



# CADET NOTES



Maxwell Air Force Base, AL

Jan. - Feb. 2005

Vol. 1, No. 1

## Huey Flight

On a bright, cold Monday morning in late December, approximately 40 cadets and senior members arrived at Ft. Rucker, Ala. to learn what it takes to become a USAF helicopter pilot. We were welcomed to the squadron by the Operations Officer who gave us an in-depth briefing on how to earn the silver wings of a USAF pilot pursuing the helicopter track during Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training (SUPT). The briefing detailed the academic and flight-line training students receive at Ft. Rucker. He then gave us a glimpse into the helicopters the new students fly after SUPT.

Some of the helicopters that students fly are the combat helicopters: the MH-53M Pave Low, which infiltrates, exfiltrates, and re-supplies Special Operations Forces, and the HH-



Cadets and senior members in front of a UH-1 Huey helicopter. A military orientation flight on this aircraft took place December 20, 2004.

60G Pave Hawk, which provides Combat Search and Rescue. The UH-1N Huey supports the Northern tier missile bases as well as VIP airlift, and USAF survival school.

As interesting as it was to learn how to become a pilot, the best part was flying in the classic UH-1H Huey helicopter. This is the same helicopter that served so honorably in Vietnam and through Desert Storm. Three USAF UH-1's loaded all of our members and flew them across the Alabama countryside to a landing zone to demonstrate how helicopter crews safely perform the demanding task of landing in a remote site.

There were smiles and thumbs up all around as cadets and senior members got off of the helicopters back at Lowe Army Heliport. After the flight, we got

to relax in an Army Chow Hall and enjoyed a great meal with unlimited deserts!

The final event of the day was a guided tour of the US Army Aviation Museum. The tour started in the pre-World War I days when the Army was primarily in the fixed-wing business, through the inter-war years, and World War II. It was then that the shift to primarily rotary-wing operations began and the rest of the tour was dedicated to helicopter development. A quick visit to the museum gift shop wrapped up an exciting day.

Thanks to all of the folks at Ft. Rucker for such a great day as well as to the cadets and seniors who conducted themselves in a very professional manner. Keep your eyes open for more great visits to other bases in the future!

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## Commander's Corner

*from the desk of . . .*  
**Lt. Col. Gaston**

January 2005

Welcome back from the holidays! I hope you are all rested and ready to get back to work. It was great meeting/seeing many of your families at our Christmas party; I think everyone had a great time. I especially want to thank those that brought all the great food. No reason anyone should have gone away hungry from that one! I also again want to thank all our cadets, senior members, parents, and family members who participated in our Toys for Tots drive. This is the first time we've done this, and, as I said the evening of the party, the response was overwhelming. In all, we collected over 25 toys. Your generosity and concern for others is truly admirable, and I greatly appreciate it.

Cadets, I urge you to get back into the swing of things quickly. Those of us who attended the Ft. Rucker trip had a great time, and we've got lots more activities coming up. Those of you who didn't make it - find out from those who did how great a time we had, and plan on attending our next one. We've got orientation flights coming up, possibly another base visit to points south, and we're looking at a trip back to Columbus, GA, to visit the Ranger Rags surplus store. It's a great place for BDUs, etc. But, more importantly, I strongly urge you to get back into the books and work on your promotions. Our testing officer has expressed concerns over how slow some of our cadets are advancing. None of these promotions are given to you - all of them take a lot of hard work, both mentally and physically. But the rewards are well worth it. Plus, all of our senior members stand ready to help you out any way we can.

Last, I've mentioned before that it really is time to get serious about summer activities, especially encampment. Please give that serious thought, and talk to those cadets who attended the special activities over the Christmas break. As always, be safe and study hard in your school work!

Sincerely,  
*Lt. Col. Gaston*

🎁 **Thank you for participating in Toys-for-Tots.** 🎁



## I joined CAP to fly!

Most cadets will tell you that the top reason they joined CAP was to FLY. Here at Maxwell, we are taking advantage of a unique opportunity in aviation: glider flying! Just one hour north of Montgomery is the Shelby County Flight. This flight is the core of Alabama's CAP glider operations. Several of our cadets have now flown in the CAP Blanik L-23 glider. This is a high-performance aircraft that is a wonderful, safe glider to introduce cadets to the dynamics of flight with a lot of excitement along the way.

The cadet program provides for five free glider flights as well as five free powered airplane flights. These flights allow cadets to take the knowledge learned and tested in the aerospace education program and apply them in actual flight. From the forces acting on an aircraft to navigation to engines to airspace, these flights are guaranteed to satisfy the dreams of our cadets. More importantly, cadets who wish to pursue a Federal Aviation Administration Private Pilot License in gliders may do so.

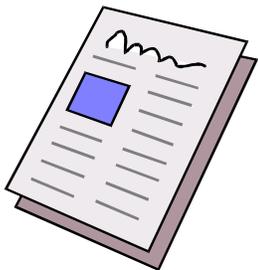


Thumbs up for their first glider flight. Front row: Cadets Ennis, Holder, Eaton and Jackson. Back row: SM Jackson, and Cadets Hodgkins, Tindol and Toney.

Even in the cold weather, glider flights as long as 20 minutes are common. In the summer, you can stay up as long as your bladder will allow, with some gliders reaching over 30,000 feet and traveling hundreds of miles out in the mountainous west!

More information on glider operations can be found at "bhamsoaring.home.att.net". Check closely and you will find the Blanik L-23 Flight Manual.

### "Name the Newsletter" Contest



We want the newsletter to belong to **YOU**, the cadets. One way for this to happen is if one of **YOU** give it a name!

