



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NEWS FOR SENIOR MEMBERS OF NC150

July 2013



Well, the month of July nearly rushed by without this issue being created or published. July has likely been a very busy month for all of us, and the NC Wing is currently closing out July by being involved in the Tri-Wing SAREX that will continue into August. So what does a SAREX, or Emergency Services (ES) in general have to do with Professional Development (PD)? Technically nothing, but in this case it makes a good paragraph transition as well as a conclusion.

The difference between ES and PD is the topic of this month's newsletter. Several years ago when I was the NC Wing Chief of Staff, the NC Wing Director of Professional Development conducted a seminar at our wing conference. The NCWG/PD opened his seminar by holding up a CAP Form 101 and asked what it had to do with PD. Many of the seminar attendees thought that the Form 101 was the way PD was tracked. They could not have been further from the truth.

PD is tracked primarily using the second page of the CAP Form 45 and ES is tracked using a CAP Form 101, but neither PD nor ES is necessarily the same. ES is one of the three federally mandated missions of CAP where Professional Development is one of the venues or methods CAP members use to develop themselves to carry out their assigned duties. PD is part of the training for all three (AE, CP & ES) of the federally mandated missions of CAP; training that is categorized into three levels as shown in specialty tracks as well as in most other required and optional training available to CAP members.

In your civilian jobs, you either get training provided by your employer or use your high school and/or college education to prepare you and then use company-provided supplemental training to further enable you to perform your job effectively. The purpose of CAP required and optional training is to learn what is expected of us, train and enable each of us to better perform our assigned CAP duties and bring appropriate, quality program to our members - both cadets and seniors. This training and effective use of it especially helps our unit operate at optimum performance – like in SUIs and missions.

So, when training is made available for us to progress to the next level in our CAP progression, remember that it is not just to get a ribbon and or the next grade (these are simply visible recognition of and for our progress). The training is designed to provide each of us the knowledge we need to enable us to understand and perform our assigned duties in our unit. So take the time and/or make the time – schedule your calendar – to attend the requisite training and then progress in your specialty track and ultimately in PD. Your progress in professional development ultimately helps our unit be effective.

Now back to the beginning paragraph – the part of July being a busy month for us – and the mention of ES in this PD newsletter: First, congratulations to Capt Pete Wehr and Cadets Eric Colquhoun and Hazen Ham for completing a ten-day course at Hawk Mountain Ranger School earlier this month. Second, the undersigned also was at Hawk Mountain - for my second ten-day tour, but this time it was quite different. I helped develop program for future on-line Ranger training and was assigned additional duty to the National HQ Ranger Squadron (NHQ009) as the Professional Development Officer to create program to enable more professionalism in the Ranger Program. Meanwhile, and through the blur of PD and ES, I'll see you at our squadron meetings!

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