

Fall-Winter 2017

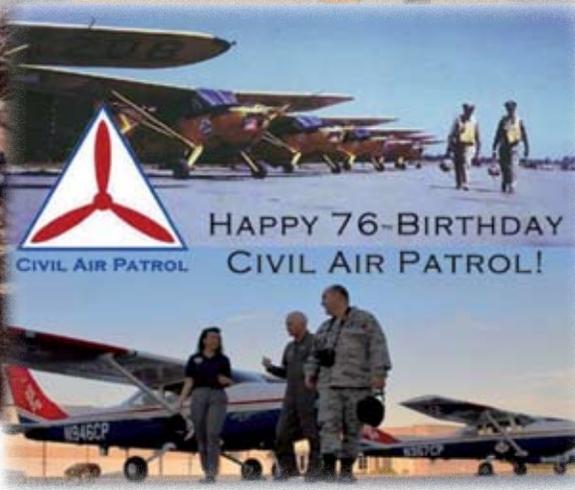
Peaks a d Planes

Official Magazine of the Colorado Wing, Civil Air Patrol



In This Issue:

- ▶ CAP Key Player in State's Vital Connection Interagency Exercise
- ▶ Maj. Mary Cast Presented United We Serve Award
- ▶ Cadet O-Ride Rally
And Much More!



▶ The Harvard of CAP PAO Academies



Civil Air Patrol is the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. *Peaks and Planes* is the official publication of the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol. It is published three times a year by the Colorado Wing Public Affairs Staff.

Peaks and Planes is published by a private firm which is not associated with the Department of the Air Force or the Civil Air Patrol Corporation. The appearance of advertisements for products and services, as well as supplements and inserts found in this magazine, does not constitute endorsement by the United States Air Force or the Civil Air Patrol Corporation.

Colorado Wing Commander

Col. Celeste Gamache, CAP

Editor-in-Chief

Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP

Editor

Capt. Lyn Parker, CAP

Article submissions are always welcome. Please send them in Microsoft Word format to Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, Editor-In-Chief *Peaks and Planes* at mdaniels@cap.gov. Attach photos (in jpeg format) to your email and make certain to include full caption information for each photo at the end of your article.

Article Submissions- Next Issue Submission Deadline: March 20th, 2018

Headquarters

Colorado Wing, Civil Air Patrol
325 W. Hamilton Ave., Bldg. 133
Peterson AFB, CO 80914

Phone: 719-556-8280

Fax: 719-556-6186

COVER: Cadet 1st Lt. Alexis Clements presented with challenge coin by Maj. Stacey Roestel, USAF at Vital Connection Exercise. Photo by 2nd Lt. Tami Clements, Highlander Composite Sqdn. PAO. INSET: FY18 RMR PAO Academy Class Photo by Maj. Trevor Munson, Valkyrie Cadet Sqdn. PAO and Happy 76th Birthday CAP Photo by Col. John Knowles, CAP, MER Commander

Commander's Comments

*Col. Celeste Gamache, CAP
Commander, Colorado Wing*

Team Colorado - THANK YOU!!!!

I just wanted to thank each and every one of you for your work in CAP. Without your dedication to CAP, we couldn't accomplish the great things we do in this Wing. When you're in a squadron, sometimes you don't see the good things going on across the Wing. In every facet of CAP – Emergency Services, Cadet Programs, Aerospace Education - the Wing is doing a fantastic job. Each of you should be proud of the Colorado Wing. We are the largest Wing in the Region, and one of the largest Wings in CAP. We are over 1800 members now, equally split between seniors and cadets.



I challenge each of you in the next year to stretch yourself in CAP. By this I mean to try something you haven't tried before. Get into a new area of CAP and see if you like it. Improve on the skills you started in CAP. There are many areas to CAP and I encourage you all to try as many as possible. By expanding your horizons in CAP, you may find an area that you really like.

By improving yourself in CAP, you're also helping the Wing accomplish its mission. For example, we have quite a number of pilots in the Wing but we are in the red on the number of mission rated pilots. If we were to have an extended mission, we might be in a world of hurt for mission pilots. This does

Continued on page 11 . . .

