U.S. CIVIL AIR PATROL

SQUADRON 442

KERRVILLE, TEXAS

MONTHLY NEWS

"ReCAPping what you need to know …. December 2025"

Lt Col John Murray
COMMANDER

1Lt Isaac Real
DEPUTY SQUADRON COMMANDER

2Lt Sarah Crusan
DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR CADETS

Lt Col Bob Hamm
OPERATIONS OFFICER

COMMANDER'S CORNER (John Murray)

I'd like to start off by thanking Harry and Marjorie Cook for hosting the squadron Christmas "get together." A good time was had by all!





As in past years, we presented annual squadron awards during our December meeting. Several members of the squadron were recognized for Meritorious Service Award, including Mark DelToro, Tommy Hayes, Tom King and Joshua Tylor. Additionally, Bob Hamm and Sarah Crusan were recognized as Exceptional Member of the Year. Finally, Isaac Real was recognized with the Jack Jackson Member of the Year Award, the squadron's highest award. Congratulations to all and thank you very much for your hard work and dedication.

Several members of the squadron staff met on 19 November to conduct strategic planning and set priorities for the next two years. Thanks to Tom King, Sarah Crusan, Isaac Real, Josh Taylor, John Murrary and Bob Hamm for developing a plan that we can use to guide the squadron for the next 2 years. The plan consists of four focus areas and ten initiatives. The plan will be presented to squadron members at our January meeting.

Many thanks to everyone for another magnificent Wreaths Across America event on Saturday 13 November. It was an all-hands-on deck affair, with a terrific showing by the community. Lots of moving parts to pull this event off every year. So, to our Squadron, cadets and seniors alike, who show up to fund raising events throughout the year, community supporters like HEB, Masonic Lodge #697 and Kerrville Aviation, and those who help set up the cemetery for the public – THANK YOU! I would especially like to thank our master of ceremonies, Sarah Crusan, Josh Taylor, Isaac Real and Cadet veteran escorts and our Honor Guard (Cadets Worrell, Anthony Asher, Jaden Moss and Sorbe).

DATES & EVENTS TO REMEMBER

WHAT	*WHERE*	*WHEN*	*WHO*
January Squadron Meeting	Kerrville-Kerr County Airport	Wednesday, 7 January 2026	Squadron Members
Cadet Orientation Flights	Kerrville-Kerr County Airport	Saturday,17 December 2026	Orientation Pilots and Cadets
SAR/DR Exercise	Kerrville-Kerr County Airport	Saturday, 24 January 2026	Squadron Members
Squadron Subordinate Unit Inspection 2026	TX-442 Kerrville & Ingram	Ongoing throughout the year	Squadron Members

For additional information on these activities, contact either John Murray 830-285-3248 or Isaac Real 712-259-2965.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION (Murray/Cook)

We are still looking to fill a number of critical staff positions. We are making some progress in this area. Many thanks to Isaac Real for taking on Finance Officer in addition to his duties as Aerospace Education Officer and Deputy Squadron Commander, Bob Hamm for taking on Disaster Response and Counterdrug in addition to his duties as Operations and Emergency Services Officer and Ed Stearns for taking on Safety Officer. We are still looking for an Administration, Personnel, Logistics, and Public Affairs Officer. Please let John Murray know if you are interested in filling a staff position.

FINANCE (Murray/Real)

We received a check from WAA for $1528.00 and wrote a check for $751.00 for Squadron T-Shirts. Our account balance at the end of November is $9600.00.

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE (Tommy Hayes)

N794CA
Still Grounded.
N290CP
Tommy Hayes is scheduled to fly to Independence, KS to pickup up our brand new C182T on 15 December. The plane should be at Kerrville on/about 16 December. Tommy is looking for help from our CAP qualified "break in" pilots once the airplane arrives. Let Tommy know if you can help out. Have a safe flight Tommy…and thanks!

