



Behind the 8 Ball



Blue Beret National Cadet Special Activity Oshkosh, Wisconsin

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From the Deputy Cadet Commander



In the three years that I have attended Blue Beret, I have had many friends, coworkers, and even family ask me why I keep coming here. They know that I'm not getting paid to work the airshow, but paying to do so. There is more than one answer to that question.

For me, the main reason to keep coming back to this activity is the people I meet. Every year, the best and brightest in CAP come to this activity. These great people become not just friends, but a large family. Becoming part of this family is one of the most exciting aspects of this activity. You will work together, eat together, and live together. Most importantly, you will suffer hardships together and overcome them as a team.

Once you leave this activity, you will be a member of an extended family that will always be there. However, to earn your place in this family, you must make it through the next two weeks. So, keep yourself safe on the flight line, drink plenty of water, and as always, have a little fun.

**Joshua Schwanke, C/Capt
NBB Deputy Cadet Commander 2014**

Our Friend, Gary Hensen



Bet you didn't know we have a knight among us! You'll see this knight flaunting his bright orange Volkswagen bug as he zips about the flight line, you will soon come to know this man very well. Ladies and gentlemen, I present Sir Gary! Sir Gary, as he is affectionately known by many returning berets, has been with the AirVenture team for thirty-two years, starting in parking, then moving to parking and finally he landed where he still is today, Flight Line Ops. As the designated liaison for CAP and EAA for the past ten years Gary has seen many changes come to this compound, but none more shocking to him than "the quality of cadets, every year they get better and better!" Gary cites the volunteers all over AirVenture as his favorite aspect of the job. Despite the incredible amount of orange the man wears, his favorite color is purple! In a briefing full of information, laced with typical Gary humor, cadets received tips, tricks, and best procedures from a leading expert in Flight Line Operations. He peppered the cadets with questions to check how much they were paying attention as well as their critical thinking ability. Gary's single best piece of advice to the cadets here is "have fun, and check your six." Frequently Gary will try and catch the unsuspecting marshaller off guard by creeping up behind them in the orange Volkswagen, gator or motor scooter.

Forever a teaser and jester Gary is a beloved and irreplaceable member of the NBB team that every single beret has had and will have very fond memories of. For those wondering where the "Sir, Gary" came from, last year's staff knighted Gary here at NBB. "Like me or not you'll never forget me!" –Gary

**Kyle Adams, C/Maj
Cadet Public Affairs Officer**

The History of National Blue Beret

In 1966 Iowa Wing Commander, Col Allen Town, decided that there should be a training program within the wing to train cadets and senior members search and rescue and survival skills. Col Town requested that his right hand man and Deputy Commander of Iowa Wing, Lt Col William B. Cass, command this new activity. The program was started in the spring of 1967 in Iowa over four weekends.

Cadets and senior members learned about basic first aid and personal survival. During the weekends the cadets filled sandbags to reduce flooding of the Mississippi river. They also rendered first aid to victims of a car accident. In 1968 the weekend extended to eight weekends and was open to the whole North Central Region.



Cadets spent a total of two weeks in Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri. They trained for land navigation, personal survival, first-aid, flight line, civil defense, water safety, helicopter rescue, land rescue, communications, and procedures for "REDCAP" and leadership. Canadian cadets joined the ranks for the first time in 1983. Two seniors escorted them on their journey. 1985 marks the change in name from "North Central Region Special Service Corps" to "Civil Air Patrol Special Service Corps".



In 1987 National Blue Beret moved into facilities at Wittman Field Oshkosh, WI, where CAP was utilized by the EAA for the airshow. National Blue Beret continues to play a key part in the success of AirVenture.

**Nathan Runck, Capt
Public Affairs Officer**

Staying Hydrated at NBB



Dehydration is a health issue that occurs when a person loses more fluids than he or she takes in. If you ignore it, dehydration can slow you down. Our bodies are roughly two thirds water. When a person gets dehydrated, it means the amount of water in their body has dropped below the level needed for normal body function. Small decreases don't cause problems, and in most cases, they go completely unnoticed. But not drinking enough to keep up with the loss of fluid can sometimes make a person feel sick. At NBB, there are several opportunities for personnel to hydrate well. We have several sources of hydration in the DFAC. There are also water coolers with ice in most vehicles to supply you when you are on duty. Make sure to stay hydrated because it will keep you in the mission!

**Matthew Chirik, C/1Lt
Chief Cadet Public Affairs Officer**

Warbirds!



If you ask around the compound what most Berets favorite place at AirVenture is, the resounding majority will answer "WarBirds!" Warbirds, located just southeast of our compound, is a place where not only can you see pieces of history such as B-17 Flying Fortress' or the L-39 Albatros, but also meet the people of history who flew them. The Warbirds of America, a division of the EAA runs the Warbirds area and ensures the safety of spectators while protecting these historic aircraft as well. At the end of AirVenture Warbirds are judged and awards are given for categories such as best jet, best preservation, best trainer and more!

Kyle Adams, C/Maj
Cadet Public Affairs Officer

Golf Flight Patch



Flight Commander: C/Capt Daniel Sevey
Flight Leader: C/1Lt Lucas Biniek
TAC: 1Lt Mary Palisi

India Flight Patch



Flight Commander: C/1Lt Justin Nicholas
Flight Leader: C/SMSGT Taidgh Barron
TAC: Capt. Andrew Hong

Senior Member Highlight - SSgt. Pat Dukes



New to beret this year is Staff Sergeant Dukes, a former cadet from the Arizona Wing in the Phoenix area. SSgt. Dukes joined the program in 2002 and was in the program until 2004 when he joined the United States Army. After a career change he was offered an opportunity to become a Warrant Officer; Sgt. Dukes saw a tremendous opportunity and seized it. After graduating flight school he became a pilot and was assigned the Apache. He left the Army in 2011 and moved to the state of Oregon where he is a wine maker. SSgt Dukes came to NBB with an open mind and few expectations. His open mind has made him a key asset here as someone who cares for his cadets and places the mission first. The Sergeant is currently returning to college to study Aeronautics and is maintaining open options for the future! His best advice to offer the cadet here at NBB 2014 is "heads on a swivel and stay flexible."

**Kyle Adams, C/Maj
Cadet Public Affairs Officer**

Trivia

Issue Answers:

How many Senior members at NBB are current or former military personnel?

18

New Questions:

How many different Wings are represented at NBB 2014?

How many regions are represented at NBB 2014?

