



Senior Survival

Vol. II, Number 3 July 2003



With less than a week to go before NYWg's largest Encampment in at least 15 years, we're all busy making last minute preparations. For myself, I wonder if all the cargo will fit in the car.

Applications were a deluge. We accepted all those postmarked by the June 15th deadline—a total of 355, close to busting at the seams—and turned down a number of latecomers.

The breakdown is 224 cadets in flight (of which 28 are in the NCOA academy); 77 cadet staff; and 54 seniors. Of the seniors, 39—including 2 pilots—will be there for the duration, and 15—including 5 pilots—are part-timers.

We'll eat breakfast and lunch in our own mess hall in the barracks area, so we won't have to transport 355 hungry souls to these meals.

Dinner will be at The Commons, a large dining area some distance away.

The training staff is planning many exciting activities: firepower demonstrations by A-10 warthogs and by F-16s, an Army Confidence (aka Obstacle) Course; orientation flights, and for the NCO flight, possible live tank fire demonstration and combat water survival training. To observe any of these activities, contact Training during the encampment.

The initial set-up days are the most confusing at the encampment. Hard as it may be to believe, it does follow a plan, which I've described elsewhere in this letter. You may want to hold onto the description to refer to during the "chaos".

I am looking forward to a great encampment – see you next week.

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What's New?

Each year, changes are introduced. Sometimes these changes are the result of previous year's experience – something didn't work as expected and we want to improve the process. Sometimes new opportunities arise. Sometimes new challenges have to be met. The new processes for this year:

- **Model Rocketry Program** – all inflight cadets will participate in the CAP Model Rocketry program culminating in the 'shoot out' at the airfield on the last Saturday of the encampment. (Wheeler-Sack Air Base will be shut down for our cadets to launch their work.)
- **Picnic** - Bowling/Pizza social is being replaced by a picnic.
- **Medical Database** - New medical procedures will be introduced to attempt to give the TAC officers access to medical information on the cadets in their flights. This is the first year we have used a computer database to track treatment and other medical information.
- **Internet access and Encampment email.** To try to control expenses for dial up computer access we have signed up with a local provider and have an email address for the encampment (cap2003@concentric.net). Incoming messages will be checked and printed by the ADM staff and distributed at evening mail call. If you want to send messages or check something on the internet, a dedicated computer is set up for this function in the ADM building.

- **New Equipment.** At the end of last year's encampment, we purchased some items that would help the encampment. These included: American Flag, color guard equipment, safety vests, guidon poles, small electronic megaphone, electronic label maker, heavy duty stapler and 3 hole punch.
- **Equipment Storage Procedures.** At the end of each encampment, we store equipment and supplies with the Air Force on base. This year, we are going to give each department a storage bin and each department will be responsible for inventorying and packing their box for storage. The inventory lists will be turned in and recorded so that at the next Staff Skills Workshop for 2004, the new staff will know what equipment and supplies are available to them during the encampment.



Our buildings are NOT in the same place as last year. Fort Drum has given us the 700 block. The medical building will be 731 (corner of Lewis

Report....

Reporting to the encampment is nowhere near as formal as these cadets in inspection formation. But there is a precise procedure. When the encampment begins and staff start arriving, things are in a state of flux. We may not yet have all of the buildings open, staff may be in many different places dealing with the various departments at Fort Drum. If you are arriving on Thursday (July 24), we are asking that you try to arrive after 7pm.



If you arrive on Thursday evening:
Sign in at Medical Building (731)

If you arrive on Friday:
Sign in at Medical Building

Friday Evening after Dinner:
Staff In-processing (paperwork, pay any fees, etc.) **IF YOU ARE AT THE BASE, YOU MUST INPROCESS AT THIS TIME.**
Senior Encampment Fee: \$10/night or \$50 for entire encampment

If you arrive after Friday:
Sign in and in-process at Administration Building

During the course of the encampment, the senior staff is in many different places, and it is sometimes difficult to communicate last minute changes. There will be Notice Board in the Administration Building which will be kept up to date with any information that you need to know (including the most current training schedule). Make it a habit to stop in daily to check it out.

There is a final sign-out sheet that should be signed by you when you are leaving the encampment for good. It will be in the Administration Building until after graduation on Sunday, at which time it will be moved to the Medical Building.

Bottom line: whenever you arrive, SIGN IN.
When you leave, SIGN OUT.

Housing

We are not in the same block as we were last year. The 700 block barracks are not set up as open bay; there are small rooms with several bunks to a room. We are going to be at maximum occupancy since Drum gave us fewer barracks than we requested. But we should be able to accommodate everyone.

The following people will be staying at the VOQ: Montovan, Skupa, Burns (George and Barbara), Falco, Holteen, Gleason, and Cohen. We were very lucky to get the rooms that we got – and we are not able to request any additional ones this year.

