

Civil Air Patrol

October-December 2012



Volunteer

'Candy Bomber' Gail Halvorsen's CAP Connections

**Members Respond, First To
Wildfires, Then To Hurricane**

**Cadet Day A Hit
At Annual Conference**



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Alabama Wing member captures memorable image

An Alabama Wing aircrew was on the way home from the West Georgia Composite Squadron's headquarters in LaGrange after a joint search and rescue exercise

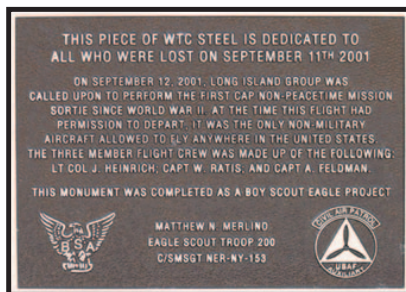


Photo by Maj. Brady Rogers, Alabama Wing

when this gorgeous rainbow drew Maj. Brady Rogers' attention. Rogers served as mission observer and photographer for the flight and Capt. Joe Robbins was the pilot. Both men are members of Alabama's Huntsville Senior Squadron.

New York cadet salutes 9/11's victims

Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Matthew Merlino of the New York Wing's Leroy R. Grumman Cadet Squadron could have picked a number of projects to pursue for his Eagle Scout achievement as a member of Troop 200, but a memorial to the victims and heroes of the 9/11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center seemed most appropriate. The monument he helped create was unveiled and dedicated at Long Island Group Headquarters in Holbrook. Made in part of steel found in the debris from one of the Twin Towers after the attacks, the monument was placed a few yards from where Lt. Cols. Jacques Heinrich, Warren Ratis and Andrew Feldman took off Sept. 12, 2001, on a mission over Ground Zero to take high-resolution photographs of the devastation.



Photos by Capt. Robert Calviello, New York Wing



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Civil Air Patrol Volunteer is published quarterly by Civil Air Patrol, a private, charitable, benevolent corporation and auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. Please send all correspondence to Public Affairs, 105 S. Hansell St., Bldg. 714, Maxwell AFB, AL 36112; telephone 877-227-9142, ext. 250; email: paa@capnhq.gov. Opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent those of CAP or the U.S. Air Force. Civil Air Patrol Volunteer welcomes manuscripts and photographs; however, CAP reserves the right to edit or condense materials submitted and to publish articles as content warrants and space permits.

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Volunteer

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Photo by Maj. Gary Brockman, Indiana Wing

44 Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Ava Michl of the Alabama Wing communicates with other Civil Air Patrol members involved in a training exercise at the National Emergency Services Academy. Held each summer at Camp Atterbury, Ind., the academy helps fine-tune the air and ground skills of CAP's emergency services providers.

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ON OUR COVER

The Berlin "Candy Bomber," retired U.S. Air Force Col. Gail Halvorsen, left, and ABC's "Good Morning America" anchor Robin Roberts watch as an aircrew from CAP's Mississippi Wing re-enacts Halvorsen's Operation Little Vittles on Oct. 31, 2005, two months after Hurricane Katrina made landfall. In a recent interview with the *Volunteer*, beginning on page 16, Halvorsen talks about his strong ties to CAP, established long before his humanitarian efforts in Germany in the late 1940s and in Mississippi. *Photo by Maj. Keith Riddle, Mississippi Wing*

Civil Air Patrol Volunteer is oriented toward both internal (CAP) and external audiences. For that reason, it uses the Associated Press style for such things as military abbreviations. Associated Press style is the standard used for most newspapers and magazines. Official internal CAP communications should continue to use the U.S. Air Force rank abbreviations found in CAPR 35-5.

An aerial photograph showing a flooded area with several houses and trees. The water is dark and murky, and the houses are partially submerged. The trees are green and some are also in the water. The overall scene depicts significant flooding.

In a familiar scenario, CAP members respond to Gulf's latest hurricane

Island flooding along the Biloxi River is depicted in this aerial photo taken by CAP's Mississippi Wing. It is one of more than 3,100 images CAP turned over to federal and state emergency agencies to help them in dealing with the destruction left by Hurricane Isaac.

Photo by Capt. Jason Cochran, Mississippi Wing

By Kristi Carr

In the words of baseball great Yogi Berra, it was “*déjà vu* all over again” — and not in a good way. On the seventh anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Isaac arrived to dump misery on some of the same areas in Mississippi and Louisiana.

While the storms were very different, the response mounted by Civil Air Patrol remained dedicated and timely.

Isaac's nature

“As fast as Katrina was, Isaac was just as slow, moving as little as 6 mph,” said Maj. Hank Rogers, CAP incident commander for a team of 46 members from eight Mississippi Wing squadrons that responded to the disaster. The rainfall and subsequent flooding affected 14 counties in the southern part of the state and included cities like Pascagoula, Biloxi, Gulfport, Pass



At a mission base established at the Million Air Fixed Base Operator facilities at Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, Mississippi Wing members plan their response to Hurricane Isaac. They are 1st Lt. Darrin Stewart, second from left, Capt. Jason Cochran and Cadet Airman Joshua Broussard. Also shown is Lt. Col. Robert Smalley, left.

Lt. Col. James C. Hunter, a U.S. Air Force emergency preparedness liaison officer who was embedded with the Louisiana Wing, commented, “When military, local, state and federal agencies respond to natural disasters or other contingencies, timely communication and information are key to ensuring their combined actions are executed intelligently and expeditiously. The Louisiana Wing of Civil Air Patrol provided important imagery to responders on the ground as well as state and local authorities to give them the opportunity to make decisions and allocate personnel

Christian and Bay St. Louis.

In Louisiana, New Orleans was spared, due in large part to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ work following Katrina to shore up the barriers to high seas. But nearby parishes, including Plaquemines and Terrebonne, were not so fortunate, suffering severe flooding. Even so, the damage was less than Katrina and the death toll certainly lower, said Col. Art Scarbrough, CAP’s Louisiana Wing commander.

CAP’s role

“Our goal in the Mississippi Wing was to provide federal and state emergency agencies clear pictures of the floodwaters so they could define a plan to recover those trapped,” Rogers said.

“As is usually the case,” Scarbrough added, “CAP performed as a federal asset working under a mission authorization from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Our primary mission was to provide fixed-wing aviation resources for damage assessment, aerial imagery and transportation.”

appropriately, saving not only manpower but also dollars and time.

“The Louisiana Wing’s timely, effective support during Hurricane Isaac is another example of the outstanding Air Force auxiliary role CAP performs,” he said.

Aerial photography was the bread and butter of CAP’s response. In Mississippi, CAP members flew 29 sorties over four days, taking 1,228 photos. In Louisiana, where 50 officers and 24 cadets from 11 squadrons worked the mission, 61 aerial sorties (103 flight hours) were flown over 10 days, and 1,943 photos were taken.

Both wings also deployed ground teams. In Mississippi, they mainly assisted in relocating CAP aircraft to safer areas, while in Louisiana ground team members helped fill sandbags and conduct damage assessments.

In the New Orleans area, a CAP officer and cadet paired with Red Cross teams to fill out “street sheets” to assess damage by address. “The Red Cross was very grateful for help from local people who knew the

neighborhoods,” said Capt. Lydia Pike of the Louisiana Wing.

Pike also oversaw ground teams made up primarily of cadets who were tasked with filling sandbags in rural St. John and Ascension parishes. They toiled alongside members of the National Guard. Pike was proud to report that the cadets uttered not one word of complaint over two days of backbreaking work.

Improvements in technology were on display in the aftermath of Isaac. “Our response reflected advances in airborne imagery since Katrina and was also aided by changes and advances in CAP’s Web Mission Information Reporting System,” Scarbrough said.

“WMIRS now provides more information faster; and, when coupled with local tools and knowledge, it greatly facilitates management of a mission and its air and ground sorties,” explained Louisiana Wing’s Hurricane Isaac Incident Commander Lt. Col. Amos Plante.

Rogers, who had been involved in the response to Katrina, learned a lesson he put into play when dealing with Isaac. “Move your people and assets well out of harm’s way sooner rather than later,” he said. “Protecting who and what we need in order to respond effectively will always be my first priority pre-storm. After Katrina, we had nothing to respond with, save the good people of CAP that came from far and away to lend a hand.”

What remained the same in dealing with this latest hurricane was the dedication of CAP’s volunteers.

“Our reputation as a can-do, go-to response agency and our individual sense of pride in a job well done are unchallenged during these events,” Scarbrough said. “The CAP members who give so much of themselves to support their fellow citizens for so little in the way of reward are among the VIPs of this world.”

Rogers concurred: “I continue to be amazed at how a handful of dedicated people can accomplish so much with so little help,” he said. “The volunteers who worked this mission are the inspiration and heart that is CAP.” ▲

Lt. Col. Kat Wiley and Cadet Airman Joshua Broussard, both of the Mississippi Wing, and Capt. Lydia Pike of the Louisiana Wing contributed to this story.

Grace in the face of adversity

In some cases, CAP members were both responders and victims when it came to Hurricane Isaac.

Most of the Louisiana cadets who helped others beat back the floodwaters had restricted access to their own flooded homes.

In Mississippi, Maj. Gary Hornosky, commander of Diamondhead Composite Squadron, grappled with 6 feet of mud and water on the lower level of his Bay St. Louis home — which he had rebuilt after it was severely damaged by Hurricane Katrina.

Using his cell phone and radio to stay in contact with his unit’s aircrew, he tasked them to help evacuate CAP aircraft to safer areas. Later, he matched those best qualified with aerial reconnaissance sorties. Even with his hands full, especially after his residence lost electricity, Hornosky didn’t forget to compliment his CAP team for a job well done.

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Air Force general:

Colorado Wing wildfire missions

‘truly made
a difference’

By Steve Cox

Following a fire in Yuma County, Colo., CAP aerial photos revealed burned houses, farms and vehicles.

Photo by 1st Lt. Rob Pehkonen, Colorado Wing

Civil Air Patrol’s Colorado Wing has been recognized for its outstanding support as the U.S. Air Force auxiliary during a series of deadly and devastating wildfires.

The massive Waldo Canyon Fire near Colorado Springs, the High Park Fire near Fort Collins and other, smaller blazes made the spring and summer of 2012 the most destructive and expensive fire season in the Centennial State’s history. At least six people died as a result of the blazes, which burned more than 600 homes and left close to \$500 million in property damage.

In a letter to CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, 1st Air Force (AFNORTH) Commander

Lt. Gen. Sid Clarke noted the “ceaseless efforts and professionalism” of the nearly 200 CAP members who worked both on the ground and in the air during response to the fires. “They helped mitigate additional pain and suffering of the residents of Colorado who were affected by the fires,” he said.

Clarke said the Colorado Wing responded “rapidly and efficiently” with volunteers to staff the collection and distribution center in Fort Collins, which provided assistance to residents affected by the High Park Fire. “Your members provided over 1,600 man-hours to support the assistance shelter alone,” he said.

The public brought donations of household goods



These aerial photos of billowing smoke in the Manitou Springs area of Colorado, taken in rough air from 13,500 feet by a CAP aircrew on fire watch for Douglas County, are some of the first of what later became the Waldo Canyon Fire, which was responsible for destroying more than 300 homes and resulted in two deaths. Lt. Col. Bob Beabout, pilot of the CAP plane, said crew members could see dry pine trees explode from rapid development of the fire.



and clothing to the collections and distribution center. CAP members helped unload vehicles, handled walk-in donations and sorted the donations. They also helped distribute the donations to victims of the fires.

Colorado Wing Commander Col. Earl Sherwin sent this message to the wing in the midst of the mission: “During an emotional debrief last night, Cathy

Kissner, head of Donations Management (Adventist Community Services), said how much we all meant to the public we serve. Without going too far into details, she explained that we literally saved a family yesterday. This family had been living in their vehicle after losing everything. They had become desperate, not realizing there was help available; the family’s desperation was relieved.”

Sherwin added, “We have touched many, many lives since our mission began. We’ve heard from the public their praise of our efforts. Their constant refrain is, ‘We all have to pull together. Thank you for helping us donate to the evacuees.’”

In addition to the work at the assistance center, Clarke also cited CAP’s swift response to a request from Douglas County, Colo., to fly 40 fire spotting sorties totaling more than 100 hours throughout the Colorado Springs area. “These missions enabled initial reporting on several fires and helped prevent further property damage,” he said.

Additional flights were made for the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the wake of the fires. “Colorado Wing provided 1,800 valuable high-resolution images of the wildfire

areas for damage assessment and for use by our interagency partners,” Clarke said. “Your aircrews flew in very demanding conditions and truly made a difference to Colorado communities.” ▲

Fire spotting in Florida Panhandle

It's a mission unlike any other in Civil Air Patrol

By Mitzi Palmer

Each year, Florida Wing's Group 1 launches nearly 200 flights in the state's Panhandle region to search for wildfires and to help the Eglin Natural Resources Branch, locally known as Jackson Guard, spot fire and smoke on controlled burns. That amounts to 2,400 flights over the past 12 years and almost 27,000 volunteer man-hours.

As part of Operation Fire Watch, CAP aircrews keep an eye on controlled burns and look for wildfires threatening 357,473 acres of nondescript forested land near Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

Group 1, which includes 10 counties in the Panhandle's westernmost tip, makes fire-spotting flights almost daily during peak season.

"It's a mission unlike any other I've seen in CAP," said Maj. Ben Poffenberger, Group 1's emergency services training officer and assistant director of operations.

"Every CAP pilot and aircrew member who has come from other units to participate with this mission say the same thing — that they've never seen or heard about anything like what goes on here," Poffenberger said.