Maj. Mary Cast Presented with Federal United We Serve Award

By Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP
RMR Director of Public Affairs

On July 20th at a ceremony held at the Denver Federal Center in Lakewood, CO, Maj. Mary Cast, COWG Director of Aerospace Education and Commander of the Foothills Cadet Squadron, was presented with a *United We Serve* award in the Federal Category by the Colorado Federal Executive Board.

The *United We Serve* awards recognize city, county, state, and federal government employees in Colorado who have demonstrated sustained excellence in volunteer service leading to significant positive outcomes for their communities. The award recipients have demonstrated exceptional leadership skills in recruiting, inspiring, and coordinating groups of volunteers, devoted substantial time and effort to the advancement of volunteerism, or shown a deep commitment of voluntary action to address community needs – all in their off-duty hours as public employees.

Over her 30-plus year career at the US Geological Survey, in addition to working as a chemist at the National Water Quality Laboratory, Mary Cast worked for the Branch of Paleontology and Stratigraphy cataloging the Survey's collection of trilobites, volunteered as a field assistant, and served as the Central Region's Firearms Manager for several years. She also volunteered as a facilitator for the Colorado District (Water Resources Division) and took on the task of organizing poster sessions at multiple Rocky Mountain Analytical Chemistry conferences.

Through her son, Capt. Charles Blome, Maj. Mary Cast became active in the Civil Air Patrol. She commands the Colorado Wing's Foothills Cadet Squadron and serves as the Wing's Director of



(L-R) Colorado Federal Executive Board Member, Darlene Barnes, Maj. Mary Cast, Col. Celeste Gamache, COWG Commander, and CFEB Executive Director, Fred Eidson

Aerospace Education. Over the past seven years with CAP she has worked several disaster relief efforts, provided assistance at various charity events, helped with CAP's efforts at the Governor's inauguration, organized and worked several COWG conferences and served as an instructor and escort at many cadet and senior members activities throughout Colorado and the Rocky Mountain Region. Although she became involved in CAP because of her son, the leadership, science, and emergency services opportunities that CAP offers its members and the civic involvement that CAP has in the community at large has kept her a committed volunteer.

Congratulations to Maj. Mary Cast for being selected and receiving this prestigious Federal Executive Board award that reflects proudly on her many contributions, outstanding service and dedication to the Civil Air Patrol, the state of Colorado and her community. 

CAP Key Player in State's Vital Connection Interagency Exercise

*By Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP
RMR Director of Public Affairs
Photos by 2nd Lt. Tami Clements,
Highlander Composite Squadron PAO*

Colorado Civil Air Patrol was well represented at the 2017 Vital Connection Exercise which provided training for interagency communication and tested interoperability with an ICP at the Highlands Ranch Law Enforcement Training Center in Littleton, CO on August 22nd. COWG Ground Teams, Aircrews and ICP Staff representing Groups 1, 3 and 4 supported the state led exercise. Kudos to Maj. Eric Schwarm, RMR Asst. Director of Comm & COWG Asst. DC for taking the lead with the state to ensure Civil Air Patrol was a key player as he recruited some of the best ES personnel in the COWG to participate.

Maj. Stacey Roestel, USAF Cybersecurity Specialist presented Cadet 1st Lt. Alexis Clements, with COWG's Highlander Composite Squadron a challenge coin during her participation at the state led Vital Connection interagency exercise. During the exercise, Cadet Clements had the opportunity to participate in a mock cybersecurity simulation defending a health care system from an attack. Cadet Clements participates in CyberPatriot training and recently attended the Cyber Defense



Cadet 1st Lt. Clements and Maj. Stacey Roestel USAF Challenge Coin Presentation.

Academy in Albuquerque, NM. Having an opportunity to participate in another agency's simulation allowed her to utilize other cyber security tools and see how they compared to her previous cyber defense experiences. 🇺🇸



Cadet 1st Lt. Alexis Clements Participating in Cyber Training with CONG.



CAP Vital Connection Exercise 2017. Some of the participating Comm Units.