The following people will be staying at motels off base or at home: Gardner, Hughes, Kopp, Kravitz, Perta, and Wojtowicz.

All remaining people will be assigned to the barracks.

We have made no arrangements for anyone designated as Guests. You are on your own. (The closest motel is the Microtel.) Guests: Andreu, Berezuk, Bryan, Caiello, Eberst, Granville, Hartsen, LeFeber, Ludwig, McIntyre, Ramos, Ryan, Sperico, Stronach, Williams.

What Happens First? or Pre-Encampment Chaos

The first day or so may appear to the uninitiated as pure chaos (sometimes even to the initiated). In an attempt to give you some sense of what is happening, I offer a preliminary schedule of Pre-Encampment Chaos.

Thursday – July 24 (Civilian Clothes)

0900-1900 Maj Jennings will be receiving the buildings from Fort Drum. This is a rather lengthy process that involves a walk-through of every building and doing an inventory. When we accept the buildings, we agree to return them in the same condition with the same inventory. The senior command staff (Stouch, Burns, Ullery, Brodsky) will be on-site during this time to assist in the process and to make final decisions regarding where departments will be located. There are sometimes last minute challenges related to the physical buildings that require change of plans. Unless you have been asked by Captain Stouch to be present during this time, do not plan to arrive until after 7:00pm.

1900-2200 Staff Arrival. Plan to have eaten before you come. No food will be available on this evening. The first thing you **MUST** do is to go to the Medical building (731) and sign in. Copies of the MSA will be available. There will also be a vehicle sign in sheet. Record your vehicle information and place a CAP sign on the dashboard of your vehicle (Signs will be available by the sign in sheet.) Be sure to park your vehicle in the designed parking area. Do not leave it next to the buildings (except for unloading). This violates the fire procedures for Fort Drum and the MPs are on the lookout for such infractions.

After sign in, you should next take care of your sleeping area. There will be a sign in the medical building indicating the appropriate barracks. Unless you are specifically authorized by the Commander, Executive Officer, or Commandant, do not move any items into the office areas. Each department will be assigned specific space.

The sign up area will also have a list of any individual who needs to take **REQUIRED** training on the next day. Review the list if you are uncertain as to your status.

2200-2300 Hat Ceremony and Opening Staff Meeting (Location: Mess Hall – 740)

Friday – July 25 (BDU)

0720 Assemble at the Medical Building (731) for transport to the Commons for breakfast at 0730.

0830-1145 Set up office and classroom space. A truck and driver will be available from Ft Drum to pick up tables and chairs and other equipment. Assistance may be needed for this task. Communications should be verifying phone numbers in each building and creating the final ‘Building List’ Report that will be posted in every building. This is probably the most ‘unstructured’ time. If you don’t have anything to do, try to help someone who does. Now is probably not the time to catch up on what people did over the past year.

1100-1145 Drill Practice for Seniors (Brodsky)

1145 Assemble at the Medical Building for transport to the Commons for lunch at 1200.

1300-1400 Required Staff Training. EVERYONE who was not at the Staff Skills Workshop MUST take this class. This is required for all staff members. Make sure if your mentee needs this class that they show up as well.

1400-1500 CPPT. Seniors needing this class: Boursiquot and Rovida

1500-1600 ROP Class

1645 Assemble at the Medical Building for transport to the Commons for Dinner at 1700.

1830-2000 Staff In-Processing. It is important that you in-process at this time. You will be handing in any outstanding paperwork, paying any fees, getting your picture taken, registering for church services, registering radios and vehicles, doing a medical interview, getting your encampment t-shirt. (Location: Medical - 731)

2000-2100 Communications Briefing and Staff Meeting. This meeting will focus on the 'plan' for the next day's activities – the start of the encampment. (Location: Mess Hall)

Saturday – July 26 (BDU)

0730-0800 Breakfast – on-site mess hall (Building 740)

0830-0900 Executive & Senior Support Staff Meeting – Executive Building

1100-1200 Lunch – on-site mess hall (Staff involved in in-processing need to eat first)



1200-1600 Cadet In-processing (Medical Building 731)

As senior members, it is important that you be in this area during in-processing. Parents are dropping off their cadets and they may be apprehensive. They may want to get some reassurance that everything is going to be OK. So, be available to answer questions and to show that we are organized and will take good care of their offspring.

1645 – 1800 Assemble for transport to Commons for Dinner.

1800-1900 Welcoming by the Commander and Commandant, Safety briefing, Written Exam

2000 Closing Formation

There will be a senior flight at each formation. You are strongly urged to participate.

The 2003 NYWg Encampment has begun!

Staff Dinner

The Staff Dinner is held Sunday evening (August 3). It is a joyous occasion and I encourage you to make every effort to participate. You will be asked to indicate if you are planning to attend during the Staff In-processing. There is no additional charge. If you are inviting a guest, you need to let the Administration officer know and to pay \$15.