Though they may not fly every single day throughout the year, the group plans and is prepared to do so. "We are literally seven days a week, 365 days a year," Poffenberger said.

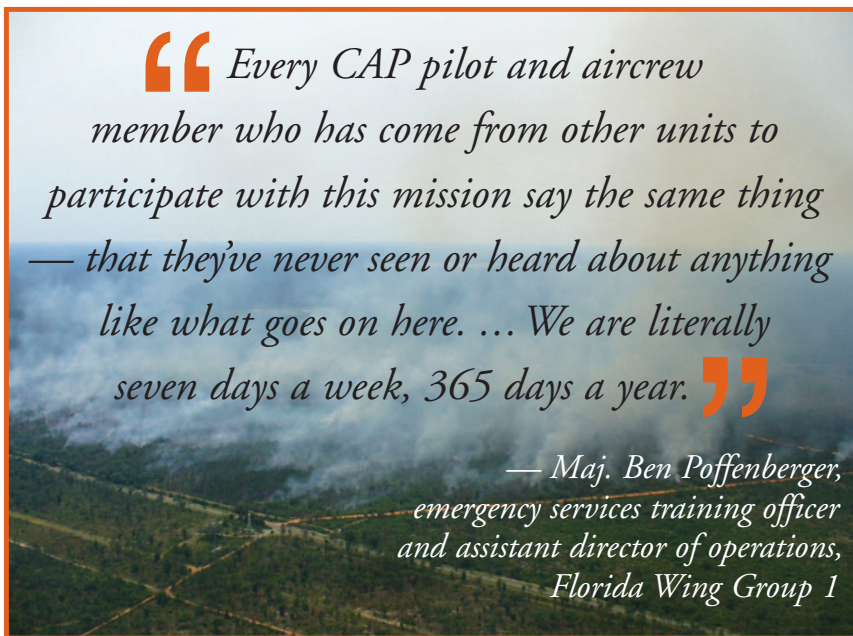
As a result, Group 1 performs a whole wing's worth of work every year on this single mission, he said. "It's not just flying over 357,473 acres of nondescript forested land. The flights are over the largest single military facility in the United States, used not only by the U.S. Air Force but also every other branch of the military."

CAP began flying Operation Fire Watch missions for Eglin Air Force Base in October 2000. Before that, the Eglin Fire Management staff relied on the Eglin Aero Club to fly fire patrol missions on the Eglin Range complex during periods of increased wildfire risk.

"Year in and year out CAP has proven to be an invaluable asset to our program, always determined to

accomplish the mission they've been tasked with," said Roger Kennedy, aviation program manager and fire training officer at Eglin's Air Force Wildland Fire Center. "They have been an important part of our smoke management success by providing crucial documentation via photographs for our fire program."

Since CAP aircraft are equipped with GPS receivers to capture and document the specific geographic coordinates of obstructions and aircrews are trained in visual search procedures, CAP is able to provide the customer with timely, accurate information, Kennedy said, adding, "this helps ensure firefighters' safety and a minimal impact to the military mission." ▲



“ Every CAP pilot and aircrew member who has come from other units to participate with this mission say the same thing — that they've never seen or heard about anything like what goes on here. ... We are literally seven days a week, 365 days a year. **”**

— Maj. Ben Poffenberger,
emergency services training officer
and assistant director of operations,
Florida Wing Group 1

Civil Air Patrol aircraft from Florida Wing Group 1 make nearly 200 flights a year in search of fire and smoke that sometimes threatens neighborhoods in the 10 westernmost counties of the Panhandle. During peak season, aircrews fly almost daily to provide officials on the ground with a bird's-eye view of burning woodlands.

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CAP Adds to its Large Fleet of Cessna Aircraft



By Mitzi Palmer



Often recognized as the largest owner of single-engine aircraft in the United States, Civil Air Patrol's fleet is growing by 17 Cessna 182Ts and two turbo-equipped T206Hs this year.

In June, CAP's national commander, Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, accepted the first six of the red, white and blue 182Ts at the Cessna Aircraft Co. manufacturing plant in Independence, Kan. The remaining aircraft are slated to be delivered by the end of the year.

"As national commander, it was my distinct honor to visit Cessna's manufacturing facility," said Carr, who toured the factory during his visit and met with members of the Cessna team who assemble the aircraft.

Civil Air Patrol National Commander Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr stands beside six new Cessna 182Ts.



Patrick Sullivan, Cessna vice president for government and special mission sales, presents a copy of *The Legend of Cessna* to Carr. Flanking them are, from left, U.S. Government Contract Administrator Debbie Hankins, Cessna Government and Special Missions Program Manager William Beller, CAP Chief of Aircraft Management Dan Daniel, Cessna Production Flight Test and Delivery Pilot Thomas Nelson, Cessna Field Service Engineer Kevin Patrick, Cessna Government and Special Missions Program Manager Clark Chambers, CAP Aircraft Maintenance Technician Paul Skinner, Cessna Value Stream Manager Mark Drumeller and Cessna Senior Customer Account Manager Wendy Derrick.

“I received a close-up view of the safe and reliable airplanes Cessna builds for our dedicated unpaid professionals,” said Carr, adding, “The entire Cessna team, from top management to individual members, is very proud of our relationship and very concerned with CAP’s role in serving our nation.”

Gary Schneider, CAP’s director of logistics and mission resources, said the 182T costs about \$492,500 per aircraft, with each Turbo 206 priced about \$685,250.

“Although the aircraft are configured much like all the aircraft we have purchased since 2005, the Turbo 206 is a slightly larger aircraft with a six-seat configuration, and the 182s are designed for four passengers,” Schneider said.

The 206, which has a turbocharged 310-horsepower engine, features a better climb performance than a normally aspirated engine and allows for greater speed in higher altitudes. It also performs better at high altitudes and in hotter environments.

“We have chosen the 206 because it is a very versatile platform, has greater lift capacity and can be adapted to a variety of different CAP mission systems, like full-motion video and other sensor systems,” Schneider said. “We also like the fact that it is equipped with an oxygen system, which allows pilots to operate at higher altitudes as well when missions demand.”

The partnership between CAP and Cessna spans nearly 50 years. With 525 of its 550 aircraft being Cessnas, CAP is one of the manufacturer’s largest customers.

“Civil Air Patrol is extremely fortunate to have great partners like Cessna,”

Carr said. “Our long-term relationship has led to development of today’s elite CAP fleet, recognized as one of the largest and most capable in the world.” ▲



Civil Air Patrol’s national commander recently accepted the first six of 17 new 182Ts at Cessna’s Independence, Kan., facility. Here, Mark Drumeller, Cessna value stream manager, discusses assembly production.



Col. Gail Halvorsen, who is featured on the cover of this issue, is a former cadet that is internationally known as Uncle Wiggly Wings, the Chocolate “Candy Bomber” Pilot. More than six decades ago, Halvorsen became a part of history when, touched by the sight of German children’s delight over the mere aroma of American chewing gum, he set out to ease some of the pain of the Cold War by dropping chocolate-filled handkerchief parachutes over Berlin.

“Two things changed postwar history and made the airlift succeed,” said Halvorsen, “gratitude and service above self.” Berlin was, of course, grateful for the airlift and, Halvorsen’s Operation Little Vittles, which dropped more than 21 tons of treats over West Berlin in a 14-month period, is directly associated with the service before self part, which is one of CAP’s core values.

Having joined CAP in 1941 makes Halvorsen one of our early members. His story is a great reminder of the difference he, along with so many members who have followed him, make with simple gestures from the heart — stepping forward when a need arises to serve their fellow man. Each gesture, both great and small, is history in the making!

That is why CAP’s historians are so important. They diligently document who we are and what we do, so that now and in the future, our stories of passion and service, like that of Halvorsen’s, will never be lost. A shining example of the impact historians have on branding and public perception of CAP is this year’s Col. Lester Hopper National Historian of the Year — 2nd Lt. Frank A. Blazich. As a result of his research, North Carolina recently honored its Flying Minutemen of World War II — the members of Coastal Patrol Base 16 — with a historic marker commemorating their sacrifice and service.

Every day our Civil Air Patrol members are creating pages in America’s history books, and it is the historians who ensure their important deeds are duly recorded. I invite all patriotic citizens of America to join with the 61,000 men, women and youth of Civil Air Patrol in helping to create new adventures and new stories of American history as CAP members. For more information, visit www.capmembers.com.

Don Rowland

Chief Operating Officer
CAP National Headquarters

Professional Development Programs Propel Aerospace Leaders Onward and Upward



Thanks to a series of glider flights, CAP educators got a chance to soar, with the San Gabriel Mountains providing a picturesque backdrop.

Photos by AEM Stan McNitt, Florida Wing

By Dr. Jeff Montgomery and Susan Mallett

Civil Air Patrol is nationally recognized for its STEM-based (science, technology, engineering and math) curriculum associated with aerospace education programs nationwide. What may not be so well-known is the depth and breadth of the program's extensive support system.

"CAP's aerospace education program is a vital component of CAP's cadet program, which consists of 26,000 cadets, and is also a stimulating supplement to classrooms and youth organizations across America

that influence and inspire more than 200,000 students," said Lt. Col. Mike McArdle, AE adviser to CAP's national commander.

The program is specifically designed to inspire interest in an array of STEM-related careers, such as cyber security, robotics, remotely piloted aircraft, engineering, flight instruction, avionics, rocketry, navigation and air traffic control.

AE officers and AE members, made up of educators and youth organization leaders nationwide, are supported with CAP's standardized training programs,



complemented by unique experiential opportunities.

“AE training helps CAP leaders and educators stay abreast of emerging technology and ensures engaging and challenging resources are always readily available to meet everyone’s needs,” said McArdle.

AEOs have long taken advantage of the aerospace education program for CAP’s officers, which provides guidance and a wealth of materials specifically developed to increase program effectiveness. The program is complemented by CAP’s National AEO School, established in 2001 to educate CAP members and the general public on the importance of aviation, space and cyberspace.

Over the past four years, regional AEO schools have been held across the nation, taking advantage of local aerospace museums, industry, subject matter experts and organizations working collectively to ensure the schools are challenging and engaging for the more than 700 AEOs who have attended.

Enrichment experiences are unique to each AEO school. Taking trips to view space shuttle launches, observing performances by the U.S. Navy Blue Angels, taking behind-the-scenes museum tours of dynamic facilities such as the National Museum of the Air Force

and the Pensacola Naval Aviation Museum, participating in hands-on activities, working in aerospace facilities and demonstrating rocketry and remote-controlled aircraft have sparked ideas for new initiatives in units and communities across the nation.

NASA, the commercial aerospace industry, the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the Air Force Association and the U.S. Air Force collaborate with CAP to provide STEM-based workshops. Each contributes quality resources and personnel to enhance the programs, educate participants about STEM careers and provide engaging instructional strategies that are immediately transferred to students.

Summer trips cosponsored by AFA and CAP have taken educators via military airlift to Dayton, Ohio, to learn about the Wright brothers’ historical accomplishments; to Kennedy Space Center, Fla., to view space program vehicles and facilities; and to Albuquerque, N.M., to learn about radio telemetry and hot air ballooning. This past summer, 45 AEMs and AEOs flew in a C-130 from Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., to Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., where the educators toured historic and cutting-edge facilities, including the Global Hawk Unmanned

Aerial Vehicle facility and the NASA/Dryden Flight Research Facility to view the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy airplane and NASA's U2 High-Altitude Reconnaissance "Spy Plane." Flying F-18 simulators and learning about geothermal, wind and solar energy introduced diverse and exciting career options to those attending.

Several California museums brought history alive at the Edwards AFB Air Force Test Center Museum, the von Karmen Museum at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and Chino's Yanks Air Museum. While at JPL, attendees had an up-close view of the Mars Science Laboratory rover's capabilities just before the actual Curiosity rover landed on Mars in August, an experience that will bring firsthand knowledge of this technological feat into the classroom.

"My favorite part of the trip was learning all the rich history of flight and meeting so many passionate people," said Katherine Short, a CAP K-6 Aerospace Connections in Education teacher from Prattville, Ala. "I never knew so many incredible things I use came from not only the triumphs of NASA, but also the accidents. I have gained such an appreciation for the jobs and people involved. I only hope I can carry half of all I've learned to my students."

A tour of the Mojave Air and Space Port led the group to the Virgin Galactic and Scaled Composites co-owned company The Spaceship Company, where they viewed the new SpaceShipTwo being docked to its mother ship, White Knight Two, for upcoming test flights. They also flew over the San Gabriel Mountains in sailplanes, melding the trip into an amazing educational experience.

"Words cannot express how awesome this trip was," said Dr. Sylvia Dean of the Huntsville City School System and Alabama's AFA Teacher of the Year. "It was inspirational and invigorating."

Marty LeBlanc, a high school science teacher from Lincoln County Schools in Fayetteville, Tenn., agreed: "I enjoyed walking, driving and flying through aviation history, seeing firsthand present-day initiatives and catching a glimpse of our aviation and space adventure future. This was a trip of fantastic firsts, from the Mars rover and Virgin Galactic to doing loops in the sailplane. The excitement will charge up my classroom."

Participants in the AEO schools and AFA/CAP workshops have all been impressed by their educational experiences. "To see and touch the hardware involved in both historical aviation and the next generation of space exploration has been an extraordinary opportunity for the educational leaders," said Maj. Lynn Toney, the Alabama Wing's director of aerospace education and a gifted education teacher who attends both AEO schools and AE workshops. "While you can certainly read about all the new aerospace industry initiatives, to hear the dialogue going on with the scientists and engineers who actually design, develop and drive

them has been priceless."

After full agendas at these schools and workshops, participants return home exhausted but energized with exciting new ideas and resources to share with thousands of K-12 youth, as well as with thousands of their adult peers.

