



# Behind the 8 Ball

## Blue Beret National Cadet Special Activity Oshkosh, Wisconsin



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### Flight Line Safety



In a "Behind the Eight Ball" exclusive, I had the opportunity to interview the supreme overlord of the flight line, Darth Sergeant, otherwise known as Captain Kemp. I sat with him for a discussion on the obvious and less obvious safety issues on the flight line. There's potential for fatigue, so please, when the lights go out just go to bed. Then you have the fact that our environment is simply unpredictable, there have been pilots who have mistakenly landed on the taxiway or have skidded off the runway on takeoff. Captain Kemp explained how important your situational awareness is, "we say keep your head on a swivel so much that I think people start to take it as a cliché, but we really do mean it... it only takes 1/10 of a second to make that bad decision and you don't have time to react after you realize the danger." Once we commit to an action our synapses do not have time to fire to pull us away from the hazard. Captain Kemp's best advice and closing thought is "trust me, just trust me, trust the berets, we are all here to help you."

Following training, I sat down with C/2LT Kailee Frocchi of Juliet flight who spent part of her day on the line learning how it's done. When asked what she took away from all the training, she said "It's all about confidence; confidence in yourself, confidence in your team and

confidence in your training. If all that comes together it will be a good activity!"

**C/Maj Kyle Adams**  
**Cadet Public Affairs Article**

### Getting Around NBB: Transportation

At NBB we cover a lot of ground. Without our Transportation team we would be sore! Their job at NBB is to transport members from place to place in a safe manner. The Transportation Section is led by Lt Col Bob Johnson, followed by Lt Col Peter Acevedo, Capt Dennis Maloney, and Capt Ed Tenes.



At the beginning of Beret they were taking the seats out of the 12 passenger vans. This was done to speed up the loading and unloading process of cadets on the flight line, it also necessary to accommodate the 11 cadets, a tac officer, and their gear. Strobe lights were placed on top of the vans as the lights are required for all moving vehicles at Whittman Field. Drivers work long hours; they are on the road from sun up to sun down, so remember to thank them when you get picked up or dropped off. Their motto is "We're not crazy, but we'll drive you there!"

Some of the rules for entering and exiting the vehicles are as followed:

- Load and unload across the street north from the ES shack.
- Remove all gear before entering the vehicle.
- Enter through back doors.
- Sit on the floor, not on your knee or the tire wells.
- Keep quiet! The drivers must concentrate on driving!
- When entering the vehicle, go as far toward the front as possible.
- After a cadet is dropped off, the rest of the cadets need to move down to be prepared to exit after the vehicle comes to a stop.

**Nathan Runck, Capt**  
**Public Affairs Officer**

## The History of AirVenture



Having been in existence nearly as long as the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), AirVenture has a very rich history and a unique place of prominence in the world of aviation. In 1953, Dwight D. Eisenhower was sworn in as President, Walt Disney's Peter Pan premieres, and the EAA was founded by Paul Poberezny in his home garage. Members of the EAA first gathered in 1953 as a part of the Milwaukee Air Pageant. This first gathering was miniscule by today's standards, with few aircraft, primarily homebuilt and modified aircraft. The EAA Fly-In Convention quickly saw tremendous growth and founders realized, it was time to move. They selected Rockford Municipal

Airport, Illinois as their next home, the show saw more incredible growth with exhibits to satisfy every aviation interest from warbirds to aerobatics and antiques. In 1969 EAA leaders again found themselves with a good problem to have, they had outgrown their facilities. After extensive consideration an Airport in Oshkosh, Wisconsin had its name thrown in the ring by aviation legend Steve Wittman. Oshkosh had everything they needed, acreage of land surrounding the field, two runways running perpendicular that did not intersect, and a city government who wanted the event, they had one problem, no infrastructure or convention buildings. With 4,000 hardworking, dedicated volunteers, putting in six months of work, EAA had itself a permanent fly-in home. Through the '70s and '80s the event grew to attendance in the six figures, and found itself in a position of national prominence. In 1998 the event changed names to "EAA AirVenture" an event spans the entire spectrum of aviation and attracts 10,000 airplanes each year. The more than 500,000 aviation enthusiasts who attend the event annually supply the local and state economies with more than a \$110-million boost. Participants can come and hear forums and seminars along with hands on activities, listen to some of the leading personalities in the world of aviation. AirVenture is a loved event to aviation enthusiasts, because of its influence worldwide, yet it still has a friendly, intimate setting and family feel.



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

## Every Cadets Best Friend... Operation Thirst



Nothing is more exciting for a hard working cadet than the sight of the Operation Thirst van rolling their way on the flight line. Operation Thirst is a project run entirely by EAA since the 70s. Today it is led by Ann Hamilton of Bellville, Ohio, who oversees a team of almost 15 volunteers who make 3,000 sandwiches a day and mix 20 packages of lemonade just for starters. "We also use 90 cases of cookies in six days along with 100 six pound cases of potato chips and nine cases of popcorn," explains Hamilton, "plus 1,000 pounds of meat along with 70 bricks of cheese for sandwiches." One of two Operation Thirst vans travels up and down the flight line and distributes sandwiches, lots of different cold drinks and coffee, and a variety of snacks. C/1st Lt Jake Aytes of Delta flight said "They are your best friends on the hottest days."

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

Go out to the airshow during your free time to experience all the great things that Airventure has to offer!



**Alpha Flight Patch**



Flight Commander: C/2dLt Reagan Schmidt  
Flight Leader: C/CMSgt Brendan Drew  
TAC: Maj Paul Kloehn

**Hotel Flight Patch**



Flight Commander: C/Maj Brandon West  
Flight Leader: C/1<sup>st</sup> Lt Jonathan Yerger  
TAC: SSgt Pat Dukes



### Senior Member Highlight - Capt Lisa Collum

Captain Lisa Collum has been a Civil Air Patrol member for 13 years, but her duty to her country does not end there, she is also a U.S. Army veteran. She has attended Blue Beret 4 times, her first year in 2005 as cadet, she has a wealth of knowledge and a resource for all members here at NBB. She is a full time student at Glendale Community College, studying Criminal Justice. Captain Collum stated that she most enjoys Blue Beret for the lifelong friendships that are made here. She is the first CAP member to own a "Moo Cow" shirt, the pink shirt that the FAA tower operators wear. When asked what advice she'd like to give to the first timers, she said, "be flexible and patient."

**Caleb Walters, C/TSgt  
Cadet Public Affairs Officer**

## Trivia

### Issue Answers:

How many different Wings are represented at NBB 2014?  
42

### New Questions:

What was the name of the Wing Commander who formed Blue Beret in the 1960's?