Part of the activities of this dinner involve recognizing the people you have worked with. If you are a mentor (and that includes the TAC officers), it is expected that you come up with some token for your mentee(s). Sometimes it is a gag gift, sometimes it is more serious. Since there are approximately 125 people on staff, you don't get to make a major speech – keep it short. The PX Uniform store carries Fort Drum souvenirs and military related items.

Missing Paperwork & other items

We are still missing paperwork from the following people:

Boursiquot, Cohen, Dickinson, Dietz, Gleason, Herrmann, Houting, Lustgarten, Rovida, Ullery and Welsh.

We are missing Social Security Numbers for Boursiquot, Stronach, and Dietz. We must have this information for the MSA. Contact Maj Falco immediately!

The following people MUST participate in the Required Staff Training to be held at Fort Drum on Friday, 25 July: Anger, Boursiquot, Ghiron, Herrmann, Jones, Langfield, Martin, Miller, Montavon, O'Brien, Rovida, Skupa, Smith, Sturgess, and Valastro.

The following individuals MUST participate in the CPPT class to be held immediately following the Required Staff Training: Boursiquot and Rovida.

Notes to Mentors

Fort Drum gives us space, desks, chairs, telephones, electricity, and a warm welcome. CAP supplies a copier and copy paper.

Everything else we bring, from computers to paper clips. Suggestion: create an "encampment office box", with a stapler, scotch tape, markers, file folders, pens, a power strip. Anything you anticipate you'll need. Put your name on non-expendable items.

There will be an Executive Staff Meeting on Saturday morning after breakfast.

Lt Col Ray Renner Returns

Remember Lt Col Ray Renner? He was the colonel in the kitchen, otherwise known as the Air Force liaison officer. He pitched in and became a member of the encampment team. We are delighted to welcome him back and look forward to working with him again. He will be on-site from the beginning of the encampment until July 31st. Lt Col Jeff DeCarlo will be the liaison support during August.



From the Commander



Well, we're almost there! In another week, we will meet again on the dusty plains of Fort Drum, laden with excitement and eager with anticipation for the week to come. That's when the real fun begins.

I want to share with you some ideals before we start. This is a Cadet Leadership Encampment, and as we all

know, there are many ways to practice and exhibit leadership. Now, the training staff has put together a terrific curriculum for the cadets, but what we will be doing goes beyond just that. There will be a static electricity of sorts in the air, and the essence of leadership and values and tradition and spirit will be pervasive all about the encampment grounds.

These cadets are all still very young and impression-able, and they truly do feed off of this stuff. This is why it's such a great opportunity for them, and for us. To help get you in the mindset and to prime your pumps, so to speak, I'm going to share four ways in which we will be able to make a positive lasting impression on the lives of these young Americans.

1) Be a role model. These cadets are so very impressionable, and they look to us as role models. They observe what we say, what we do, and how we think. They watch, and they learn - for better or for worse. They soak it all up like sponges. Cadets view the encampment experience through different lenses than the rest of us. They perceive the encampment as the essence of the cadet program - the embodiment of such an abstract beast in its purest form. This thing called the 'cadet program' is very near and dear to their hearts and minds, and we

must remember that the impressions we leave with them will filter back to their squadrons, their friends, their schools, and our society at large. These folks are the future, and it is our duty as CAP officers to nurture and guide them.

2) Exhibit professionalism. With hundreds of cadets running around, someone's bound to be watching. This is a good thing. This is, however, more than just wearing your uniform correctly and keeping on top of customs and courtesies. This is being an officer in the Air Force Auxiliary. This is understanding the sense of duty and tradition that we share; keeping your word; and buying into the greater goals of the encampment.

3) Trust your judgment. You have been selected as part of this team because we trust you. We trust you to use your experience and to share your wisdom. None of us has all the answers, and many situations will come up at the encampment that challenge each of us, but together we will find the best answers, and in so doing we will succeed.

4) Inspire to succeed. In what? Everything! This goes for the cadet staff as well as those in flight and even us senior members. My criteria for success are that we all leave the encampment as better people than we arrived; that we all learn something and teach something; that we provide an environment where the cadets feel safe; and that we all go home energized to build on our successes back at our home squadrons and eager to return again next summer.

I can never say this enough - thank you for your dedication. Such greatness and a lasting impact in the lives of these kids as we will achieve on the dusty plains of Fort Drum this summer is not possible without all of us coming together as a team and giving it our best.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel W. J. Storch". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".



*“Good to Go”
“See you next
week”*



Maj Barbara Burns
Executive Officer
Editor

Key Contact Information

Capt Stouch and Maj Burns will be reachable only by cell phone Wednesday and Thursday (July 23-24)

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Encampment Email Address (only monitored during encampment)

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New York Wing Cadet Program Web Site

(Encampment Information - including the Information Booklet and list of all participants)

<http://www.nywgcadets.org/enc2003/index.html>