Toney perhaps summed it up best: "CAP has provided me, as both an educator and an AEO, unique opportunities to experience aerospace careers in action, and these experiences have helped me guide my students and my cadets toward STEM careers." ▲



Montgomery, Ala., Chapter AFA Teacher of the Year Roberta Ludwigsen, left, and Alabama AFA Teacher of the Year Dr. Sylvia Dean take notes at The Spaceship Company at the Mojave Air and Space Port in California.

Lessons Learned from 70-Plus Years of Flying

Photo courtesy of USAF Museum Archives

CAP plays active role in Cold War hero's life, before, after Berlin Airlift



By Paul South

Col. Gail Halvorsen, 91, a pilot with more than 70 years of flight time on his wings, has a simple yet powerful philosophy: “The little decisions you make in life put your footsteps on the path that leads you to where you’ll end up, for good or ill,” he said. “Out of small things (two sticks of gum) proceeded something that was a lot bigger.”

These days, Halvorsen’s footsteps take him through Arizona’s high desert, in bloom this year thanks to heavy rains. But more than 60 years ago, in 1948, his decision to step back toward a fence where German children waited would forever change his life and make him one of the heroes of the Cold War.

Halvorsen was a U.S. Air Force pilot assigned to participate in the Berlin Airlift, one of the great humanitarian missions in global military history. As Joseph Stalin and the Soviets sought to take Berlin by starvation and, by extension, West Germany, the American, British and French governments responded.

“I thought (the Soviet Blockade) would be over pretty quick,” Halvorsen said. “Stalin was getting a black eye in the international press. I just wanted to get some film of downtown Berlin.”

But when the pilots landed at Tempelhof, the American air base, in the summer of ’48, Halvorsen was not allowed to leave his aircraft’s side. A gaggle of about 30 German kids huddled nearby.

For Halvorsen and the American flyers that historic summer, this was not a case of winning hearts and minds. Their goal was to save lives and freedom for the West Berliners. Word of Stalin’s brutal totalitarian regime had already spread to the children of West Berlin from relatives in communist East Germany. The youngsters knew that the time to get the food to them was short. Winter was only weeks away, but the children were unfazed, Halvorsen said.

He recalled their reaction: “They said, ‘When (winter) happens, don’t worry about us. Just don’t give

up on us. Someday, we'll have enough to eat. But if we lose our freedom, we'll never get it back.' Those kids understood that freedom was more important than enough to eat. They could live with some hunger if someday they could be free."

Something tugged at Halvorsen as he walked away from the kids. Some would call it conscience, others a still, small voice. For the pilot, a man of deep faith, it was the Holy Ghost.

"I'd been standing a few feet from 30 kids who hadn't had chocolate for months, perhaps even years. In that hour they had me at the fence not one had begged me for chocolate. In other countries, even though they had some chocolate, those kids would chase you for it. That is not anything new for military personnel. George Washington's soldiers gave candy to kids when they passed through town. These Berlin kids asked for nothing.

"They cared more about freedom than flour," he added. "They were so grateful for freedom, they wouldn't become beggars for something so extravagant as chocolate."

Halvorsen heard that voice, "as clear as a bell," with a simple command: "Go back to the fence." He did so, with but two sticks of Wrigley's Doublemint gum in his pocket. "That voice was so clear, there was no equivocation," he said. "I turned on my heel and gave four half-pieces to the kids. Those who didn't get any asked for the wrapper. They put it to their noses. Their eyes got big as they inhaled the sweet aroma from the wrapper."

At that moment, though Halvorsen didn't realize it at the time, the small voice and those short steps to the fence would give birth to Operation Little Vittles and make him Uncle Wiggly Wings, the Chocolate Pilot.

Joining CAP fuels love for flying

Years before the Berlin Airlift, Halvorsen fell in love with airplanes and flying, thanks in large measure to Civil Air Patrol. Reared on a small Utah farm, he was fresh out of high school when he competed for a noncollege private pilot's license in 1941, just before Pearl Harbor. He was one of 10 among 150 competitors for flying privileges.

"After I got my license, the 10 of us put in 50 bucks apiece and bought an airplane, a single-engine Piper Cub. It was December of 1941 when I joined CAP and got my CAP uniform and wings."

"I still got 'em," he said of the original wings.

Halvorsen and his CAP comrades flew the skies over Utah, helping locate lost hikers and skiers. But they were also to be ready for any military need that might arise.

"I remember flying one mission to find a guy in a blizzard. But my proudest moment was wearing my CAP uniform for the first time at an air base in Ogden,

Utah," where he had his first encounter with military pilots.

He enlisted in 1943 and began training with the United Kingdom's Royal Air Force, which had its training bases in Canada and the mainland U.S. because of unfriendly weather in Britain. He finished second in a class of 144 pilots during his RAF training in



Over a 14-month period, Uncle Wiggly Wings, Col. Gail Halvorsen, dropped more than 21 tons of sweet treats over West Berlin.

Miami, Okla., success he credits to his CAP training.

"CAP is responsible for how well I did," he said.

"The reason for that is when I joined the Civil Air Patrol, I had no money. I'd spent every dime on my



Halvorsen re-enacts the candy drop in 1959 at Tempelhof Central Airport in Berlin.

airplane. But when CAP would send us on a mission, they paid for the gasoline. It made it possible for me to fly enough that I could really fly that aircraft when I went into pilot training. That CAP experience made it so much easier.”

He almost lost his CAP wings after performing a daring midair spin to impress his family. He was forgiven if he would wiggle his wings instead of doing spins. Combined with CAP experience in the skies, the RAF’s emphasis on advanced training helped prepare Halvorsen for the Berlin Airlift and Operation Little Vittles.

Another experience contributed as well. During World War II, he flew logistical support missions in the South Atlantic Theater, providing a lifeline to support bases as well as the men who would liberate Europe from its Axis captors.

In a few short years, world events would take Halvorsen to Germany, where his wiggling wings would come in handy, sparking a global sensation.

Uncle Wiggly Wings becomes post-war sensation

“Everybody’s got a conscience,” Halvorsen said. And after seeing the German children near Tempelhof relish the mere aroma of American chewing gum, he knew he would return, and with more chocolate.

“I got the idea to come back,” he said. “I rationalized, and that’s how you get into trouble. I thought, ‘What’s a few candy bars when Stalin is starving over 2 million people?’”

He made a simple promise to the children of Tempelhof.

“I’ll drop enough chocolate for all of you, if you promise to share,” Halvorsen told them.

“Jawohl! Jawohl!” they cried.

They would know the friendly American from the flock of aircraft by his wiggling wings.

Uncle Wiggly Wings was born.

“I asked my buddies for their rations of chocolate,” he said. “They asked me, ‘What are you going to do, buy a camera on the black market?’ I told them what I was going to do. They asked, ‘Do you have permission?’ I said, ‘No,’ but I’d take full responsibility. They gave me their rations.”

That first delivery, to about 30 children near Tempelhof, grew.

There would be more deliveries, despite a temporary decision to stop dropping the treats that floated gently to earth with the help of handkerchief parachutes. After three weeks, a newspaperman heard of it and published a photo with Halvorsen’s plane, tail number and parachutes coming down. The buzz over the Chocolate Pilot caused an international stir, hitting newspapers around the world and landing Halvorsen on his commanding officer’s carpet.

Lt. Gen. Bill Tunner, “the man who made the Airlift work,” Halvorsen recalled, contacted the commanding officer.

“What are you doing, dropping parachutes in Berlin?” the officer asked. “We’re not dropping parachutes in Berlin,” he was told.

“Read the papers,” Tunner said. “Find out what’s going on in your outfit.”

Halvorsen feared the worst.

“I thought I was going to be court-martialed,” Halvorsen said, “but Tunner said, ‘That is a good idea.

Let him do it.”

Two German secretaries were hired by the Americans to answer mail addressed to Uncle Wiggly Wings.

Halvorsen downplays his role in one of the great stories of American history.

“When it started, I didn’t want anyone to know about it. It was against regulations. That was my attitude about it,” he said. “I had no idea it would go anywhere. But it was the kids who made it happen, not me.”

The real heroes of the Berlin Airlift, he insisted, are the 31 American and 39 British aircrew members who were killed feeding the former enemy.

The Berlin Wall comes down

The drops would continue, with housewives and schoolchildren, the American Confectioners Association and even a Massachusetts junior college pitching in to pack the sweet tastes of freedom. Some of the chutes landed in the communist East, triggering an international incident.

In the next 14 months more than 21 tons of treats were dropped by Halvorsen and his squadron buddies over West Berlin. And more than 3 tons were delivered on the ground to children’s Christmas parties in West Berlin the day before the holiday in 1948.

Berlin would continue to be a hot zone in the Cold War. A wall would rise between East and West Berlin, a symbol of the difference between the authoritarian communists and democracy. From John F. Kennedy to Ronald Reagan, U.S. presidents called for the Wall to be torn down and for Berlin and all of Germany to be one city, one nation — a free nation.

Halvorsen would continue to be involved. He eventually became commander of Tempelhof Central

Airport in Berlin, where the children had been the beneficiary of Uncle Wiggly Wings’ work. The children, now grown, would shake his hand as adults, their eyes moist with gratitude.

For Halvorsen, Operation Little Vittles and the larger Berlin Airlift were miracles.

“Two things changed postwar history and made the airlift succeed,” he said. “Gratitude and service above self. The gratitude was on the part of the Berliners. The thought of being taken over by the Soviets was a nightmare for them. They would come to Tempelhof with gifts for the aircrews.”

As for service, Halvorsen recalled talking to a friend who was “shot up” bombing Berlin during the war. The two men spoke of the airlift.

“How do you feel about feeding people who a few years ago were trying to kill you?” Halvorsen asked.

The friend replied: “It’s a lot better to feed them than it is to kill them.”

Halvorsen added, “When you serve somebody, you get a reward greater than money or a new car. If you get outside yourself on behalf of one another, there’s no reward that can compare.”

And in 1989, it happened. The Wall came down. Freedom was soon to ring out in a unified Germany. The seeds of that freedom, some have argued, were, at least in small part, planted with chocolate and Doublemint gum.

“It is my opinion that if it had not been for the success of the airlift, the outcome in Germany and Europe would have been much different,” said Halvorsen. “The Wall would not have come down or Germany reunited. I believe it was the catalyst that brought down the Wall and contributed to the reunification of Germany.”

From an elevation of about 1,000 feet, a Civil Air Patrol plane drops chocolate-coated cookies tied to parachutes over the football field next to Bay-Waveland Elementary School, Mississippi’s last remaining tent school set up after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast on Aug. 29, 2005.



Photo by Maj. Keith Riddle, Mississippi Wing

A humanitarian legacy continues

Among the Germans Halvorsen met at Tempelhof in the years after the airlift were Mercedes and Peter Wild. Young Mercedes' home had been missed by Uncle Wiggly Wings, but in response to a letter she received a package of treats. Later, as a grown woman, she and her husband Peter helped Halvorsen create an exchange program between German and Utah high schools, the Airlift of Understanding. For this initiative, he was awarded the German Service Cross to the Order of Merit.

His life also took him into higher education, where he served on the faculty at Brigham Young University, all the while placing service above self.

Others would follow Halvorsen's lead. In 2005, in the wake of America's worst natural disaster, two squadrons from Civil Air Patrol's Mississippi Wing used a candy drop to save Halloween for kids on the coast whose homes had been battered by Hurricane Katrina. The Col. Berta Edge Composite Squadron at Kessler Air Force Base in Biloxi and the Diamondhead Composite Squadron in Bay St. Louis executed the mission.

Lt. Col. Clarence Hauck's eyes still mist up at the memory. Said Hauck, who was then the Mississippi Wing's director of aerospace education, "When the assignment came down, the wing commander, John Wilkes, said it was an aerospace education thing, so go ahead and run with it."

It was the mission that saved Halloween.

In the wake of Katrina, the childhood joy of tricks and treats would have been lost but for the CAP pilots. Hauck has been a CAP member since he was 13, and he served in the Air Force and Air Force Reserves for 35 years. He handled ground logistics for the Katrina candy drop.

"Robin Roberts, a Mississippi Gulf Coast native and anchor of ABC's 'Good Morning America,' was talking to a man who said, 'We're not going to have a Halloween. There's no candy anywhere,' Hauck recalled. "As I understand it, and this is what I was told, someone in the Pentagon said we want to do a candy drop, and that Col. Halvorsen wants to do it. I will never forget the look on those kids' faces."



Photo by Maj. Keith Riddle, Mississippi Wing

Halvorsen signs an autograph for Lt. Col. Clarence Hauck, who handled ground logistics for the Mississippi Wing candy drop in 2005.

Halvorsen was on hand for the Mississippi drop.

"He is a real gentleman," Hauck said. "He is quite the individual."

There have been similar stories across the globe: Teddy bears and soccer balls in Afghanistan and Iraq. Toys and treats for kids in tornado-ravaged Arkansas and Alabama — all from seeds planted more than six decades ago.

And it all began with a single footstep, back to a fence in Germany, a single decision that would transform his life. Halvorsen, however, deflected credit from himself.

"The bottom line is that every person is born on this earth with the innate desire to make choices for themselves," Halvorsen said. "Those individual choices determine what their lives will be. That's part of the package."

He added, "It's innate in the human soul to have a say in what happens to them. It's not in the politics, but in the people. We call it freedom." ▲

Salute to the Best of the Best

National Cadet of the Year, Capt. Dominique Litchford, left, and National Senior Member of the Year, Col. Virginia Keller, display their hardware at CAP's annual conference in Baltimore. Their awards were among more than 70 presented during the conference, recognizing cadets and officers for their outstanding achievements over the past year.

