



Behind the 8 Ball

Blue Beret National Cadet Special Activity Oshkosh, Wisconsin



Volume 8
Issue 2
22 July 2011

Responsibility of a Blue Beret

Being a Blue Beret requires many traits. One of the traits of being a Blue Beret is responsibility. Our creed expects us to be the example to our fellow Cadets and to our Nation. We pledge to perform with professionalism and render service with respect to others.

We cannot be an example to others if we are not responsible to do the "right thing." Our pledge requires us to perform with professionalism, but this holds no weight if we do not take the responsibility to complete our required training. Our service is suspect if we are not responsible in what we say and do.

Blue Beret requires that extra level of responsibility from everyone, starting with the Activity Director down to the individual member of each flight. Just one person not carrying their weight or not giving their all can drag down our team and cause us to fail our mission to support the EAA and to provide the best possible service.

Being responsible doesn't end at the end of the shift or when we pack our bags and leave this compound. We proudly display the Beret we have earned through our hard work when we return home. If we do not conduct ourselves in the best possible manner, and work as hard as we can, we cast a poor light on those accomplishments. We have to carry the responsibility of being a Beret throughout the rest of our CAP lives.

Jeff Morris, Maj, CAP
Assistant Activity Director, NBB 11



Responsible:

Answerable or accountable, as in something within one's power or ability to control, influence or manage.

Having a capacity for moral decisions and therefore accountable and dependable; capable of rational thought or action.

Safety: Heat and You!

Welcome to National Blue Beret and sunny Wisconsin. Most of you were expecting cool winds and moderate temperatures but Wisconsin has a way of making Blue Beret an exciting event from year to year. Last year saw one of the rainiest summers on record here in Oshkosh while this year is shaping up to one of the hottest. July 20th was one of the hottest days since the summer of 1995, with a record combination of temperature, humidity and solar radiation.

We will be spending a lot of time outside in the sun, so remember these outdoor safety tips from the USAF Safety Center to prevent heat exhausting or stroke and keeping yourself safe while at Beret:

- The first and probably best line of defense against the harsh sun is wearing the proper clothing like a long sleeved shirt and/or long pants, sunglasses that block 100 percent of ultraviolet rays and a hat with at least a three-inch brim.
- Sunscreen is imperative when out in the sun. Apply and reapply sunscreen when out in the sun, especially during peak hours.

Keep an eye on yourself and your flight members while you are here. Remember to drink plenty of fluids, get as much rest as you can and wear sunscreen at all times.

*Jeff Morris, Maj, CAP
Assistant Activity Director and Safety Officer*



Oshkosh Fire Department

It's a great feeling to know we have such highly trained professionals on the airfield. Today the cadets had a great opportunity to meet the Wittman/Oshkosh Fire Department who operates the big trucks that keep everyone safe. They are located right down the taxiway from the compound. We got a chance to check out the emergency vehicles and amazing technology they use to respond to a crisis. We also got the chance to check out the living quarters of the firefighters, see their kitchen, living room, and bedroom. These didn't look too different from our own barracks.



After a great tour, we got to hang out with our hosts. C/1Lt Gresh, a member of Kilo flight happens to be a volunteer firefighter.



The experience gave us a small insight into the world of a first responder and firefighter. A big thank you to the Oshkosh Fire Department!

Article by: C/MSgt Romso Martinez



Prepositioning EAA Assets

Cadets and seniors, 18 years old and over took a little trip off compound to help move golf carts from the rental area to warbirds area for EAA. The Senior Members helped out too by riding Vespa's.



The EAA uses CAP each year to help with this task. CAP stands ready to lend our partner a helping hand and make its resources available in assisting in making EAA's AirVenture event a success. It was loads of fun, and certainly, one of the highlights of the first week.



Article by: C/1st Lt Alex Lewallen
Photos by: C/Maj Ehren Rauch

Volleyball Practice

If you have had the chance to play volleyball at NBB, then you know how much fun it is to get out of uniform and play with your flight! Don't worry if you have not been a few of the lucky ones; I guarantee that all the flights will get to participate! So hold your horses and wait for your flight to be called, and then go out there and have some fun! Volleyball is a sport that requires lots of teamwork, so use it! Don't hog the ball and let others call, "mine." This sport ensures and helps build up trust with your flight. You are ensuring that they will keep the ball up or even hit over the net. Use teamwork and always be ready for the volleyball to land on your side of the court!



