP-provided STEM kit activity called "Snaptricity". With the Snaptricity STEM Kits, cadets use hands-on activities to explore how electricity and magnetism is used in daily items. Using the kit, the cadets demonstrate the workings of magnetic fields, electricity, parallel circuits, and switches.

If you have any interest in participating on any of these cadet activities (or other cadet activities), please contact Mark Del Toro, Deputy Commander for Cadets. Your participation would be greatly appreciated!

SAFETY (Bob Hamm)

On 8 April 2024, a total solar eclipse will be visible in the continental United States. Kerrville is one of the many municipalities found along will need to be within the 115-mile-wide path of totality. Because of uncertainty in the Eclipse Mission this coming weekend, Bob provided the mission briefing at this meeting. The briefing includes "Eclipse Safety".



Aircrews should be particularly aware and vigilant of specific risks related to flying in and out of KERV on the day of the eclipse (Monday, 8 April). These can include terrain, birds and towers. In particular, be aware that objectives ECL18 – ECL 22 within Kerrville are in close proximity to the approach/departure ends of Runway 12/30. Note that Runway 03/21 will be closed from 5 April to 9 April. And we expect extensive ground operations at KERV during this time. Joe Kennedy will provide taxiway routing from ramp to Runway 12/30.

Looking directly at the sun during a solar eclipse is unsafe and can cause temporary or even permanent damage to your eyes. When viewing the eclipse, wear Eclipse Safety Glasses that filter out 100% of damaging ultraviolet and infrared and 99.999% of intense visible light: "eclipse glasses" or viewers that meet international standard ISO 12312-2 for safe viewing. "Eclipse glasses" are NOT regular sunglasses; regular sunglasses, no matter how dark, are not safe for viewing the Sun. Always inspect your eclipse glasses or handheld viewer before use; if torn, scratched, or otherwise damaged, discard the device.



Remember that TXWG mandates that all members must participate in the monthly safety briefing prior to participation in any squadron activity including air operations. This participation must be documented. Your signing in at the monthly squadron meeting completes this requirement. You need no more safety briefing for this month. If you cannot attend a particular monthly meeting, respond "RECEIVED" to the e-mail to which the monthly newsletter is attached. And you'll get credit for the safety briefing.