Photo by Susan Schneider,
CAP National Headquarters



CAPTastic!

National conference showcases members' service

By Kristi Carr

For Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, “one of the distinct pleasures of serving as Civil Air Patrol’s national commander is the opportunity to personally shake the hands of those who have given so much to their communities, their country and CAP.” CAP’s national conference gave him the perfect platform for many such handshakes as he presented awards to top performers from the past year.

Col. Virginia Keller, Senior Member of the Year

A volunteer in the truest sense, Col. Virginia Keller of the Oklahoma Wing juggles numerous endeavors. Besides serving as the unpaid mayor of Maramec, Okla., for more than 20 years, she donates countless hours to CAP as vice commander of the Oklahoma Wing and as a member of its finance committee, among other duties.

Her volunteer life was kick-started when her husband, U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. A.W. “Red Dog” Keller, retired after 27 years in the military. The couple returned to her native Oklahoma, and Keller joined CAP as an aerospace education member after attending an AE workshop in 1985 at Oklahoma State University. Not long after that, she joined CAP as an officer.



Col. Virginia Keller, left, shares a moment with her granddaughter, 1st Lt. Dana Keller, the National Aerospace Cadet of the Year in 2005. The grandmother of three CAP cadets participates in numerous cadet activities, competitions and wing encampments.

“I feel very honored to receive the Senior Member of the Year Award. I have gained so much, knowing I have been able to help others, wonderful friends all over the U.S. and overseas through IACE,” said Keller. “Through CAP I have met and listened to some of the most outstanding people in aviation and have been inspired by them.”

Keller has held numerous staff positions at various levels, including squadron commander, wing public affairs officer and assistant finance officer, wing vice commander and wing commander. She led her

Stillwater Composite Squadron color guard to victory in the 1996 National Cadet Competition. She also has held numerous positions in association with state and national activities, including the Aircraft Maintenance and Manufacturing Academy and Oklahoma’s National Flight Academy.



Capt. Dominique Litchford, with a parachute required by the Royal Air Force, poses for a photo in front of a RAF Grob G-115 Tutor while visiting the United Kingdom. Her flight was part of the International Air Cadet Exchange in 2009.

Capt. Dominique Litchford, Cadet of the Year

Having advanced from cadet status in the Virginia Wing's Roanoke Composite Squadron, Capt. Dominique Litchford is a model of leadership, integrity, responsibility and compassion.

As a cadet she did it all, including holding squadron leadership positions, serving as state encampment commander and as a search and rescue leader and participating in the International Air Cadet Exchange. She topped it all off in 2011 with the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award — matching the achievement of her sister, Capt. Katrina Litchford, five years earlier. In addition, the Air Force Association twice named her CAP Cadet of the Year, in 2008 and 2009.

Now a college student with a 4.0 grade point average, she hopes to be commissioned in 2015 as an Air Force flight nurse.

"I was honored and extremely

grateful for this award," Litchford said. "I could not believe I was picked as an example for thousands of other cadets; it is truly humbling to uphold that responsibility. I knew I had worked hard but did not realize the value it held."

Maj. Michael A. Crockett, F. Ward Reilly Leadership Award

Fifteen years ago, when Maj. Michael A. "Mike" Crockett joined the Bethesda-Chevy Chase Composite Squadron as a cadet, there were only about 12 members on the books, making it one of the smallest units in the Maryland Wing. Today, through leadership like that provided by Crockett, it's not only the wing's largest unit, with 150 members, but also CAP's National Squadron of Distinction.

"In building up the squadron, there were several key factors we found to be especially important. This included offering a well-rounded program and ensuring that every activity we participated in included an element of fun. Activities weren't approved if there was no fun," he said.

Crockett grew up in the squadron, becoming an officer in 2004 and eventually serving as commander. He set about bringing improvements to both the



Maj. Mike Crockett, right, teaches map reading skills to Cadet Master Sgts. Grant Wasden, left, and Brett O'Brien during a recent squadron meeting.

Photo by 1st Lt. Kristen Santos, Maryland Wing



Responding literally “on the fly” to a downed airplane earned Oregon Wing 1st Lts. George Wilkinson and Michael Wissing this year’s prestigious AFNORTH Commander’s Award, presented annually to the CAP aircrew that carried out the most meritorious mission.

cadet and officer programs and to furthering aerospace education.

His leadership and innovation brought major success in all three of CAP’s primary missions. From presenting aerospace education, to teaching leadership skills to CAP leaders of tomorrow, to leading search and rescue exercises and missions, to carrying out community service projects for the local area and the nation, he set the standard and executed CAP’s missions with honor and distinction.

True to form, Crockett credits the unit’s cadets for the CAP Squadron of Distinction achievement. “While I am certainly awed by receiving the F. Ward Reilly Leadership Award, the credit truly goes to them,” he said. “At the beginning of 2011, thinking I would set the bar high, I told the cadet staff I wanted the squadron to earn National Squadron of Distinction, and the ball was in their court to make it happen. Obviously, this award goes to show if you give cadets a challenge and the freedom to get it done, they certainly will.”

1st Lts. George Wilkinson and Michael Wissing, AFNORTH Commander’s Award

What started out as a routine training flight turned into a real search-and-rescue mission last year for 1st Lts. George Wilkinson and Michael Wissing, both members of the Oregon Wing’s High Desert Composite Squadron. While en route to Troutdale, Ore., in a CAP

Cessna 182, the two were contacted by Seattle Air Route Traffic Control and asked to assist a civilian plane that had crashed in eastern Oregon.

The two diverted their plane to the search area. They soon located the crash site in the high desert, established communications with the downed pilot and remained overhead until relieved by a county sheriff’s helicopter, which handled the extraction.

The rescued pilot turned out to be well-known air show performer Jacqueline “Jacquie B” Warda. She had been on her way home after performing in an air show in Caldwell, Idaho, when she was forced to

crash-land her famous Pitts Special, The Red Eagle. Though her plane cartwheeled on impact and was destroyed, Warda walked away with only minor injuries and — thanks in part to willing and able CAP members — is back flying and performing.

“I am proud to receive this award, but more proud of the fact we were there for someone in need,” Wilkinson said.

“We are part of a team,” Wissing added. “George and I had Maj. Robert Parker operating the mission base radio, and he was pivotal in our success. Our wing director of operations, Capt. Richard Ouellette, and the mission incident commander, Maj. Larry Kendrick, also played important roles.”

Cindy Byers, Teacher of the Year

Cindy Byers knows how to play to her audience — whether adults or children. A middle school teacher in the Rosholt School District in central Wisconsin, she inspires her students with engaging and mind-tugging activities in support of science, technology, engineering and math while reaching adults through teacher workshops brimming with practical advice.

“I was both thrilled and humbled to be selected for this award,” said Byers. “I love to see the excitement on students’ faces when they complete a design challenge or launch a rocket. CAP has provided me with great

activities; they are engaging and students learn important academic concepts as well as group problem-solving skills. It's made my teaching more interactive and fun."

Associated for more than a decade with Space Education Initiatives and currently serving on the SEI board of directors, Byers has used Civil Air Patrol's resources as an aerospace education member for the past five years and has opened additional avenues for classroom exploration with her attendance at NASA workshops.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Stephon J. Tonko **AFSA Cadet NCO of the Year**

The can-do attitude of Cadet 2nd Lt. Stephon J. Tonko distinguished him as a leader in the Fairfax Composite Squadron and the National Capital Wing, earning him top honors from the Air Force Sergeants Association.

"I am honored to be selected as the first-ever Air Force Sergeants Association's Cadet NCO of the Year," said Tonko, chosen as the AFSA's Cadet Noncommissioned Officer of the Year. "This award recognizes the growth of young CAP leaders and acknowledges the importance of the NCO."

Quick to seize public speaking opportunities on behalf of CAP, Tonko used his exceptional verbal and writing skills to produce and present briefs on a variety of topics for both the squadron, where he is an active member, and the wing.

In 2010 and 2011, Tonko produced wing year-in-review videos for the annual wing banquet, which were received with great enthusiasm. He represented his



Photo by Susan Schneider, CAP National Headquarters

CAP's Teacher of the Year, Cindy Byers, inspires her middle school students with lessons linked to science, technology, engineering and math.

squadron at CAP regional activities, notably at the 2010, 2011 and 2012 Middle East Region cadet competitions, where his color guard placed fourth, second and first respectively, then went on to represent the Middle East Region at the 2012 National Cadet Competition, with Tonko serving as color guard commander.

He manned CAP information booths at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum's

Halloween "Air & Scare" and the Virginia Homeschool Convention. He participated in the Wreaths Across America program at Arlington National Cemetery. And, in 2011, he attended CAP's prestigious Hawk Mountain Ranger School in Pennsylvania, earning a Ranger third class search-and-rescue rating.

Closer to home, Tonko serves on his squadron's cadet promotion boards. He is a member of his squadron's ground team and is regarded as a natural trainer, helpful to both his peers and superiors. ▲



Photo by Maj. James Kalemis, Illinois Wing

Cadet 2nd Lt. Stephon J. Tonko salutes the chief judge from the U.S. Air Force Honor Guard Drill Team, prior to receiving the national colors during the outdoor practical event at the 2012 National Cadet Competition.

Look Who's No. 1!

Civil Air Patrol members and wings recognized as the best in their various areas of expertise in 2012 are:



Photo by Susan Schneider, CAP National Headquarters

General Carl A. Spaatz Award

Cadet Col. Nathan W. Buxton

Paul E. Garber Award

Chief Master Sgt. Lou E. Walpus

Gill Robb Wilson Award

Maj. David L. Oldham

Distinguished Service Award

Lt. Col. Randall L. Carlson

National Commander's Unit Citation

Anoka County Composite Squadron, Minnesota Wing
Washoe Jeep Senior Squadron, Nevada Wing
Reno Composite Squadron, Nevada Wing

National Commander's Award

for Safety Excellence for Aircraft Handling

Rocky Mountain Region

National Commander's Award

for Safety Excellence for Vehicle Operations

Middle East Region

Distinguished Aviator Award

Lt. Col. William N. Hughes Jr., New York Wing
1st Lt. Monte J. David, Mississippi Wing
2nd Lt. Sarah C. Rovner, Texas Wing

Mission Awards: Search and Rescue

Maine Wing, Northeast Region
Maryland Wing, Middle East Region
Michigan Wing, Great Lakes Region
Florida Wing, Southeast Region
Minnesota Wing, North Central Region
Texas Wing, Southwest Region
Idaho Wing, Rocky Mountain Region
Oregon Wing, Pacific Region

Mission Awards: Disaster Relief

Vermont Wing, Northeast Region
North Carolina Wing, Middle East Region
Indiana Wing, Great Lakes Region
Alabama Wing, Southeast Region
North Dakota Wing, North Central Region
New Mexico Wing, Southwest Region
Wyoming Wing, Rocky Mountain Region
Hawaii Wing, Pacific Region

Mission Awards: Homeland Security/Counterdrug

Pennsylvania Wing, Northeast Region
National Capital Wing, Middle East Region
Indiana Wing, Great Lakes Region
Georgia Wing, Southeast Region
Missouri Wing, North Central Region
Texas Wing, Southwest Region
Utah Wing, Rocky Mountain Region
California Wing, Pacific Region

Mission Awards: Aerospace Education

New York Wing, Northeast Region
North Carolina Wing, Middle East Region
Michigan Wing, Great Lakes Region
Florida Wing, Southeast Region
Minnesota Wing, North Central Region
Texas Wing, Southwest Region
Wyoming Wing, Rocky Mountain Region
California Wing, Pacific Region

Mission Awards: National Aerospace Education

1st place: California Wing
2nd place: Florida Wing
3rd place: Texas Wing

Mission Awards: Cadet Programs

New Hampshire Wing, Northeast Region
Maryland Wing, Middle East Region
Ohio Wing, Great Lakes Region
Tennessee Wing, Southeast Region
Minnesota Wing, North Central Region
Texas Wing, Southwest Region
Colorado Wing, Rocky Mountain Region
Nevada Wing, Pacific Region

Frank G. Brewer Memorial Aerospace Awards

Cadet: Cadet Lt. Col. Michael R. Poussard,
National Capital Wing

Senior Member: Maj. John Bezayiff Jr.,
Oregon Wing

Individual/Organization: Dennis W. Bampton,
owner, St. Charles (Mo.) Flying Service

Lifetime Achievement: Lt. Col. Clarence O. Hauck,
Mississippi Wing

Maj. Gen. Jeanne M. Holm**Aerospace Education Officer of the Year**

Capt. William M. Blatchley, Colorado Wing

**John V. "Jack" Sorenson Cadet Programs
Officer of the Year**

Lt. Col. Janon D. "J.D." Ellis, National Capital Wing

Senior Chaplain of the Year

Chaplain Lt. Col. Adma A. Ross, Connecticut Wing

Squadron Chaplain of the Year

Chaplain Maj. Elise L. Whitworth, Georgia Wing

Character Development Instructor of the Year

Maj. Myron J. Goins, Texas Wing

Communications Officer of the Year

Lt. Col. Mercer B. Richardson, North Central Region

Norm Edwards Counterdrug Officer of the Year

Col. Ernestus S. Schnabler, Washington Wing

Col. Edwin W. Lewis Jr. Incident**Staff Member of the Year**

Col. Timothy F. Hahn, Nevada Wing

Col. Dion E. DeCamp Ground Team of the Year

Timmerman Composite Squadron Ground Team,
Wisconsin Wing

Outstanding Drug Demand Reduction Wing

Wyoming Wing

Drug Demand Reduction Member of the Year

Lt. Col. Donna E. Bracken, New Mexico Wing

Col. Lester Hopper Historian of the Year

2nd Lt. Frank A. Blazich, Ohio Wing

George Texido Legislative Officer of the Year

Lt. Col. B. Keith West, Virginia Wing

Property Management Officer of the Year

Maj. Harvey H. Hawken, Washington Wing

**Col. Robert V. "Bud" Payton Public Affairs
Officer of the Year**

Capt. Cindy E. Beck, Arizona Wing

Safety Officer of the Year

Lt. Col. Alex C. Kay, Pacific Region

Paul W. Turner Safety Award

Indiana Wing

Director of Finance of the Year

Maj. Catherine E. Spaulding, Maine Wing

Inspector General of the Year

Col. Virginia A. Thompson, Oregon Wing

Squadron of Distinction

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Composite Squadron,
Maryland Wing



Brig. Gen. Rich Anderson, chairman of Civil Air Patrol's Board of Governors, listens as fellow BoG member Maj. Gen. John Spiegel presents details of the organization's new governance structure. "I have been affiliated with the CAP governance structure for three decades, and I feel strongly the modifications we're implementing will significantly enhance the way in which CAP is governed by the BoG and led by our volunteer national leadership," Anderson said.