The cadet who thinks of the winning title will not only get the honor of seeing their own personal idea at the top of the newsletter each month, he or she will also receive a prize.

To enter the contest, turn in a sheet of paper that includes your creative idea, with your name and rank, to either Lt. Enriquez or Lt. Becker. **Deadline is Monday, Feb. 7.**

Good luck!

### We want your suggestions



Please see Lt. Enriquez or Lt. Becker if you have suggestions for:

- *the newsletter*
- *the snackbar*
- **any CAP activity ideas**

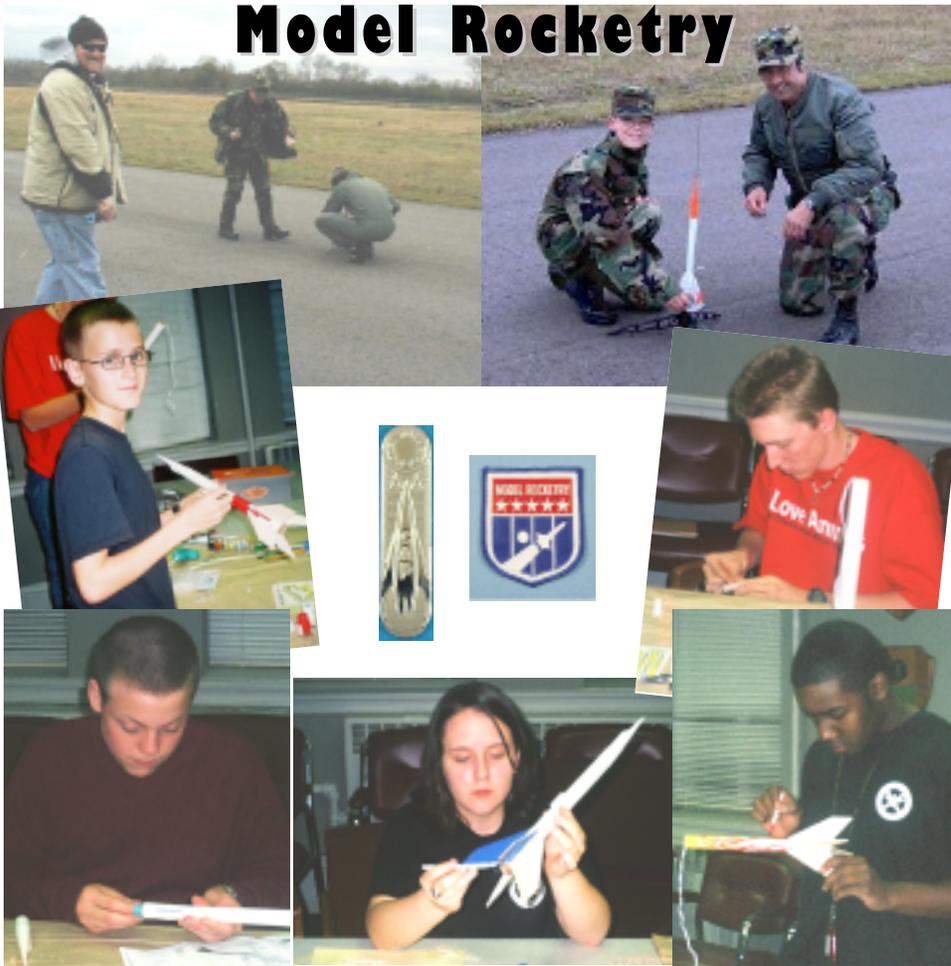
**Remember this is YOUR squadron!**

### Car/Van Pool for those in Prattville

Mrs. Bonnie Stevens has offered to drive cadets to the Monday night meetings. Dr Silvano Wueschner has offered to drive them back to Prattville. Bonnie has a 12-passenger van and Silvano is in the process of getting permission to drive the squadron van.

If you are interested, please contact Bonnie. Her home phone number is 491-1324.

# Model Rocketry



## The Rocketry Badge

The silver rocketry badge for blues, and red and blue patch for BDUs are earned by having lots of fun--and learning a lot in the process.

To attain these badges for uniform wear, you must build and launch different types of rockets and pass a few short quizzes. See CAPM 50-20 for the specifics.

Your Aerospace Education Officer, Maj. Miller, can also give you the guidelines and answer any questions you may have on the rocketry program.

## “Cadet-on-the-Go” Interview

*Question: Do you want to go into space someday? Why or why not?*

**CADET HOLLIDAY:** “Roger that! I’ve wanted to go my entire life. You can go outside and look at all that stuff but it’s not the same.”

**CADET PINKHAM:** “I think it may be too expensive in my lifetime. My kids might go, but not me.”

**CADET WALKER:** “No, because my goal is to become an F-18 pilot; or maybe I’ll fly the SR-71 Blackbird.”

**CADET HOLDER:** “Yes! It’s something not many people are privileged to do. Not many people are willing to work for it but I am.”

**CADET JACKSON:** “No, I just want to fly—anything!”

**CADET VICIAN:** “Possibly, if I got accepted to the space program through the Air Force. I think it’d be cool to live up there.”

**CADET ENNIS:** “Probably, if I get the chance. I could see the world from a different perspective. I’d rather look down than up.”

## UPCOMING EVENTS

January

21st - 23rd FTX

February

5th glider flight orientation

19th Ft. Benning trip (airborne Museum)

March

TBD powered flight orientation

TBD emergency services

### Monday Night Meetings

1st Mon.	Emergency Services	(BDU)
2nd Mon.	Physical Training	(PT gear)
3rd Mon.	Aerospace Education & Testing	(Blues)
4th Mon.	Moral Leadership	(Blues)
5th Mon.	Commander’s Discretion	(BDU)