U.S. CIVIL AIR PATROL

# SQUADRON 442

KERRVILLE, TEXAS

# MONTHLY NEWS

"ReCAPping what you need to know …. April 2026"


*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)**

Congratulations to Captain John Larson, our newly qualified CAP IP and Stan-Eval Officer. John is mentoring/onboarding 4 new pilots as they start the process of working their way into the left seat of a CAP aircraft.

The squadron currently has 23 active senior members. Be alert to potential new members, willing to contribute and actively participate.
The cadet unit still needs additional Senior Members to assist with our cadet activities; even volunteering 1 night per month would be helpful. Talk to Isaac or Sarah.

The Texas Wing Conference is coming up April 30 – May 3 in Houston. Go to TXWG.cap.gov/about/conference for more details.

The Squadron SUI is scheduled for 30 June 2026. It's not too early to start running that checklist!

**DATES & EVENTS TO REMEMBER**

| *WHAT* | *WHERE* | *WHEN* | *WHO* |
|---|---|---|---|
| May Squadron Meeting | Kerrville-Kerr County Airport | 6 May 2026 | Squadron Members |
| Cadet Orientation Flights | Kerrville-Kerr County Airport | 6-8 April 2026 | Orientation Pilots and Cadets |
| SAR/DR Training | Kerrville-Kerr County Airport | Throughout April | Squadron Members |
| Squadron Subordinate Unit Inspection 2026 | TX-442 Kerrville & Ingram | 30 June 2026 | 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)**

Thanks to Matt Christiansen for taking on the Logistics Officer Position. We are still looking to fill the Finance and Public Affairs Officer positions. Please let John Murray know if you are interested in filling a staff position. We need your help.

**FINANCE (Murray/Real)**

February 28th balance: $9527.11. Reimbursement approved for $440.88. End March Balance $9086.23. Received invoice for Hangar Rental and Ramp Services from Kerrville Aviation for $603.00 to be paid in April. Invoice has been sent to TXWG for reimbursement from TX-442 funds.

**AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE/LOGISTICS (Tommy Hayes)**

**N290CP**: Flew 4.6 Hobbs hours and 3.4 tach hours in March. The plane has flown 88.7 Hobbs hours year to date (Goal is 200 hours). This plane is affected by a Lycoming Service Bullen for potential piston pin failure. It is grounded by CAPHQ until the piston pins are replaced. The estimate for obtaining the parts was 120 days from the middle of March. We been instructed to pull the plane out of the hangar and run it for 10-15 minutes every week or so to keep the battery charged. Isaac Real has volunteered to complete this task. Isaac will provide the times to Tommy so he can log the time accrued as maintenance time in WIMIRS.

**N794CA:** Flew 20.6 Hobbs hours and 18.4 tach hours in March. The plane has flown 31.4 Hobbs hour year to date. (Goal is 200 hours) The recent oil change is the last one using Mineral oil. The oil change interval is 25 hours for now. Thankfully, N794CA will stay in Kerrville until N290CP is back in service.

Tips for Aircraft Care

Don't slam the door like its a car door making strike marks on the painted body

Don't be aggressive on the interior plastic parts

Proclaim to your AMO when something breaks and how you broke it.

Wipe down the airframe from bugs immediately after you use it.

Brush off or pick up debris on the carpet

TXWG wants to make everyone aware of recent concerns regarding PILOT INDUCED ROUGH HANDLING. A brand new 2025 C206 cost $980,000; a 2025 C182 $775,000! According to TXWG Maintenance, one C206 and a C182T, each with less than 100 hours of service, have made four different trips to the shop to repair damage due to rough handling. This is costly and impacts mission readiness.

**OPERATIONS/EMERGENCY SERVICES (Bob Hamm)**

Congratulations to those involved in the March 21st/28th SAREX training. Special thanks to Major George Otto (Ground Branch Director and Operations Section Chief SET) and Captain Josh Taylor (Ground Team Member GTM - 3 SET) for their help. Unable to fly due to low ceilings, we pivoted to ground training. We were able to renew one Operations Section Chief (OSC) and two Mission Staff Assistants. Four Senior Members completed Ground Team – 3 (GTM-3) training and are awaiting an opportunity to participate in two Search and Rescue Exercises with a Ground Team

Leader to complete qualification, hopefully in May. We are working to bring Andrea Forte, Group V Emergency Services Officer, to Kerrville to serve as Ground Team Leader and Ground Team Member SET during these 2 ground sorties. This will satisfy the remaining GTM-3 requirements for Hamm, Real, Murray and Christiansen GTM-3 qualification. Andrea has agreed to come to Kerrville at Squadron expense. A host of Cadets started Ground Team Member (GTM) training and are on their way to exercise participation with a Ground Team Leader. Josh Taylor is working towards Ground Team Leader qualification at Stinson later this month.