"Amazing Grace," played on the bagpipes by Cadet Staff Sgt. Britton Irechukwu of the Maryland Wing, added a touching ambience to the memorial video shown in memory of nearly 200 members who died in 2011.



Retired Air Force Col. Ken Goss, Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award recipient No. 39, served as master of ceremonies for the banquet. Goss complemented the conference's focus on the 70th anniversary of cadet programs with personal anecdotes from his days as a cadet. He credited a long list of CAP officers for molding, shaping and inspiring CAP's early cadets.

Maj. Gen. James A. Adkins, adjutant general of Maryland, welcomed CAP members to Baltimore and commended them for their service. "CAP is an integral part of emergency management in Maryland. I like to think we have set the example in terms of partnerships and support of the citizens of this nation," Adkins said.



During the General Assembly, CAP signed an addendum to CAP's Memorandum of Agreement with the Soaring Society of America to provide free SSA memberships to CAP cadets interested in pursuing their glider rating. Participating in the ceremony were Don Rowland, National Headquarters' chief operating officer, left; David Pixton of SSA; and Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, CAP national commander.



CAP celebrated two milestones this year — the conclusion of its 70th anniversary and the beginning of a yearlong celebration of the 70th anniversary of cadet programs. To mark these occasions, drawings for two special prizes — a framed print of a CAP airplane chasing a German U-boat and a CAP Stinson model plane — were held during the reception and General Assembly. Cadet 2nd Lt. Adam Wagner of the Ohio Wing was one of the lucky winners. Presenting the prize is Maj. Gen. Chuck Carr, CAP national commander



The banquet keynote speaker, U. S. Air Force Brig. Gen. James A. Jaeger, was the first CAP cadet to receive the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award and also to advance to flag rank in the Air Force. Jaeger credits much of his success to the educational foundation and support he received as a CAP cadet.



The timing schedule was precise: The Orioles take the field at 7:01 p.m., then a moment of silence at 7:01.15, followed by the Maryland Wing color guard, complemented by Theresa Gaddy's singing of the national anthem. Presenting the colors before Baltimore's Aug. 24 game against the Toronto Blue Jays at Oriole Park at Camden Yards were Cadet Chief Master Sgts. Joshua Drucker, left, Grant Wasden and Brett O'Brien and Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Betsy Tang.



The Maryland Wing Band, accompanied by vocalist Harlee Goodwin, inspired members to show some moves on the dance floor.



For nearly 30 years the actions of the National Board, National Executive Committee and Board of Governors were recorded by Caroline Gibbs, center, CAP's transcription administrator. On the occasion of her last board meeting in Baltimore, commanders she has served — Maj. Gens. Chuck Carr and Amy S. Courter and Brig. Gens. Rich Anderson and Howard Brookfield — presented her a token of their appreciation.

Cadet Day

highlights program's 70th year

Photo by Susan Schneider, CAP National Headquarters



Cadet Airman 1st Class Edward Fassnacht, left, Cadet Staff Sgt. Jacob Neely, Cadet Airman 1st Class Joseph Ficklen and Cadet Airman Kristen Clark, all of the Virginia Wing's Tidewater Composite Squadron, pose for a photo before enjoying their box lunches on Cadet Day in Baltimore.

By Kristi Carr

A

Approximately 175 Eastern U.S. cadets helped Civil Air Patrol usher in the “Year of the Cadet” with its first Cadet Day in August. The event, held in conjunction with the 2012 National Board and Annual Conference, kicked off CAP’s yearlong celebration of its cadet program with an array of special events and guest speakers, including aviatrix extraordinaire Col. Mary Feik.

On a day filled with memorable moments, Cadet Day participants got one more treat — *cookies!* — from fellow cadet and aspiring chef, the South Carolina Wing's Cadet Capt. Adam Eudy, who sent them with these good wishes: "I hope you enjoy these as much as I enjoyed making them. Have fun at the 2012 National Conference and happy 70th, cadets!"

Feik's name is already familiar to CAP's more than 26,000 cadets, because the cadet program offers an achievement award named in her honor. Now 88, Feik revels in her relationship with the organization's youngest members, annually crisscrossing the country to attend events like Cadet Day, where she can meet one-on-one with her protégés to encourage and inspire them with her personal stories.

"I can relate to the cadets, because I was their age when I started," said Feik, who was denied entrance to engineering school in her late teens because she was female. Undaunted, she turned to the military for her first job. The U.S. Army Air Corps made her the first



Photo by 1st Lt. Crystal Eudy, South Carolina Wing

woman engineer responsible for flight and maintenance training. She went on to develop flight trainers, fly almost every military aircraft in existence at the time, write manuals and restore historic aircraft for the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum.

"One minute I was a raw 18-year-old pilot-in-training," Feik said, "and 2½ weeks later I was flying a P-51 Mustang."

Her message to cadets: "You can realize your aspirations, too."

Cadet Day participants also learned about careers in intelligence from retired U.S.

Army Col. Theodore Stults of the Association of Former Intelligence Officers and how to secure Air Force Academy and ROTC scholarships from Air Force Maj. Michael Samuel, a former academy liaison officer.

Cadet Tech. Sgt. Kira Stiers of the Maryland Wing's

Fort McHenry Composite Squadron found the presentation on intelligence agencies — including the CIA, FBI, National Security Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Drug Enforcement Agency and various branches of the U.S. military — riveting.

"We learned what these agencies do — how they collect, analyze and act on information. We learned which colleges offer majors in the intelligence field and what could bar you from acceptance to these agencies," Stiers said. "It was pretty exciting."

Other highlights included a trip to Fort McHenry, where cadets celebrated the 198th anniversary of "The Star-



Photo by Susan Schneider, CAP National Headquarters

Cadet Day was a mix of hands-on activities and meetings with CAP VIPs — including legendary Col. Mary Feik, right, sharing a laugh with Cadet Master Sgt. Karlo Piccinini and Cadet 2nd Lt. Christopher Davis, both from the Maryland Wing.



Photos by 2nd Lt. Jodi Peterson, Pennsylvania Wing



Former Maryland Wing Commander Col. Jerry Weiss, right, leads CAP cadets gathered at historic Fort McHenry, where the national anthem was penned by Francis Scott Key. The cadets participated in a ceremonial changing of the flag, then unfurled a replica of the garrison flag that flew over the fort in 1813 after patriots successfully defended Baltimore against the world's most feared naval force — the British Navy.

Spangled Banner” with a flag-raising ceremony. Francis Scott Key penned the national anthem after witnessing the bombardment of Fort McHenry by British Royal Navy ships during the War of 1812.

“In honor of the cadet program’s 70th anniversary this year, we wanted to put the spotlight on these outstanding young people and thank them for the enthusiasm and the leadership they bring to our organization and the outstanding service they deliver to our country,” said CAP National Commander Maj.

Gen. Chuck Carr. “Our cadets are among the finest young people on the planet, devoted to CAP and their country.”

Stiers, in turn, gave her stamp of approval to Cadet Day and CAP in general.

“I absolutely love being a CAP cadet,” she said. “CAP is like a huge family. Most of the senior members grew up through the program and mentor cadets. You couldn’t ask for better people to be an influence in your life.” ▲



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Q&A *with one of CAP's earliest cadets*

By Kristi Carr

Climb aboard Civil Air Patrol's time machine — also known as the mind of Dr. Harlan Petersburg — to find out what it was like to be a member of CAP's first cadet program.

Q: CAP records indicate its first cadet program was in Minnesota. Is this where you were a member?

A: That's right. In the fall of 1942, I was a senior at Central High School in Minneapolis in the aviation science class. The instructor was Lt. Milton Schadeegg, a member of CAP's Squadron 711-4. Ten boys in the class were invited to participate in training and orientation at the CAP squadron, which met at the local armory and was commanded by 1st Lt. Kenneth Jordan. We were to participate in military orientation and training.

Q: Were you considered CAP cadets at that time?

A: No, there was no official cadet program then, but I thought there should be. I envisioned an organization for high school seniors called CAP Cadets and convinced Mr. Schadeegg to support the idea.

Unbeknownst to us, about the same time — Oct. 1, 1942, to be exact — CAP National Headquarters issued a letter to all unit commanders suggesting they extend CAP junior membership to young people, both male and female. Under the plan, membership would be open to students in their last two years of high school. Physical fitness, satisfactory work in studies at an accredited high school and U.S. citizenship were other requirements. The cadets were to be governed by the same directives as senior



Photo courtesy of Aline Petersburg

Now 87, Dr. Harlan Petersburg can still wear the vintage cadet uniform he wore 70 years ago. Here he displays his Central High School yearbook, published in the spring of 1943 and devoting coverage to the nation's first CAP cadet squadron, established at his school the previous fall. His classmates and fellow cadets peppered the page with notes, such as this: "Harley, you are a good C.O. Keep it up in life. (Cadet) Sgt. Bill Chapman."

members, but they would not be assigned to flying duties.

Since our group was already attending CAP meetings, we were able to jump on this opportunity and were officially approved as CAP cadets on Oct. 15, 1942. Our numbers by then had already swelled to 41 and included five girls. I was voted in as the cadet commander.

Q: What was it like to be in an organization that was brand new and untested?

A: It was a thrilling experience! As high school students, we were at the point where we just couldn't wait to get into the U.S. Army Air Corps. In fact, we were confident they couldn't win the war without us!

It might also have helped that, at the time, we were unaware how new CAP, the parent organization, was, having been founded just less than a year before.

In my case, I already had two older brothers who were on active duty. Eugene and Robert were both assigned to B-29 outfits in the Pacific Theater. In late July 1945, Eugene piloted the B-29 that dropped leaflets over Nagasaki and Hiroshima warning the Japanese of impending destruction.

Q: What did you do at CAP meetings?

A: Well, we had no texts or manuals, so we had to feel our way. Our training was very heavy on military drill, discipline and courtesy. We also had lessons in guard duty, signaling and concealment. We routinely went to the nearby university airport to familiarize ourselves with operations there.

Q: Do you recall any senior members?

A: Mr. Schadeegg was our first supervisor. He was very generous, literally turning over his office to me so I could have a place to work on devising bylaws, rules and agendas for our group. I even designed our cadet patch and stationery. I still have all of my original weekly meeting agendas. A typical agenda started with a 7:30 p.m. roll call, followed by announcements of promotions, a drill review and a test on guard duty.

Q: Did you participate in any CAP missions as a cadet?

A: No. The cadet program was never presented to us as anything but a way to familiarize ourselves with CAP and the military in general. After all, for the boys at

least, it was a foregone conclusion we would be serving, whether through enlistment or draft. For me, being a CAP cadet was perfect because I soon learned about the military and grew to love it. To this day, I owe the cadet program for getting me started in the military. It was when the military became a part of me.

Q: Did the cadet program help you later on?

A: Yes, it made it much easier to adjust to the military. Ten of us from our CAP cadet squadron became the first CAP cadets to enlist in the Army Air Corps. I was commissioned a second lieutenant and received my navigator wings at San Marcos, Texas. Initially I was assigned to the 5th Air Force, 380th Bomb Group, 528th Squadron, which operated out of New Guinea in the Pacific. Our crew later moved to Mindoro Island in the Philippines, then to missions over French Indochina, Borneo, Formosa and other Japanese islands, ending in Okinawa. By the war's end, we went from flying B-24s to B-32 Dominators before returning home to America, when I navigated an old B-24 to Mather Air Corps Field in California.

Once back stateside, I attended college and medical school. After my internship, I practiced medicine for nine years and then took a surgical residency. After 16 years of medical and surgical practice, I became aware the military was actively seeking doctors and I joined the U.S. Air Force as a flight surgeon. I had successive tours of duty in the U.S., Turkey and Germany, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1992 from my station at Andrews Air Force Base in Washington, D.C.

Q: How do you feel about being on the cutting edge of a program that has mushroomed in both size and scope?

A: I am humbly proud! I literally can't believe the numbers of cadets today and the tremendous resources the program has. I am so fortunate to have been a part of that.

While my work took me out of CAP, getting in on the ground floor of CAP's cadet program is still very meaningful to me, and I continue to keep in touch with some of my fellow cadets. In 1993, we held a 50-year reunion, which drew 13 of us back together to live once more those special times. ▲

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Former CAP cadet graduated from Naval Academy, flew as a Navy pilot and now works at Florida's Sun 'n Fun air show

By Maj. Steven Solomon

The annual Sun 'n Fun air show is to Florida what AirVenture Oshkosh is to Wisconsin. Both well-known events were started by the Experimental Aircraft Association, rely heavily on Civil Air Patrol volunteers and draw thousands of spectators and intensive media coverage.

