



Civil Air Patrol
Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302
United States Air Force Auxiliary
932 W. Deer Valley Road
Phoenix AZ 85027

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RE: Glendale resident named cadet commander
of state's largest Civil Air Patrol squadron

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PHOENIX, Ariz. (July 2, 2008) – Building on his 3½ years of squadron experience, C/2nd Lt. Caleb Eaves of Glendale was installed as cadet commander of Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) during a recent squadron open house that was attended by 40 guests.

The 100-member squadron in north Phoenix is the largest of almost two dozen squadrons that operate in the Arizona Wing of the CAP, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. On a national basis, the all-volunteer CAP organization conducts approximately 95 percent of all inland search-and-rescue operations while also offering aerospace education and providing cadet programs.

C/2nd Lt. Eaves, who served as squadron cadet deputy commander immediately prior to being elevated to his new command, assumed the post from the outgoing cadet commander, C/1st Lt. Robert Gassert, also of Glendale, who has received a full scholarship to attend Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott.

“We thank C/Lt. Gassert for his exceptional leadership as cadet commander since last fall and have confidence C/Lt. Eaves will extend the squadron’s record of excellence in this important position,” says Glendale resident 1st Lt. Casey Young, squadron deputy commander for cadets.

The new cadet commander has served as an orientation instructor plus flight sergeant and commander of the squadron’s Alpha and Bravo flights.

In addition, he is a member of the Arizona Wing’s Sun Gods Drill Team that won the CAP National Cadet Competition drill-team title on Sunday, June 29, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton, Ohio. He was a member of the drill team that likewise won the national title in 2006 and took second place in 2007.

C/2nd Lt. Eaves completed Cadet Officer School in June 2007 at CAP National Headquarters at Maxwell Air Force Base near Montgomery, Ala.

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During his CAP career, C/2nd Lt. Eaves served as Delta Flight commander at the 2007 Arizona Wing Encampment and was flight sergeant for Echo Flight, which was the honor flight at the 2006 Arizona Wing Encampment. His awards include a Commander's commendation, Brig. Gen. Billy Mitchell Award, Meritorious Service Award and Exceptional Service Award.

C/2nd Lt. Eaves is a home-schooled junior. After graduation, he plans to study to become a Christian apologist, a defender of his faith.

CAP is open to cadets 12 to 21 as well as adults, known as officers, 18 and older. Meetings for officers of Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 are conducted at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month at Arizona Mission Base, located at 932 W. Deer Valley Road on the grounds of Deer Valley Airport.

Meetings for squadron cadets are conducted at 7 p.m. each Monday except holidays at the same location. A cadet-orientation program, which begins on the first Monday of each month and continues for six weeks to eight weeks, can lead to cadet membership and opportunities to fly aboard the squadron's aircraft.

Additional information about CAP, its missions and membership opportunities for officers and cadets is available by visiting the national CAP website at www.cap.gov, the Arizona Wing website at <http://azwg.us> or the squadron's website at www.squadron302.org.