U.S. CIVIL AIR PATROL

SQUADRON 442

KERRVILLE, TEXAS

MONTHLY NEWS

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

Lt Col John Murray
COMMANDER

1Lt Isaac Real
DEPUTY SQUADRON COMMANDER

1Lt Sarah Crusan
DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR CADETS

Lt Col Bob Hamm
OPERATIONS OFFICER

COMMANDER'S CORNER (John Murray)

It is an honor and a pleasure to take command of TX-442. I thank Mark Del Toro for his tremendous service to the squadron, both as a Cadet Leader and as Commander, and regret that he is no longer a CAP member.

The Government funding shutdown continues. Regrettably, all areas of Squadron activity are affected. Flight remains restricted to self-pay C missions. All aircraft and vehicle maintenance is deferred. Cadet program support in areas such as AE Stem kits has been cut. Delivery of our new C182T is on hold.

The best use of our time right now is to get into ABSORB and start working on professional development courses or operations/emergency training. Cadet meetings, encampments, fund raising, senior meetings and associated activities continue.

Squadron leadership will meet on 19 November to conduct strategic planning and set priorities for the next two years, so that expenditures support our priorities. Our goal is to come away with a strategy map that we can use to guide the squadron for the next 2 years. The plan will be reviewed and results presented to the squadron during monthly meetings beginning with our first squadron meeting in January 2026. We will use the plan to make decisions related to operations/emergency services, fund raising and finances, cadet programs, aerospace education and sustaining the squadron. If we don't meet a target, we'll work together to determine root causes and develop solutions to close the performance gaps. More will be said at our January meeting, which is when we can also expect a mandated Safety Stand down.

We have entered the holiday period and look forward to our annual Christmas party, to be held this year at the Cook home 43 Oak Alley, Tierra Linda, in Kerrville on 6 December 2026 at 5:00PM. More details to follow. Thank you, Harry and Marjorie!

Enjoy Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays and think SAFETY when decorating or traveling.

Finally, wearing a Civil Air Patrol uniform at our monthly Senior Member meeting is highly encouraged as we have visitors, guests and potential members present and we want to present a professional appearance. Uniform wear during CAP activities i.e., SAR/DR exercises, training etc. is mandatory.

DATES & EVENTS TO REMEMBER

WHAT	*WHERE*	*WHEN*	*WHO*
TX-442 Strategic Planning Exercise	The Murray Residence 313 Turkey Valley, Tierra Linda Kerrville	Wednesday,19 November 2026	Squadron Leaders
December Squadron Mtg/XMAS Party	The Cook Residence, Tierra Linda, Kerrville	Saturday,13 December 2026	Squadron Members and Guest
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 staff positions. Please let John Murray know if you are interested in filling a staff position.

It's that time of year again!! Please submit your award recommendations to Roberta Himebrook, HimebrookRL@totacc.cm, head of the Award Committee, as soon as you can. We will present awards at our Annual Christmas party coming up on 6 December. Let's thank our hard-working members.

FINANCE

Our account balance at the end of October was $8745.38. Our next fund-raising event is the VA Car Show, coming up on Saturday 8 December 2026 at the VA hospital. Civil Air Patrol senior members and cadets helping with the event will work in two shifts, 08:00-11:00 and 11:00-14:00 to sell wreaths in support of the National Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Kerrville National Cemetery on 13 December 2026 at 1100. The squadron receives $5.00 for each wreath sold.

The finance committee approved the following expenditures at the squadron meeting; 1) $350.00 for support of cadet encampment participation 2) $20.00 for the purchase of a C182 Simulator program for our flight simulator and 3) $300.00 to update Real Flight controllers & software to introduce our cadets to drone flight.

There is a “hard-hold” on unit member pay requests. Do not use any CAP Credit Card until further notice. Bills on autopay, i.e., hangar rent will continue. We can still make deposits into our squadron account as usual.

AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE (Tommy Hayes)

N794CA
Still Grounded.
N290CP
Originally scheduled to fly to KERV on November 4th. Formal acceptance by CAP and movement to KERV on hold until a budget is passed. Guestimate is that it will not arrive here any earlier than 2 weeks after a budget is passed. The flight to KERV and all subsequent flights until National determines the engine is broken in will be A9 sorties flown by pilots who have the appropriate qualifications.