But Sun 'n Fun, now run independently of EAA, has one thing the older AirVenture Oshkosh doesn't — former Civil

Air Patrol cadet Stacie Rine on board.

Rine, who was named Sun 'n Fun's director of business development in 2011, isn't just any former cadet. One of the few who was admitted to the U.S. Naval Academy, Rine, after graduation and further training, served as a Navy P3-C Orion pilot and as an officer on an aircraft carrier deployed to the Arabian Gulf.

"I remember sitting on the floor polishing my first leathers and ironing the patches on my uniform," said Rine, 37, thinking back to when she joined CAP. "It was eye-opening."



She was 12, having become interested in CAP after watching her father fly cadets on orientation flights.

“It was the first time I learned about a gig line and how to wear a cover,” she said, laughing. “And I remember we went out and I did my first bivouac ever. It was truly the first time I ever went camping.”

Rine liked CAP, especially the structure. She thought it was similar to being on a sports team, with everyone wearing the same uniform, but with a military angle.

“It’s not a long-term commitment like ROTC, and joining CAP allowed me to test the waters without being immersed in the waters.”

She said she enjoyed CAP so much — learning to make a fire and what berries can be eaten in the wild, talking to local pilots who came in to give presentations, wearing the uniform correctly and mastering the requirements of drilling — that she decided the military was for her.

“I was 16 and signed away 13 years,” she said, explaining that the commitment to the Navy was for four years at the Naval Academy, two

years at flight school and seven years of service.

“I was the only girl in my CAP class and I was the only girl in my flight school class,” Rine said proudly.

Her naval career was exemplary.

At the Naval Academy, where she majored in engineering with a math/science core curriculum, she led, organized and planned all battalion functions for six companies and 630



Photos courtesy of Stacie Rine

Stacie Rine pauses underneath an F-14 Tomcat at Lakeland Linder Regional Airport on the Sun 'n Fun campus.

midshipmen. She also played three intramural sports each year.

In flight school she scored so well flying T-34s and T-44s — mishap-free familiarization, aerobatics, low-level navigation, basic instruments and advanced radio instrument flights — that she was given her choice of aircraft to fly in the fleet.

“And if anyone thinks flight school is easy, that’s false,” Rine said. “It’s like drinking from a fire hose.”

After successfully completing the academic, training



and tactical syllabus in the P-3C Orion aircraft without missing or re-flying a single flight, and scoring an outstanding on each evaluation test and check flight, Rine completed Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape field training. This is a simulation of being captured while flying over enemy territory and being treated as a prisoner of war in order to learn tactics the enemy uses on prisoners.

Her next stop was Barbers Point Naval Air Station, in Hawaii, where she served 3½ years as a crew-holding plane commander for two of three six-month deployments to the Arabian Gulf (Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain), Australia, Japan and Korea.

“We captured imagery that changed the history of America and altered our nation’s dealings with sanctions violators and oil smugglers,” Rine said. She received the Crew of the Month Award four times, twice for tactical performance while deployed.

She then served 2½ years as a multi-engine advanced instructor pilot at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas, tactical action officer for about a year on an aircraft carrier in the Arabian Gulf and air operations officer for a little more than three years at Naval Station Mayport in Jacksonville, Fla.

“I instructed student pilots in the U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Navy, Mexican Navy, Italian Navy and Saudi Royal Air Force” while at Corpus Christi, she said. In Florida, she added, “I coordinated daily operations with local P-3 squadrons, helicopter squadrons and ships to prepare platforms for deployment and to enhance training and readiness.”

During her Navy career, Rine logged more than 1,000 hours as a pilot in command. She departed naval service in 2008 as a lieutenant commander and today



Rine adjusts her equipment before climbing aboard a T-34 Navy trainer during flight school in Corpus Christi, Texas, in 1996.

has a total of more than 2,000 hours in military and civilian aircraft. She holds a commercial pilot’s license in single- and multi-engine instrument (land) and is type rated in the Lockheed L-188 Electra.

Before joining Sun ’n Fun, she owned and operated national franchises and then was president of a consulting company for franchise owners. She expects to receive her master of business administration degree from

the University of South Florida next year.

What’s next for Rine? She’s making sure Sun ’n Fun continues to be the premier Florida aviation event of the year as well as participating in talks between Sun ’n Fun and CAP’s Florida Wing that started after she was hired, discussing a stronger tie between the two.

“It’s not a long-term commitment like ROTC, and joining CAP allowed me to test the waters without being immersed in the waters.”

— Former CAP cadet Stacie Rine, now Sun ’n Fun director of business development

Starting a cadet squadron under the auspices of the Central Florida Aerospace Academy, a public high school on the Sun ’n Fun grounds, is one possibility. Other opportunities also will be explored.

Are there any lessons Rine has learned that are appropriate for CAP cadets today?

“My advice is to maximize what people are teaching you and maximize people’s experiences,” she said.

Those are good suggestions for not only CAP cadets, but officers, too. ▲



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Follow the leaders

CAP stays all in the family

By Donna Harris

All three of Fayeze and Jessica Khattar's children are involved with CAP, and each credits the civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force with giving them confidence and leadership skills.

When Capt. Jonathan Khattar first joined at age 13, he showed an interest in aviation education. "After the first orientation flight, I never wanted to fly again, because it was terrifying," he said, laughing.

Now a member of the Nevada Wing's Las Vegas Composite Squadron, he earned the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award — CAP's highest cadet honor, achieved by less than one-half of 1 percent — when he was 20. Currently in the Air Force Reserves, he also serves as deputy commander for cadets in his squadron.

Jessica Khattar saw her son shine through his involvement in CAP. "It directed his energies to the



Then-Cadet Capt. Rachel Khattar, left, then-Cadet Senior Airman Nicole Khattar and Capt. Jonathan Khattar pose for an encampment graduation photo. Nicole is carrying a guidon as an honor cadet.

“The opportunities would not be there if they hadn’t been in Civil Air Patrol.”

— Jessica Khattar, mother of Jonathan, Rachel and Nicole Khattar

right place,” she said.

The University of Nevada student uses those CAP-taught skills to negotiate conflicts as part of his job as a dispute manager at a major Las Vegas hotel. “It’s great to

see the real-world aspects of it,” he said.

Cadet Lt. Col. Rachel Khattar, 20, a sophomore at Citrus Community College in Glendora, Calif., wasn't particularly eager to join CAP at 15, but she bowed to her parents' suggestion that she at least attempt to earn the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award, the first milestone in the cadet program.

“My parents said, ‘Just try it a year, and if you don't like it, stop,’” she said.

Rachel was initially motivated to join because she thought CAP would look good on college admission applications. Four years later, she not only plans to pursue a commission with the U.S. Air Force but also hopes to graduate from law school and become a judge advocate general's corps officer.

“I never thought I would ever do anything in the military,” she said.

Because of mentors she's encountered, who have shared their wisdom and insight, as well as the many classroom hours and lectures in the cadet program, she is ready to face the challenges of her chosen career. “I couldn't have done that without CAP,” she said.

With her older siblings already involved in the organization, at 14 years old Nicole couldn't wait to join. “I saw what it did for my brother and sister and how they became better leaders,” she said.

Now 16, the cadet master sergeant said the character and leadership qualities she has gained so far have helped build her confidence on the soccer field



Photo by Maj. Mike Mizner, Nevada Wing

Then-Cadet Senior Airman Nicole Khattar, left, and Capt. Jonathan Khattar show their appreciation for a 2011 helicopter orientation flight.



Then-Cadet Capt. Rachel Khattar received the Air Force Association's 2011 CAP Cadet of Year Award for California. Joining her for the presentation are her parents, Faye and Jessica Khattar, and her little sister, then-Cadet Senior Airman Nicole Khattar.

and in the classroom.

Jessica said her children's goals changed as they racked up achievements: “They've met great mentors and been able to challenge themselves. The opportunities would not be there if they hadn't been in Civil Air Patrol,” she said. ▲



Photo by Maj. James Kalemis, Illinois Wing

At the 2011 National Cadet Competition in Dayton, Ohio, then-Cadet Capt. Rachel Khattar, left, assumes a leadership stance with faculty leader Capt. Jackie Briski, center, and Cadet Lt. Col. Sara Fishbein of the Ohio Wing's Wright-Patterson Cadet Squadron. Khattar and Fishbein served on NCC's staff, but actually met at the 2011 Civic Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C., where they were roommates.

NESA Fine-Tunes Skills of CAP's Emergency Service Providers



Photos by Maj. Gary Brockman, Indiana Wing

By Jenn Rowell

Cadet 2nd Lt. Jesse Mellard, right, of the Georgia Wing helps Cadet Tech. Sgt. Andrew Saba of the California Wing and Cadet Staff Sgt. Neelesh Shrestha of the Maryland Wing with map skills during the advanced session of NESA's Ground Search and Rescue School.

Out in the wilderness of southern Indiana, it was one of the hottest and driest summers in what's already a tough training environment. The daily highs reached almost 90 degrees with high humidity. Still, 600 students traveled from across the country to participate in the 2012 National

Emergency Services Academy, because the courses are worth it!

Created in 1996, NESA offers members the opportunity to learn new emergency services skills and to fine-tune others. The academy consists of three components: a Ground Search and Rescue School, an Incident Command System School and a Mission Aircrew School — all critical capabilities for CAP

Cadet Master Sgt. Drew Bogle of the Ohio Wing finds shelter while participating in advanced Ground Search and Rescue School during the National Emergency Services Academy.

members, who save an average of 80 lives annually. Participants completed more than 650 aerial missions — a NESA standard — and returned home prepared for their wing's next emergency or disaster

relief mission, along with firsthand knowledge of who they will be working with.

"The staff's connection from each of the schools has been my single greatest personal benefit from NESA," said Maj. Eric Templeton, who first participated in the program as a student 10 years ago. An instructor since 2003, Templeton currently serves as commandant of the Mission Aircrew School.

"When you walk into a mission base or get a call from a friend you have worked with for years, you know you are dealing with talented individuals," he said.

It happens all the time, like when an ice storm hit Kentucky several years ago, said Templeton, who's also chief of staff for the Illinois



Students learn about bloodborne pathogens during this hands-on exercise at Camp Atterbury.

Wing. "Kentucky Wing Commander Col. Bob Koob called late in the evening, saying he had an emergency and needed help. All wings nearby responded. Since most had worked together for several years, the first day of the mission was smooth and successful."

That's essentially the overall aim for NESA, said Maj. Gary Brockman, the academy's director.

"The goal of all the schools is to advance the skills and knowledge of the students and to prepare them to meet the emergency services mission of Civil Air Patrol," he said. "Part of that preparation is to have those students go back and help train and prepare their local units."

NESA is similar to FEMA's Emergency Management



Civil Air Patrol members tramp through the wilderness of southern Indiana during a search and rescue training exercise at NESA.



Second Lt. Neelam Shrestha of the Maryland Wing participates in an aerial photography flight while a student in NESA's Mission Aircrew School

Institute and the U.S. Air Force's Air University. It allows units that don't have access to local instruction to advance their skills, Brockman said.

A few things were new this year, including three-day mini-courses devoted to mission scanner/aerial photographer/Geospatial Information Interoperability Exploitation Portable operator training. This approach allowed more flexibility for participants with time constraints, Templeton said.

Also new is the NESA Center for Operations Excellence, a permanent facility at Camp Atterbury used year-round for training and emergency response. More activities and training are taking place at the center as it develops; much of the Incident Command System School was held there this year. ▲

Save the dates. The main NESA schools will be held July 20-Aug. 3, 2013; registration will open in November.



Cadets Soar At Summer Activities

National Cadet Competition,
International Air Cadet Exchange
and Blue Beret encampment never disappoint

By Jennifer S. Kornegay

When summer rolls around each year, hundreds of Civil Air Patrol cadets can be found all over the country — and the world — participating in more than 30 national cadet activities, all of which offer these young men and women amazing opportunities to learn new skills and hone those they already have. Three of the activities — National Cadet Competition, National Blue Beret and International Air Cadet Exchange — are always especially popular, and for good reason. These programs take hands-on learning to a whole new level.

National Cadet Competition

It's a given that CAP cadets are some of the best and brightest of their generation. At NCC — which brought 138 highly skilled cadets from across the nation to

Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, for color guard and drill team competitions — these standouts bond together and push themselves even further, said NCC Director Lt. Col. Steve Piehl.

NCC is an activity that is

Cadets from the Great Lakes Region Drill Team stand at attention during in-ranks inspection at NCC.

centered on being the best cadet one can be. It provides a framework of competition built on the CAP cadet program that allows cadets to demonstrate their aptitude with respect to academics, physical fitness and teamwork. In addition to color guard and drill team



Photo by Maj. Paul Creed III, Ohio Wing



Members of the Southeast Region Drill Team from Tennessee hit the track in the mile run competition.

performances, a written exam and panel quiz test creativity and knowledge of aerospace-related topics, while physical fitness challenges involve volleyball and a one-mile run.

Teamwork is a key aspect of the competition. "Through NCC, the teams bond together — just like any kind of sporting team," said Piehl.

"I learned teamwork with my fellow cadets, and not only within my own team but with others from around the nation," said Cadet Senior Master Sgt. Paul Taylor, 16, of the Rhode Island Wing's West Bay Composite Squadron in Coventry. "We all worked together to help each other out."

Piehl stressed the importance of these relationships. "As with any national-level activity, NCC introduces participants to other participants from different areas of the country," he said. "This exposure to the diversity of the CAP family is valuable."

The NCC experience also shapes the cadets as individuals. "NCC is really about learning

how to deal with others, manage stress, manage expectations and lead a group of people toward a goal," Piehl said.

