

Shaw Fest 2008 & DDR

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Thursday, 02 October 2008 19:10 - Last Updated Thursday, 02 October 2008 19:13

By Maj Lavonne Adams, SCWG/DDRA

Shawfest 2008 "Thunder over the Midlands " was not intended to represent Tropical Storm Hanna, but immediately following the storm, approximately 50,000 people kept their eyes to the sky. Shaw AFB, Sumter, SC, hosted an air show which showcased America 's Airmen, the Air Force's leading technology, vintage aircrafts, extreme aerial demonstrations, and various displays on Sept. 6, 2008. Shawfest was an opportunity to show appreciation to the communities that support Team Shaw and all of our Armed Forces every day and to focus on alcohol and drug abuse, prevention and awareness. There was plenty for the crowd to see.

The SC Wing CAP Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) Program worked in conjunction with Lacey Brown, DDR Program Manager, Shaw AFB and the Lexington Richland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council, Columbia, SC, in distributing promotional items and drug awareness pamphlets to the crowd. With the use of Cadet Ken, an excellent recruiting tool, cadets and seniors distributed red balloons and candy displaying DDR slogans for Red Ribbon Week. Although Red Ribbon Week is officially in October, it can be celebrated throughout the year.

This was a unique opportunity to see, touch, and feel the excitement that was not only in the air, but on the ground. The cadets and seniors enjoyed meeting everyone from across the region and strengthening the wing's bond within the local community. The participating squadrons were Anderson, Coastal Charleston, Florence, Greenville, Lexington, Murrells Inlet, Spartanburg, Sumter and York Composite and Camden Military Academy, Dent and Richland Cadet Squadrons.