OPERATIONS/EMERGENCY SERVICES (Bob Hamm)

We have a new member, Steven Boots. Steven is an FAA CFII and will start CAP pilot qualification training as soon as we have a budget. We welcomed two new CAP pilot candidates, Erika Evans and Derek Hogan, both from the Schriener Aviation Program. They are working on their CAP applications. Keren Kasantini’s application is still at HQ CAP and requires a waiver. Bob and Issac will work on the waiver with her.

Bob Hamm gave an update on Emergency Services and Operations Capabilities with 30-60-90-day projections. We’ve lost a highly skilled Mission Observer/Aerial Photographer, so if anyone is interested in becoming a MO or AP, we can make that happen as soon as we get our new plane and a federal budget. We’re projected to lose a highly skilled Mission Pilo at the end of the year. But we have 3 pilots in the training pipeline**. Bob highlighted the fact that the squadron can’t field a ground team at this time.** We can deploy 4 SAR/DR aircrews. We need a couple more Flight Release Officers (FRO’s) and a couple more Standardization/Evaluation (SET) members. Please consider becoming an FRO or SET once you met the qualification requirements. We’ve been in constant contact with the Texas Wing Director of Operations and Chief of Stan/Eval to develop a plan to restart flying training as soon as possible after the Federal Shutdown ends.

Qualification	Current	30 Day	60 Day	90 Day
GTL	0	0	0	0
GTM-1	0	0	0	0
GTM-2	2	2	2	2
GTM-3	3	3	3	3
SET	3	3	3	3
Mission Pilot	4	3	5	5
Mission Observer	8	7	8	9
Mission Scanner	8	7	7	7
Aerial Photographer	2	2	2	2
SET	2	5	2	2
TMP	5	4	4	4
Orientation Pilot	4	3	3	3
AOBD	2	1	1	1
OSC	1	1	1	1
PSC	1	1	1	1
Mission Staff Asst	2	1	1	1
Ground Teams	0	0	0	0
Air Crews	4	3	4	4

CADETS (Sarah Crusan)

Five Cadets are preparing to attend the upcoming Winter Encampment at Sheppard AFB, TX on 28 December 2026.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION (Isaac Real)

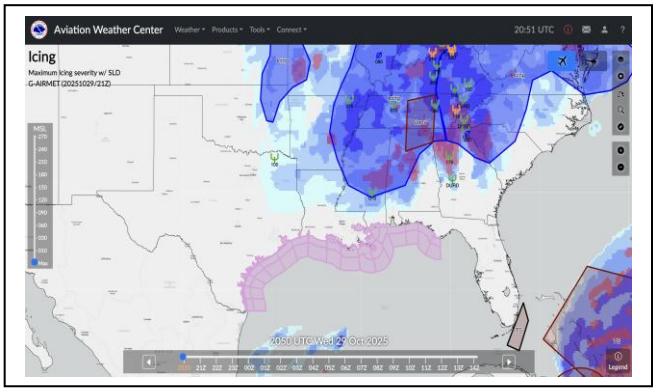
Issac requested $300.00 to update controllers and software to introduce Cadets to drone operations. The finance committee approved the expenditure.

SAFETY (Ed Stearn)

Ed Stearn presented an in-depth briefing on Aircraft Structural Icing. Ed presented a Case Study involving structural airframe icing from the NTSB. We discussed key take-a-ways from the accident. Key take-a-ways can be found at https://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/online-learning/accident-case-studies/airframe-icing and aircrew are highly encouraged to review the findings and recommendations from the NTSB.

Aircraft Structural Icing
Some key “Take A Ways”

- Icing forecasts are valuable tools - but they can be wrong. Pay close attention to the warning signs and always keep your guard up.
- Even if ice isn’t forecast, anticipate it when clouds are present and temperatures are approaching freezing – especially if a front is approaching.
- Have at least one “Plan B” that is guaranteed to work if you encounter ice.
- As soon as ice begins to build, tell ATC that you need to move – and then act quickly.
- Remember to give pireps. They may save someone’s life.



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.