New this year was the NCC Outreach Program, designed to give CAP members not participating in NCC the chance to observe the competition. "It allowed them to watch and learn from the teams that made it that far," Piehl said.

About 35 members participated in the Outreach Program, and what they witnessed was the result of serious dedication. Cadet 2nd Lt. Nathaniel Forrider, 16, of the Youngstown ARS Composite Squadron in Vienna, Ohio, for

example, practiced for six months in order to perform to the best of his ability.

"I'm gaining leadership skills and confidence," Forrider said of the experience.

Everything NCC cadets learn will benefit them in the future, said Piehl.

"I think the main reason I am so involved in NCC is because of the life lessons I learned from being on a drill team as a cadet," he said. "I credit it with shaping my personality, interpersonal skills and leadership style. These are all characteristics that help me be successful in my professional work life as well as in CAP."



Photo courtesy of United Kingdom Conducting Officer, Squadron Leader (J.K. equivalent, Maj.) Claire Sarsfield

While at the National Memorial Arboretum, the United Kingdom's year-round Centre of Remembrance, CAP's IACE delegation was made aware of a special 9/11 Memorial nearby. They made it their mission to find it and pay their respects. Gathered at the memorial, from left, are Cadet Lt. Cols. Jacques Taylor of the Arizona Wing and Ross Kohler of the Illinois Wing, Maj. Deborah Salter Kawaguchi of the Washington Wing and Cadet Maj. Zack Lynch of the California Wing and Kendra Lauer of the South Dakota Wing.

International Air Cadet Exchange

Fostering an exchange of understanding and information and encouraging international cooperation is what IACE is all about. By building on common ground — a mutual interest in flying — the exchange brings



Cadet Col. John Brennan of the Maryland Wing navigates a ropes course at the German Federal Defense Force (Bundeswehr) survival training camp as part of the 2012 International Air Cadet Exchange.

youth from across the globe together to bridge the gaps between countries and cultures.

Since 1948 the IACE Association, a group of 19 air cadet organizations around the world, has included CAP cadets in the program.

This year, 54 CAP cadets went abroad while the United States hosted 68 air cadets from Australia, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, Israel, Japan, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Turkey and the United Kingdom. It was the first year a cadet from the Czech Republic has participated.

Lt. Col. Bev Scoggins, director of plans and programs for CAP's Pacific Region, is also director of IACE. She outlined the program's most valuable takeaway: "This exchange encourages our cadets and escorts to view life outside our own country and to see just how similar we all are," Scoggins said. "Languages may differ, but we all have the bond of aerospace and aviation. A big thrill for

many is the chance to live with a host family and see the everyday lives of those in their host countries."

Cadet Lt. Col. Alan Leach of the Capital City Composite Squadron in Shermans Dale, Pa., spent his IACE visit in the United Kingdom. The 19-year-old summed up his experience with one word: "invaluable."

"I gained a better understanding of how the British cadet program (Air Training Corps) operates and how it

and CAP are different," Leach said. "One of the most interesting things I learned was their officers are actually commissioned by her majesty, the queen. That means, if needed, they could be activated as officers in the Royal Air Force."

He also made some new friends who helped him debunk a few British stereotypes. "The friendships that have been created over the past 2½ weeks will last a lifetime, and who knows, I may just have met the future leaders of several nations and added them as friends on Facebook! And I discovered that the British don't actually use the words 'bloody,' 'jolly good' or 'simply smashing' on a regular basis."

Cadet Maj. Jacob Napp, 19, of Dubuque Composite Squadron in Iowa also traveled to the UK. "I learned the world is a lot larger than I thought," he said. "So many things I thought would be different in other cultures were the same as in the U.S., and things I thought would be the same, were different," Napp said.



Cadet Capt. Joseph Crockett of the Kansas Wing calls out tail numbers as planes take off during the Blue Beret encampment in Oshkosh, Wis.

National Blue Beret

When asked why he took time out of his summer vacation to participate in National Blue Beret, Cadet 1st Lt. Patrick Conte of the New York Wing's Niagara Falls Composite Squadron answered succinctly: "To heighten my leadership, emergency services and teamwork skills in a way I could not do anywhere else."

Conte was one of 142 cadets and 45 officers who attended NBB this year. This annual activity gives cadets some amazing opportunities and experiences, thanks to an ongoing partnership with Experimental Aircraft Association that allows CAP to host NBB during the annual EAA fly-in, AirVenture, in Oshkosh, Wis.

"The best part of the trip was getting to know people from all over the world," he said. "They are such amazing people, and it's easy to forget we are from such diverse cultures when we can connect so easily."

Ines Weber, 18, traveled from Germany to spend time in New Hampshire during IACE. "I gained many new friends and new knowledge and was able to have open discussions with people from many different cultural backgrounds," she said.

Thanks to IACE, Weber too was able to see past a misperception. "Military ways of doing things are not necessarily connected to wars," she said. "They are good to train discipline and encourage fellowship among young people at CAP," she said.

Her countrywoman Alexandra Guderly, 19, also found CAP's connection to the U.S. Air Force intriguing, since Germany's air cadet program is completely civilian in all aspects.

"We were in summer encampment in Norwich, and it was very interesting to see the discipline and all of the military stuff," Guderly said. "This will always stay in my mind, because it was very impressive."

Weber believes she gave as much as she got. "I hope I left a good impression about Europe and new knowledge and new perspectives in the United States," she said.

The cadets and officers who participate in NBB work at one of the world's largest, most prestigious air shows, which draws more than 500,000 people each year and includes more than 10,000 aircraft. Other exciting aspects this year included the opportunity to meet Dick Cole, one of two Doolittle raiders from World War II still living, as well as two Tuskegee Airmen.

Cadets really get in on the action at NBB and are an important part of the event staff, helping out in an array of areas, including working the flight line and the exhibits.

NBB's director, Lt. Col. James Peace of the Texas Wing's East Houston Cadet Squadron, has been a CAP member for 20 years; he first fell in love with NBB when he participated as a cadet in 1991. "AirVenture is the pinnacle of aviation," Peace said, "and NBB is such a great event. We actually contribute to the show and to the EAA's program while also exposing our members, especially the cadets, to all this amazing event has to offer and to teach.

"Blue Beret allows cadets to sharpen emergency services and disaster relief abilities as well as their leadership skills, and they get to see state-of-the-art, advanced aircraft as well as vintage military warbirds," he said. "They get to be right next to

these things and talk to those who fly them, those who maintain them. It's just so much better than reading about it in a textbook.

"Plus they have fun. They enjoy it, and the enjoyment is equally important," he said.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Jonathon Souther, 20, of Cooper City Cadet Squadron in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., enjoyed the camaraderie and sense of purpose he found at NBB. "I like the atmosphere. Everyone is totally committed to the task at hand," Souther said.

Cadet 2nd Lt. Daniel Rauch, age 16, of the California Wing's Santa Barbara Composite Squadron 131 was passionate about his favorite part of Blue Beret: "I loved working the busy flight line!" ▲

Blue Beret Honor Flight a thrill for cadets, vets



Maj. Chris Klein of CAP's Great Lakes Region escorts his father, retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Wayne Klein II, through two rows of saluting CAP cadets at National Blue Beret. The Kleins were headed to an airplane for an Honor Flight to the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Photo by Susan Schneider,
CAP National Headquarters

By Jennifer S. Kornegay

Cadets participating in this year's NBB activity got a special treat — the chance to play a role in an Honor Flight. The Honor Flight Network reaches across America; its mission is to transport America's veterans to Washington, D.C., to visit memorials honoring their service and sacrifice.

CAP's national logistics officer, Maj. Chris Klein of the Great Lakes Region Headquarters staff, was accompanying his 89-year-old father, retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Wayne Klein II, on his first visit to the National World War II Memorial and was pleasantly surprised to see NBB cadets providing an honor guard when the Honor Flight left and then again when it landed back in Oshkosh.

"I was not aware they would be doing that," Klein said. "I know how busy the NBB schedule is and how many responsibilities the cadets have, so I was really pleased and honored they took the time to be involved."

The other veterans and their escorts were equally pleased — and also curious, Klein said. "They loved it, but they also had a lot of questions," he said. "Many of the cadets had patches on their uniforms from their home states, and the vets wanted to know more about CAP."

"It gave me a great opportunity to explain what CAP is and how it benefits cadets," said Klein, who knows firsthand what CAP can mean to young people. His daughter, Maj. Heidi Klein of the Wisconsin Wing's Southwest Group, received the organization's top cadet honor, the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award, in 2008.

"NBB is honored to provide assistance to our country's greatest generation," said Lt. Col. James Peace, the activity's director. "The EAA and American Airlines should be commended for giving these heroes the opportunity to visit sites dedicated to their service." ▲

Photo by Susan Schneider, CAP National Headquarters



Other Blue Beret cadets surround Rhode Island Wing Cadet Lt. Col. Olivia Despirito to help her put on her beret during the encampment's graduation ceremony.

Great Lakes

Trio rescues child adrift on raft in lake

MICHIGAN – Lessons and training at the Michigan Wing Search and Rescue Academy in Grayling took on real-world immediacy when cadets and officers were alerted to the presence of a 4-year-old girl in adjacent Howe Lake floating on a toy raft. The encampment's cadet commander, Cadet Capt. Max Onderik, responded immediately by rushing to the lake, removing his boots, emptying his pockets and splashing into the water in full basic dress uniform. About 100 yards behind, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Michael Miller, an advanced course instructor, did the same.

As the two cadets swam toward the child, who watched from her raft, Onderik saw 1st Lt. Richard Moore, the academy's basic course commander, swimming perpendicularly to the pair. Moore reached the raft first, holding it so the current couldn't take it any further, and Onderik arrived shortly thereafter. Moore spoke with the girl as Onderik focused on getting her to shore. Out of breath, Moore, Onderik and Miller delivered her to her anxiously awaiting family, who were camping on the opposite shore. Afterward, the three staff members shook hands and patted each other on the back. They didn't say much to each other — not only because they were out of breath but also because they were humbled by the rescue, which called on their training and its lessons of preparedness for any situation that might arise.

Onderik and Moore belong to the 176th Selfridge Composite Squadron. Moore serves as emergency services officer for both the squadron and Michigan Wing Group 702. Miller is a member of Hudsonville Metro Cadet Squadron. >> Cadet Capt. Max Onderik

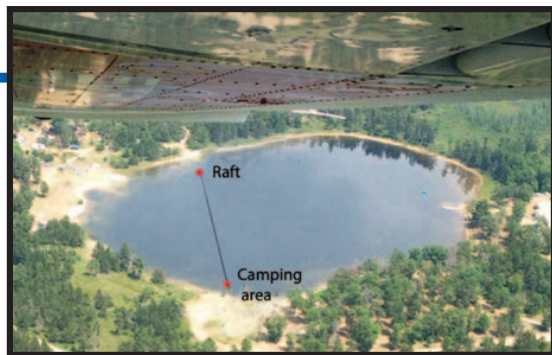


Photo by Cadet Capt. Max Onderik, Michigan Wing

This aerial photo of Howe's Lake shows how far the 4-year-old's toy raft had floated before a Michigan Wing officer and two cadets dived into the lake to rescue her.

Middle East

West Virginia Wing promotes CAP

WEST VIRGINIA – A Student Success Summit held at Morgantown's Waterfront Place Hotel and Conference Center gave members of the Martinsburg and Morgantown composite squadrons the opportunity to promote Civil Air Patrol's programs and offerings to educators, workforce development professionals, business and community leaders and some of the state's top students.

Staffing CAP's display were the West Virginia Wing's commander, Col. Dennis Barron, along with the Martinsburg squadron's public affairs officer, Maj. Russell G. Voelker, and Cadet Capt. Natascha Harrison of the Morgantown unit. All spoke with many of the summit's patrons, and Barron and several Morgantown members later participated in a panel discussion about the cadet program's benefits.

The event was held as part of the state's Common Ground Partnership, established in the wake of a 2011 Memorandum of Understanding among the West Virginia Wing, the West Virginia Department of Education, the state Board of Education and the state's military recruiting organizations. The partnership was established to provide career resources and tutoring as well as mentors to inspire, advise and enlighten students.

>> Maj. Russell G. Voelker



Photo by Maj. Russell G. Voelker, West Virginia Wing

Cadet Capt. Natascha Harrison of Morgantown Composite Squadron and Col. Dennis Barron, West Virginia Wing commander, talk with an educator visiting the wing's display at the Student Success Summit.

North Central

Community supports anniversary celebration

MISSOURI – When hundreds of St. Louis-area residents gathered to help celebrate the 30th anniversary of Gateway Senior Squadron, what began as a squadron gathering at Spirit of St. Louis Airport in Chesterfield evolved into a community celebration that included people of all ages, numerous aircraft displays and a B-2 flyover.

The Gateway squadron has served the St. Louis metropolitan area and eastern Missouri for three decades, participating in countless Civil Air Patrol missions, including disaster response, counterdrug efforts and missing aircraft searches. The squadron's commander, Lt. Col. Carolyn Rice, spearheaded the effort to bring together current and past squadron members. "I was overwhelmed by the amount of support we received from our community, be it the wing staff, the Air Force or even the local fixed base operator," Rice said.

Officers and cadets helped ensure the aircraft ramp was secure and that cars were able to park safely in overflow lots. An unexpected concern was the extraordinary heat, which neared triple digits on the tarmac around the aircraft displays. Members reacted by ensuring that all participants had access to plenty of water and shade in a nearby hangar. The 23 displays featured military and civilian aircraft. Visitors were treated to up-close looks at a U.S. Air Force A-10, police and Medevac helicopters and, of course, CAP aircraft, including a Gippspan GA-8 Airvan and Cessna 182 Nav III.