| TYPE SORTIE | HOBBS | SORTIES |
|---|---|---|
| Cadet O Flight | 4.6 | 6 |
| SAR Training | 3.8 | 3 |
| Maintenance | 8.9 | 7 |
| AFJROTC O Flight | 0 | 0 |
| TAA | 2.5 | 2 |
| TX-MISC | 1.4 | 1 |
| F5 | 3.3 | 3 |
| **Total** | **24.5** | **23** |

TX-442 completed a variety of air sorties throughout April in support of Civil Air Patrol missions, including 3 of the 4 SAR/ES training authorized by TXWG. The squadron is authorized to fly 4 SAR/ES sorties in April. Mission pilots will build crews and fly the sorties throughout the month of May as weather and schedules permit.

John Larson, our Stan/Eval Officer, reminded us that CAPR 70-1 paragraph: 6.3.3. states**: "CAP pilots who do not meet the recent flight experience for PIC under 14 CFR 61.57(a) or (b) are not authorized to operate CAP airplanes solo to regain currency. Pilots not meeting the recent flight experience specified must be accompanied by a CAP Instructor Pilot (IP) who meets the recent flight experience for PIC for the flight conditions, and the sole purpose of the flight must be to regain currency."**

Operations/Emergency Services goals for the next 60 to 90 days include 1) use SAR/ES sorties to upgrade Isaac Real and John Larson to Mission Pilot, 2) Upgrade Erika Evans, Steve Boots, Ed Stearns and Matt Christiansen to Transport Mission Pilot, 3) Cadet O Flights, 4) GTM-3 and GTL training as opportunities arise.

**CADETS (Sarah Crusan)**

Our cadets continue activities to foster Leadership, Character, Aerospace Education, Physical Fitness and Emergency Services skills. The number of cadets in TX-442 continues to grow to record numbers. We would like to welcome two new cadets, Ryan Matayka and Emery Castro.

Captain Taylor conducted a GTM-3 training day for our Cadets on March 21st. Several Senior Members attended as well.

We're entering a very busy next few months! Four 4 cadets will be attending the Texas Wing Conference this month, Anthony and David Asher, Caleb Ward, and Andrew Crusan. Their daily conference tuition is covered by our squadron funds. Additionally, 3 cadets will attend ALS on April 10-12. Attendance for two of these cadets, Jayden Branch and Autumn Diggs is covered by our squadron funds.

Our pilots provided orientation flights for 6 cadets, Walerstadt, Worrell, D. Asher, A. Asher, Grandfield, and Rodgers in March. The next opportunity for cadets to experience flight is 6 – 8 April; 5 cadets have signed up to fly.

We will be visiting Hunt Elementary/Middle School on May 14th for their" Science Alive" event. Additionally, we will visit Harper High School in May to spread the word about the Civil Air Patrol.

We have one cadet pending one test and her time served at which time she will earn her Mitchel award, which will give us a second phase III cadet!

| Great Start | Wright Brothers | Mitchell | Earhart | Eaker | New Members | LVL 3 | LVL 4 | LVL 5 | O-Rides | | Master Ratings |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 C/ 0 SM | | 1 | | 6 | | |

**AEROSPACE EDUCATION (Isaac Real/Scott Purdy)**

The Cadets have completed one STEM project thus far in 2026. The squadron goal is set at three. The Air Navigation Kit has arrived. Our cadets have been able to fly drones during AE night. The Squadron simulator is getting a workout! If/when the Aerospace Education Kits arrive, Isaac plans to recruit local teachers to serve as Aerospace Education Members (AEM).

Cadets have completed one AE field trip thus far in 2026. Our goal is to complete two AE field trips. Isaac is working on setting up a field trip to an Air Traffic Control tower. Bob has offered to set up a field trip to operations and maintenance facilities at Randolph Air Force Base (lots of STEM there) – awaiting a date that works for the cadets.

**SAFETY (John Murrary/Ed Stearn)**

Ed Stearns presented the March Safety Briefing to address an uptick in cadet syncope (fainting) episodes during drill and ceremony formations and "The Dispatch", an informative safety product found in Absorb on eServices, to members at the Monthly meeting. A copy of his briefing has been sent to members not in attendance. Members receiving the monthly safety brief via email from the Commander (or Deputy Commander or Safety Officer) will acknowledge receipt of the safety briefing by replying to the Safety Officer with the answer to a question regarding the material presented. Members must complete the Safety training monthly to participate in squadron activities.