PROFILE: CAP-USAF RMLR

Director of Operations, Lt. Col. Scott Snyder, USAF

*By Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP
RMR Director of Public Affairs*

Lieutenant Colonel Scott Snyder is an Air Force Pilot with more than 3200 hours flying various airplanes. He was born and raised in Chicago Illinois and after graduating from high school he enlisted in the Air Force in 1993. Upon graduation from basic training he attended specialized training to become a Cable and Antenna Journeyman and was sent to Keesler AFB MS for his first duty station. After completion of his tour at Keesler, Lt. Col. Snyder was sent to Naples, Italy to work for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). During his time in Italy, he was forwarded deployed to Sarajevo to set up communications for NATO HQ in support of Operation Joint Endeavour.

Following his tour in Italy, Lt. Col. Snyder cross-trained into the Air Traffic Control career field and was sent to Whiteman AFB, Missouri. This is where his love for aviation began. After a short stint as an air traffic controller, he was selected for an AFROTC scholarship and attended Southern Illinois University Carbondale where he completed his Bachelor's Degree in Aviation Management. Upon graduation, he attended pilot training at Columbus AFB, Mississippi and was assigned to Grand Forks AFB North Dakota to fly the KC-135 Stratotanker. After two tours flying the KC-135 at Grand Forks and MacDill AFB, he was

Peaks and Planes

assigned to a staff position at Randolph AFB, Texas. Following the staff assignment, he was sent to Hickam AFB, Hawaii to fly the Gulfstream V. According to Lt. Col. Snyder, Hickam AFB has been the highlight of his career.

Prior to working for CAP-USAF, Lt. Col. Snyder had very little exposure to the Civil Air Patrol. "I heard about the organization, but before coming to work for CAP-USAF I couldn't tell you exactly what the CAP's mission was. Now, after working with the CAP for the last year and a half, I truly appreciate what they do, not only for their individual states, but for the country as a whole. You can see clear evidence of their impact when you look at the efforts they put forth during the rescue operations for Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, Jose, and Maria. It's truly remarkable that even though they are a mostly volunteer organization, they execute their missions with a high degree of professionalism. I've been extremely impressed!"

Lt. Col. Snyder is also extremely impressed with the Cadet Corp and what they provide to the CAP mission. "First of all, the Cadet Corp is an excellent recruiting tool for not only the CAP, but also for the Air Force. The amount of experience and discipline that is gained by going through the cadet program gives them a leg up on the average civilian joining the military. In



Lt. Col. Scott Snyder, CAP-USAF
RMLR Dir. of Ops

addition, I've been to several Ops Evals where Cadets played a significant role in the success of the Wing. Whether they were assisting on ground teams, relaying communication messages, or ensuring administration duties were accomplished accurately, they've played an important role in the mission's success. Gaining that kind of experience at a young age is hard to come by and I think it will benefit them greatly as they grow older." Lt. Col. Snyder sees a bright future for the Civil Air Patrol. "CAP already does a number of missions well and continues to seek out new mission sets. I believe the professional volunteers who make up the senior members, along with the highly dedicated Cadet Corp will ensure the future success and expansion of the Civil Air Patrol."

Lt. Col. Snyder is currently stationed at Peterson AFB, CO as the Rocky Mountain Liaison Region Director of Operations (DO) and has served in the Air Force for 22+ years. He lives in Colorado Springs with his wife of 7 years, Monica, and his two boys, Shane, 6 and Casey, 4. You may have an opportunity to meet him at an RMR Wing SAV or Ops Eval and if so, let him know you read his profile! 🇺🇸

Fall-Winter 2017

PPSS Implements New Training Structure with Great Success

By 1st Lt. Jen Knellinger, CAP
Pikes Peak Senior Squadron & Group III PAO

Emergency Services head of Training, 1st Lt. Kent Waterman took a good idea and made it a great fit for Pikes Peak Senior Squadron. Kent has been the driving force behind implementing a new training structure and process, facilitating the opportunity for relatively new PPSS members to become involved in the ES training program quickly. New members stay engaged and active by avoiding the lags that typically occur between aircrew ground school and qualifying flights as well as advancement into more demanding aircrew roles. They progress at a steady pace determined only by their

availability and desire. Surrounded by five military bases, the Colorado Springs based Senior Squadron of CAP is an excellent extension for military pilots, both active duty and retired that choose to serve the community, assist in the cadet orientation ride programs and continue to grow their flying skills. Up until this year, the dilemma had been how best to train and qualify interested members in an efficient and effective way to meet the expectations of members and serve the needs of the squadron. Initially the motivation for the new system came from new



1st Lt. Kent Waterman, PPSS
Emergency Services Training Officer

Continued . . .