Looking ahead to the squadron's next anniversary, 2nd Lt. Larry Corbin, unit historian, said with a grin, "I'm proud to be part of such a noteworthy organization. I hope we can do this again next year." >> 2nd Lt. Dan Chilenski



Photo by Senior Member Madelena Key, Missouri Wing

A cadet helps position a CAP Cessna 182 for display at Spirit of St. Louis Airport during the Gateway Senior Squadron's 30th anniversary celebration.

Northeast

Simulated transport missions test cadets' skills

PENNSYLVANIA – Flying simulated transport missions during an aerospace education program enabled Harrisburg International Composite Squadron 306 cadets to learn the importance of communication, mental math, problem-solving under pressure, teamwork and the four C's for emergencies in flight — climb, communicate, confess and comply.

"These are lessons our cadets can use in all aspects of life: Think ahead, be prepared and never let your airplane (or car, or any other circumstance in life) take you anywhere your brain has not already been," said the squadron's aerospace education officer, 2nd Lt. Jim Lichlyter.

The cadets were given a mission scenario of flying needed body parts to a regional trauma center in response to a major disaster. Two cadet flight teams used flight simulator software to help carry out their missions. Each cadet was assigned a role to play, such as pilot, mission observer, mission scanner, air traffic controller, incident commander or support staff. >> 2nd Lt. Jennifer Lichlyter



Photo by 2nd Lt. Jennifer Lichlyter, Pennsylvania Wing

Cadet Senior Airman Paul Ferretti II, left, and Cadet Airmen Vinny Wagner and Trevor Fuller concentrate on a simulated transport mission. In the background is Cadet Tech. Sgt. Leo Malfara.

Pacific

Base visit exposes unit to wide range of operations

CALIFORNIA – A visit to March Air Reserve Base allowed members of Skyhawk Composite Squadron 47 to tour not only the base's flight line but also its fire station, drone facilities and military police arsenal.

At the flight line the squadron members were treated to a tour of a Boeing C-17. They learned about the massive transport plane and the different types of duties carried out by its crew, as well as about various careers in the U.S. Air Force that provide the opportunity to fly. Next came the fire station — a high-tech, state-of-the-art facility staffed by firefighters trained in fighting wildfires as well as handling aircraft mishaps. The tour also included the dispatch station, where calls for help can come in from across the western U.S., and the garage, which was filled with numerous types of fire trucks.

The group then moved to the facilities that make March one of the main Predator drone bases in the world. There, the Squadron 47 contingent watched an extensive slide presentation and videos of Predator and Reaper drones in action across the globe. After that came lunch, followed by a tour of the armory, where CAP members met military police and learned about the arsenal of weapons they use on the job, including a huge assortment of handguns and other, less lethal weapons such as batons and tasers. >> Maj. Audrey DiGiantomasso



Photo by Maj. Audrey DiGiantomasso, California Wing

Cadet Airman Basics Stephen Marshall, left, and Daniel Edwards try out the pilot seats in a C-17 during Skyhawk Composite Squadron 47's tour of March Air Reserve Base.

Rocky Mountain

Joint encampment brings wing members together

MONTANA – The Idaho and Montana wings teamed up recently for a joint encampment at Fort Harrison near Helena, with 38 staff and 47 cadet basics gathering for 10 days of learning and training. Activities included classroom sessions on Civil Air Patrol and U.S. Air Force related topics, along with aerospace education and emergency services.

The Montana Army National Guard allowed the encampment use of the facility's land navigation range as well as an obstacle training course. An EST 2000 weapons simulator provided by the National Guard enabled the cadets to train on a simulated firing range and to participate in marksmanship competition. Another cadet training exercise involved techniques for evacuating a disabled Humvee after a simulated rollover accident was conducted to stress the importance of wearing seatbelts.

In addition, the cadets trained in drill and ceremonies and received classroom instruction in medical triage, land navigation and time management, and cadet leaders were taught to evaluate potential risks before all scheduled activities. Later in the week, the cadets were able to view the interior of a Black Hawk helicopter and to talk with the flight crew. >> 2nd Lt. Paul Brand



Photo by Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Ann Michelle Ciampini, Idaho Wing

Cadet Airman Justin Ramey of the Montana Wing's Flathead Composite Squadron is thrilled to find himself in the cockpit of a Montana Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter.

Southeast

D.C. visit deepens members' appreciation for heritage, history

GEORGIA – Gwinnett Composite Squadron members traveled recently to Washington, D.C., to expand their knowledge and appreciation of the nation's founders, military leaders and historic sites as part of a trip that included visits to the White House and Arlington National Cemetery. The unit helped fund the trip with money raised from collecting Wreaths Across America sponsorships — particularly fitting, members felt, in light of the wreaths campaign's mission to "Remember the Fallen; Honor Those Who Serve; and Teach Our Children the Value of Freedom, So They Never Forget."

The group visited the Jefferson, Roosevelt and Washington monuments, pausing during the final stop to discuss the nation's beginnings and heritage, as the sun was setting and a cool breeze blew across the lawn. Other destinations included the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum in Washington and the museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Va. The CAP members were particularly thrilled to see such historic aircraft as the Enola Gay and Lockheed SR-71 and to walk beneath Space Shuttle Discovery.

At Arlington National Cemetery the members placed flowers and presented arms at the gravesites of President John F. Kennedy; U.S. Air Force Gens. Henry "Hap" Arnold, Jimmy Doolittle, Ira C. Eaker and Daniel "Chappie" James Jr.; U.S. Army Gens. Omar Bradley and John J. Pershing; and U.S. Marine Corps Col. Gregory "Pappy" Boyington. The squadron members then arrived at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as the ceremonial Changing of the Guard was about to begin. Later in the day they visited the Lincoln, World War II, Korean War and Vietnam War memorials. >> 1st Lt. Toby Palmquist



Photo by 2nd Lt. Mark Bohan, Georgia Wing

Gwinnett Composite Squadron members take a break alongside the pool in front of the National World War II Memorial.

Southwest

Wing assists with president's security

OKLAHOMA – Members of the Oklahoma Wing were contacted to assist with homeland security during President Barack Obama's visit to Cushing after 1st Air Force requested the support for radio communications and with tracking potential threats to the president's entourage.

Launching two aircraft from University of Oklahoma Westheimer Airport in Norman, the Oklahoma Wing members and an on-board U.S. Air Force air battle director were able to track and communicate with an aircraft violating the temporary flight restriction around the Oklahoma City metro area and the Cushing vicinity. The aircraft was not a threat.

The missions were flown by Maj. Gary Medina and Capt. Joe Rathert — the Cleveland County Composite Squadron's operations officer and standardization/evaluation officer, respectively — and Maj. Rob Greenwood, operations officer for the Oklahoma City Composite Squadron, with support from Maj. James Beauchamp, the wing's assistant director of communications and assistant emergency services training officer, and Lt. Col. Ed Angala, wing director of operations. "We wanted to make sure we conducted this mission to the best of our mission capability," said Angala, whose duties as incident commander included maintaining direct contact with the Secret Service. "That way, it will help expand the ever-growing missions Civil Air Patrol can perform nationwide." >> Capt. Rick Rutledge



Photo by Capt. Rick Rutledge, Oklahoma Wing

Lt. Col. Ed Angala served as incident commander and Maj. James Beauchamp as communications leader for the president's visit. Beauchamp coordinated communications between Angala and participating aircrews.

Achievements



Gill Robb Wilson Award

Highest award for senior members, presented to those who complete Level V of the Civil Air Patrol Senior Member Training Program. (Only about 5 percent of CAP senior members achieve this award.) The senior members listed below received their awards in May, June and July.

Maj. Adam Bryant Boyd	AR
Maj. Robert Calderone	CA
Lt. Col. Harlan Confer	CA
Maj. Tony Diaz	CA
Lt. Col. Stephen M. Dolgin	CA
Maj. Stephen M. Rocketto	CT
Lt. Col. Gilberto Tomas Aguiar	FL
Lt. Col. Bruce F. Pawlak	IN
Lt. Col. David B. Siemiet	NC
Lt. Col. James T. Postupack	PA
Lt. Col. Greg Hill	SC
Lt. Col. William J. Picking	VA
Col. David G. Lehman	WA



Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award

Highest award for cadets, presented to those who complete all phases of the CAP Cadet Program and the Spaatz award examination. (Only about one-half of 1 percent of CAP cadets achieve this award.) The cadets listed below received their awards in May, June and July.

Michael Chung	CA
Melanie E. Tunison	CA
Andrew C. Steinemann	FL
John-Paul W. Franks	IN
Kaitlyn Fife	LA
Michelle Neuville	MI
Matthew H. Frame	MN
Timothy J. Hester	MS
Arlann A. Robinson	MS
Garrett P. Frazell	NE
David M. Owings	OR
Jake R. Martin	PA
William A. Small	SD
Blake Orth	TX



Paul E. Garber Award

Second-highest award for senior members, presented to those who complete Level IV of the CAP Senior Member Training Program. The senior members listed below received their awards in May, June and July.

Lt. Col. Derwin R. Hammond	AK
Lt. Col. Meddie I. Clark	AL
Lt. Col. Chris W. McLellan	AR
Capt. Shawn O. Lawson	CA
Maj. Sarabjeet S. Lohara	CA
Capt. Christopher B. Natwick	CA
Maj. Andrew J. Peters	CA
Lt. Col. David A. Micheletti	CO
Maj. William M. Waite	CO
Maj. Arthur P. Dammers	CT
Maj. John S. deAndrade	CT
Maj. David Hernandez	CT
Lt. Col. Daniel R. Kirby	DC
Maj. Pietro A. Barbieri	DE
Capt. Sherwin R. Callwood	FL
Capt. Michael G. Croteau	FL
Capt. Thomas M. Lewis	FL
Capt. Robert L. Rector	FL
Capt. William Weiler	FL
Maj. Joseph L. Jones	GA
Lt. Col. Sanford C. Wise	GA
Lt. Col. Robert J. Becka	HI
Capt. James R. Bedient	HI
Maj. James M. Currie	IA
Capt. Brian E. Mishmash	IA
Maj. James M. Bartel	IL
Maj. Robert B. Becker	IL
Maj. David C. Picek	IL
Capt. Ronald J. Walerowicz	IL

Capt. Michael H. Mathewson	KS
Maj. Barbara C. Willis	KS
Lt. Col. Edco Bailey	MD
Lt. Col. John E. Henderson	MD
Lt. Col. Christopher J. Howell	MD
Maj. Emily K. Hudson	MD
Maj. Karen Busch Walker	MD
Maj. Tina M. McGinnis	MI
Maj. Terry L. Dull	MN
Maj. Matthew J. Wiskow	MN
Lt. Col. Peter Bellone	MO
Lt. Col. Frank J. Fantino	MT
Maj. Dawn J. Lynch	MT
Maj. Sharon A. Nichols	MT
Maj. Jane E. Raymond	NC
Maj. Leonard D. Cassell	NE
Lt. Col. Jon C. Morris	NE
Maj. Kathryn A. Petersen	NE
Chief Master Sgt. Lou E. Walpus	NH
Maj. Luis F. Longhi	NJ
Capt. Mike Lee	NM
Maj. Randy C. Anger	NY
Capt. Matthew S. Bates	OH
Maj. Winton M. Adcock	OR
Maj. David D. Ayers	OR
Maj. William Nick Ham	OR
Maj. Kenneth R. Hunt	OR
1st Lt. Dale S. Matthews	OR
Capt. Richard G. Ouellette	OR
Maj. Jeffry A. Smith	PA
Lt. Col. Alex C. Kay	PCR
Lt. Col. Edgar Cruz	PR
Maj. Omar Maldonado	PR
Col. John N. Seten	SD
Maj. Louis E. Piche	TN
Lt. Col. Paul A. Perkins	TX
Maj. Jane B. Smalley	TX
Maj. Ryan E. Livergood	UT
Maj. Michelle L. Anderson-Tesla	VA
1st Lt. Brian C. Howard	VA
Maj. Deborah S. Kawaguchi	WA
Maj. Gerhard Mader	WI
Capt. Cheryl Fielitz-Scarborough	WV
Capt. Eric P. Judy	WV
Capt. Ivan M. Scarborough	WV




Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award

Second-highest award for cadets, presented to those who complete all Phase IV requirements of the CAP Cadet Program. The cadets listed below received their awards from May, June and July.

Kerrily C. Gresham	AL
Michael S. Guthrie	AL
William T. Craig	AZ
Mary E. Barb	CA
Melanie E. Tunison	CA
Grant E. Merrill	CO
Caleb T. Rawson	CO
James J. Bilko	CT
Matthew A. McCandless	CT
Shivani A. Patel	DC
Nathan W. Buxton	DE
Kendra M. Lauer	FL

Andrew C. Steinemann	FL
James Arvey	GA
Walid G. Basroui	IL
Marah E. Carney	KS
John D. Leavens	KY
Noah Meyers	MD
Jeremy B. Ginnard	MI
Shane M. Ginnard	MI
Michelle Neuville	MI
Jessica C. Scott	MI
Korben B. Weidenborner	MN
Noah B. Johnson	NH
Daniel R. Powell	NH
Kory L. Gatley	NY
James D. Mizvesky	NY
Bonnie C. Wilshire	OH
David M. Owings	OR
Emily B. Fabyanic	PA
Alexander Galarza	PR
Evan M. Lewoczko	TN
John P. Schumacher	TN
Rosemary L. Perkins	WA
Evan A. Prior	WA
Scott W. Steele	WI
Tiffany R. Staggs	WV

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (BS) BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION:

- Airline Management
- Airport Management
- Air Traffic Management
- Flight Management
- Logistics Management

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- Aircraft Structural Technology *
- Aviation Maintenance Technology *
- Avionics Technology *
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