



Civil Air Patrol
Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302
United States Air Force Auxiliary
932 W. Deer Valley Road
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RE: Porter receives two CAP awards
for excellence in communication

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PHOENIX, Ariz. (Aug. 14, 2008) – Capt. Jerry Porter, public-affairs officer (PAO) for Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), received two awards of excellence during presentation of the Maj. Howell Balsem CAP Public Affairs Exceptional Achievement Awards at CAP’s PAO Academy conducted Aug. 5-6 in Kissimmee, Fla.

Porter received the awards in the categories of photography and writing for media. He was presented the honors by Maj. Gen. Amy Courter, CAP’s national commander, and Miles O’Brien, chief technology and environment correspondent for CNN and the network’s aviation and space reporter.

His award-winning photograph, titled “Sunset Silhouette,” shows squadron cadets in formation and silhouetted against an Arizona sunset. The photograph appears on the home page of the squadron’s website at www.squadron302.org.

Porter received the second award for a story titled “U.S. Air Force Academy freshman credits Civil Air Patrol, squadron for preparation.” The article, which ran nationally in January 2008 on CAP’s website at www.cap.gov, featured former squadron cadet deputy commander c/Capt. Justin Lennon’s account of his first semester as a cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy.

In 2007, Porter was co-winner of the first-place Balsem Award for *Full Throttle*, the monthly e-newsletter he produces for the Deer Valley squadron, which is based at Deer Valley Airport in north Phoenix. He was named the 2008 Arizona Wing PAO of the Year in May during ceremonies at Luke Air Force Base.

During the national PAO Academy, Porter conducted a workshop on newsletter content and design for approximately 90 CAP PAOs drawn from across the United States.

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A nonprofit volunteer organization, CAP is the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and conducts approximately 90 percent of all inland search-and-rescue operations in the nation. It also conducts aerospace education and cadet programs.

Porter, who joined CAP and Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 in 2006, is aircrew qualified as a mission scanner and mission observer for search-and-rescue and other airborne missions. His additional CAP honors and achievements include a commander's commendation, unit citation ribbon, find ribbon, membership ribbon, Red Service ribbon and the Brig. Gen. Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager Aerospace Education Award.

He is employed as director of communication services for Sun Health, the nonprofit organization that operates Sun Health Boswell and Del E. Webb hospitals and other healthcare services in the West Valley. He is editor of Sun Health's community magazine, *HealthMatters*, and has received more than 30 awards ranging from the local to international levels for excellence in his communication work on behalf of Sun Health.

In addition to his employment at Sun Health, Porter has the rank of master professor and chairs the undergraduate departments of Business, Public Administration, Health & Human Services, and Supply Chain Management at Western International University (WIU) in Phoenix. He also is vice chair of WIU's University Academic Council, which is composed of all academic department heads.

The 100-member Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 was chartered 51 years ago and is the largest of almost two dozen squadrons in the CAP's Arizona Wing. The squadron conducts cadet meetings for young people 12 to 21 at 7 p.m. each Monday except holidays; adult officers meet at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Meetings take place at CAP's Arizona Mission Base, 932 W. Deer Valley Road, on the grounds of Deer Valley Airport.

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>, the squadron's website at www.squadron302.org or by calling **602-992-1613**.

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This photograph titled "Sunset Silhouette" of cadets of Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) silhouetted against an Arizona sunset earned Capt. Jerry Porter, the squadron's public-affairs officer (PAO), an award of excellence in photography at the presentation of the Maj. Howell Balsem CAP Exceptional Achievement Awards during CAP's national PAO Academy this month in Kissimmee, Fla.



Capt. Jerry Porter (center), public-affairs officer (PAO) for Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 of the Civil Air Patrol's (CAP's) Arizona wing, received awards of excellence for photography and writing for media during CAP's recent PAO Academy in Kissimmee, Fla. Porter is presented the awards by Maj. Gen. Amy Courter (left), CAP's national commander, and Miles O'Brien, chief technology and environment correspondent for CNN and the network's aviation and space reporter.

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Capt. Jerry Porter makes a point during a workshop on newsletter content and design he led for 90 public affairs officers (PAOs) of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) during the organization's national PAO Academy conducted recently in Kissimmee, Fla. Porter, PAO for Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 of CAP's Arizona Wing, received two national awards of excellence for his work on behalf of the squadron.



Capt. Jerry Porter emphasizes good writing during a workshop he conducted on newsletter content and design for 90 public-affairs officers (PAOs) during the Civil Air Patrol's (CAP's) national PAO Academy conducted recently in Kissimmee, Fla. Porter is PAO of Deer Valley Composite Squadron 302 of CAP's Arizona Wing and received two national awards of excellence for his communications work.