

FAREWELL TO LT COL NELSON (SKIP) RUE

Have been in CAP for a little over 10 years.

Started CAP (kicking and screaming all the while) at the direction (okay, pleading) of my youngest daughter. Was Boone County Composite Squadron Commander within 5 months. Into the deep end at the start...

My then Cadet First Sergeant is now my son-in-law. Both my daughter and I scored big on that one. At least some of the fine young people they both are they got from the Cadet program of KYWG and the contributions each of you have made to the effects that program has on our cadets. Keep it up! Its effects are life-long.

First Wing Conference in BG (don't remember the year – was invited to the “Commanders Reception” (after the dinner concluded) where “refreshments” and pontificating abounded. All the CAP National problems were fixed in that hotel suite. Henry was the source of all things CAP...and turns out he was right about most of what he said. Funny, that (insert dripping sarcasm here). Much of the reason KYWG is where it is resulted from the team Henry encouraged and coerced into working so hard. Good job, Boss.

Ran our first full SAREX after just over a year. NKY SAREX 2000 (ask Munday about this one – we were so green...)

Attended my first Winter SAREX in conjunction with Indiana Wing. Froze...was Air Operations Director...Clark County Airport, Indiana, in the woods by the hangers...did I mention we froze? Was a member of the infamous “hilltop” party where the rescue professionals got stuck on the mountain...should have listened to Eric...he was correct about our location after all. Was the advance party (party of one) for a winter exercise in the Gorge that was cancelled late Friday evening due to cold. No cell, no contact with the outside world. At about 10:00 the next morning went back to Slade to find out where everyone was and was informed it was too cold to be in the woods....did I mention I was already in the woods as of Friday about 20:00? Boy was it cold...

Three years of AETCFC as Element Leader at Columbus AFB in Mississippi. Talk about hot...I love the smell of burnt jet fuel in the morning!

Government Relations Officer for two Wing Commanders (Col Holbrook and Col Heaberlin) - Bob, will stay on the team at least with you if you'll have me.

KY Wing included in development of New Madrid Reaction Plan as a result of Government Relations team persistence and commitment over a two year period...we've now been in the

early activation plan for four years...we do a good job and the Guard knows it. Chris, Russ, Don, Henry, Steve Bishop, and a bunch more all played roles in us being at the table. The AAR for Ice Quake 2009 was correct. When informed by COL Burd that Ice Quake 2009 was my last event with KYANG, BG Heltzel said, "Well, hell. You can't leave! We just got you broke in good!" Don will know what to do.

I've never been associated with a more committed group of professionals who gave as much to others as CAP members in Kentucky Wing. No one knows what the future holds, but if I move forward in my new life in Florida, it has been my distinct honor and privilege to have stood beside you serving Kentucky.

Semper Vigilans,

My new address will be:

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