OPERATIONS/EMERGENCY SERVICES (Bob Hamm)

Due to aircraft availability, it's been difficult to stay both current and proficient in CAP aircraft. As we all know, flying an aircraft is a perishable skill. Lack of practice can lead to degraded motor memory and cognitive workload increases without recent repetition. To deal with this phenomenon, N271CA from Stinson Field was relocated to Kerrville on 2-8 January. Many thanks to John Larson for flying Isaac Real to/from Stinson to retrieve and return the aircraft. The squadron flew 10.3 hours during the week. Most of our pilots refamiliarized themselves with CAP policies and procedures and flew at least 1 sortie. Things should get better when N290CP arrives. Once N290CP arrives and the engine is broken in, pilots will want to get into the sky and get reacquainted with Civil Air Patrol procedures as well as our new aircraft. The FAA Safety Team (FAAST) some things to think about after experiencing an extended break from flying, including 1) be patient, 2) don't rush, 3) connect the airplane to ground power and chair fly, 4) refamiliarize yourself with automation, 5) pick the right day to return to fly – consider weather and other stressors, 6) practice a few go arounds, and 7) make each touchdown an accuracy landing.

We're planning a Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX) for Saturday 31 January. We have a number of folks that need scanner and mission observer qualification sorties. Cadets are encouraged to participate to gain GTM3 skills as well; it will be a busy SAREX.

Operations goals for the next 60 to 90 days include 1) upgrading Isaac Real and John Larson to C182, 2) return to Fly Ed Stearns, 3) Cadet O Flights, 4) SAREX, 5) onboard Stephen Boots, Erika Evans, and Karen Kasantini.

CADETS (Sarah Crusan)

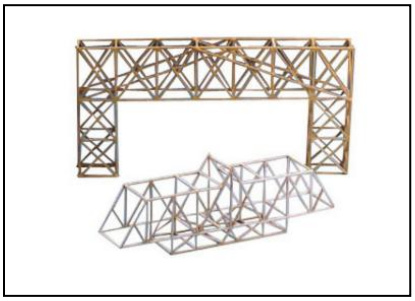


The Cadet's November overnight trip to the USS Lexington, a WWII Aircraft Carrier-turned museum in Corpus Christi Bay, was a huge success. Cadets and senior member mentors/escorts heard stories of historical events, watched movies in the 3D Mega Theater, participated in a number of hands-on events and adventures including a scavenger hunt, 5 ship tours, trips through the chow line, and berthed in the original crew quarters. Cadets witnessed a patriotic flag ceremony and participated in a volunteer service project, washing vintage aircraft onboard the carrier.

Cadets David and Anthony Asher flew Orientation flights this month with Bob Hamm. The next Orientation Flight Opportunity is Saturday 17 January at the Kerrville-Kerr County Airport. Bob Hamm needs cadet names, weights, CAPID and profile NLT 13 Jan.

Cadets David Asher, Anthony Asher, Patrick Wallerstedt, Brazos Worrell, Jonas Rotge, and Brady Espensen are preparing to attend the upcoming Winter Encampment at Sheppard Air Force Base, TX from 26 December 2025 to 4 January 2026. Cadets will develop their leadership potential, enhance interpersonal skills, gain a sense of discipline, develop time-management skills and learn how to overcome challenges and succeed! Good luck to our cadets.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION (Isaac Real/Scott Purdy)



Issac has updated controllers and software to introduce Cadets to drone operations. The finance committee approved the expenditure in November.

Weeks of work by cadets completing a Bridge Building STEM kit comes to and end this month…with a BIG TEST on December 15 at the Cadet Christmas Party. Cadets studied the properties of physics and its place in structural engineering. Each cadet was encouraged to use science and math formulas, engineering principles and "unique" designs that will hold weight. Cadets were challenged to design structurally sound bridges and use problem solving skills...that will most likely come in handy when the bridges are put to the BIG TEST on the 15th! We'll report the results of the BIG TEST in next month's Squadron Newsletter.

SAFETY (John Murrary/Ed Stearn)

As we all know, TXWG previously mandated that all members must receive a Monthly Safety Briefing prior to participation in any squadron activity…including air operations. This participation must be documented…and signing in at the Monthly Squadron Meeting (in person or via Teams) completes this requirement. No change here.

HOWEVER, based on direction from the December Group V Staff Meeting, **including a synopsis of the safety briefing in the Squadron Newsletter and sending it via email to members to acknowledge "RECEIVED" no longer meets the TXWG requirement for completion of the mandatory Monthly Safety Briefing.**

THEREFORE, beginning this month, the ENTIRE safety briefing will be sent to those active members that do not sign into the squadron meeting **in an email SEPERATE from the Squadron Newsletter. Those members receiving the safety briefing via email from the Commander, Deputy Commander or Safety Officer will acknowledge that they have "READ and UNDERSTAND" the safety briefing and reply back to the sender.**