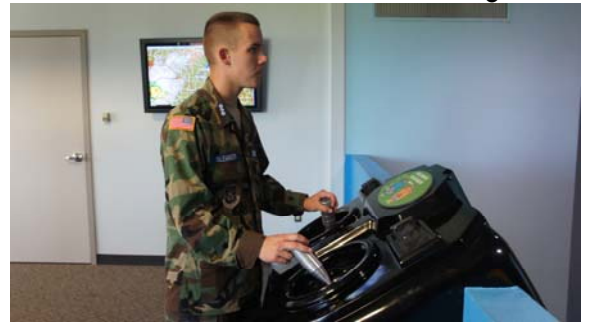
Sleep

Sleep...that thing that happens after "they" turn the lights off at 10:00pm. That's the time when you go to close your eyes and let your body rest. Sleep is very important for cadets. At NBB, cadets are allotted 8 hours of sleep and are expected to be in their racks, dressed in PT gear, and completely quiet once the lights are turned out. Sleep is very important and deprivation is a safety hazard. Please go to bed on time, and don't wake up until the music plays.

C/Maj Ehren Rauch, PAO

Training Begins

Emergency Service, Flight Line Marshaling, EAA Museum, Oshkosh Fire Department and Bassler FBO...We have been busy!! We have been training in the hot humid weather; learning skills that are important to have when we go operational. Although hot and uncomfortable at times it is crucial that we stay focused on assigned tasks. During the ES class cadets had a blast finding ELTs and using compasses to find bearings. Exciting events like learning how to read sectionals and flight line marshaling, (FLM) are about to become the real thing. During FLM were instructed how to guide aircraft while on the flight line. You can see the cadre began to get excited for the airshow to begin! As the day progressed, many flights at the opportunity to go to the Flight Museum. Cadets learned valuable information about vintage aircraft they may see as well as historical aeronautical information. Many cadets had the pleasure to use the flight simulator and as the ride came to an end the cadets walked out with a huge smile. A few cadets stated, "Definitely worth my money." Bassler, we learned is the FBO that fuels planes on the airport. Cadets learned how to refuel aircraft and receive a tour of a hanger. Overall the training was exceptional and a big thank you goes out to the staff for their hard work preparing for this training.



C/2d Lt Lorene Parker, Assistant PAO

Flight Line Marshaling Training

National Blue Beret has many missions during the air show, including crowd control, General ES, but the one we are most known for is Flight Line Marshaling. Flight line is one of the more challenging duty assignments at NBB. When you took Capt. Kemp's class you all learned about the inside lane, and outside lane and which direction each lane travels. Once these planes arrive, the confusion of inside lane goes with active runway, and all the lane switches and so forth will seem clear as day. Also as Capt. Kemp said, many times, safety is the number one ground rule. Flight has the potential to be very dangerous, besides the obvious threat of running aircraft; you also have heat, rain, debris, and anything that could cause bodily harm.

To help cadets prepare for Flight line, Capt. Kemp setup the most realistic training scenario Beret could do, He turned those Big white CAP vans into airplanes! The cadets practiced all of the crucial marshaling signs, learned to read the poorly handwritten signs saying where the plane is going, got to experience what happens when a plane is in the wrong lane, or traveling the wrong direction, along with many other important skills.



Exciting, engaging, and exhilarating; these are just three of the many words used to describe flight line training" is how C/2ndLt Mary Palisi of Golf Flight put it when asked about the Flight Line Ops training. She went on to say, "The cadets went to the flight line, and practiced their newly found skills on makeshift 'airplanes'." After spending all day watching the flight line ops training, I have faith that all Berets, new and returning have the skills to perform their jobs to the greatest ability possible! As put by C/Maj Shivani Patel: "It was an experience that I am honored to have had!"

*C/Capt Alex Lewallen, Assistant PAO
Photos by C/Maj Ehren Rauch*