1st Lt. Kent Waterman (Center Left) with members of the Mountain Flying Training Group.

squadron Commander, Capt. Loren Lancaster, formerly the squadron's Operations Officer. Loren had previously served in the Jeffco Squadron while living in Denver and contacted his former peers about their single day SAREX model. Kent and his training team had tried many other models to increase training throughput (website sign up, on demand individual or very small classes, as available training flights and trainers); none had been as successful as the current model.

Two key elements in the positive transformation have been the consistently scheduled, once a month, single day training event to include ground classes and flying opportunities. With a routine set of announcements, Lt. Waterman is diligent in soliciting all members for needed training by email. He also communicates with squadron leadership regarding those new members completing Level 1 expressing interest in Emergency Services. Training dates are also announced during the squadron meeting on the first Thursday of the month and shortly following, the training days are normally scheduled for the second Saturday (on rare occasion adjusted due to weather) of each month. With 10-14 days in advance, Kent discovers which ground classes need to be held, which members need qualifying flights and which ancillary classes such as MRO, MSA and ICUT need to be offered.

Trainers and SETs know the dates and can plan ahead with materi-

als and timing. Lt. Waterman schedules the spaces, staff, aircraft and training missions needed with SETs and pilots in a coordinated manner. "Tweaks" along the way have included lowering administrative headaches by having backups ready and being flexible given weather or aircraft issues. There is also some discussion about adding some small checklists so all students/trainees come prepared with pre-reading completed and materials they need to fully participate in the training. The predictability of the process appears to work. Getting trained is a choice – there are few complaints about lack of opportunity.

With an efficient process, Kent feels like "the herding of cats..." has been greatly reduced. And the success of the program in the last year has been remarkable. Numbers of trained aircrew in the year since implementation are 3 times greater than in all former years. But success is not always measured in numbers.

Like many good processes, intangible, unintended consequences are also a positive result of the well-organized, once a month training days. Kent Waterman sends a concise follow-up email summarizing and celebrating the successes of trainees and thanking trainers for their efforts. In addition, as the number of trainees and training staff participating in each of these days often numbers close to twenty, the synergy and camaraderie encourages active collaboration and new relationships of both experienced and new members, critical in retaining well qualified Civil Air Patrol members. 🇺🇸

not go unnoticed by National Headquarters. This could result in fewer aircraft for the Wing. By improving yourself and becoming a mission rated pilot, you can do more and make yourself more valuable to the Wing.

The better you are as a CAP member, the better your squadron is, the better the Wing is. This results in more good things coming our way. Wings that meet metrics, get their inventories done on time, and get their required reports in on time, are rewarded with new planes, vehicles, radios, and other things. I know Colorado Wing has the people, drive, and determination to be the top Wing in CAP. You just have to believe it and live it.

If you ever need help to get ahead or complete a task, please don't hesitate to ask for it. If your squadron commander doesn't know the answer, the question can be elevated to Group, and then to Wing, if need be. We can take it higher than that if we need to do so. The important thing is that we get your question answered so your task or goal can be completed.

I want to end as I began and say "Thank You" for all the time you volunteer to CAP. It is a great organization and I appreciate each and every one of you and work you do. Keep it up! 🇺🇸

The Harvard of CAP PAO Academies

Rocky Mountain Region Hosts Annual PAO Academy

*By Tech. Sgt. Salvatore R. Chiporo, CAP
Wyoming Wing, Cheyenne Composite Squadron, Public Affairs Officer*



On December 9-10, 2017, the Rocky Mountain Region (RMR) hosted their annual Public Affairs (PAO) Academy at the South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR) Headquarters in Centennial, Colorado. The event brought together 62 PAOs, Recruitment and Retention Officers (RRO), and Commanders from three Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Regions, eight Wings, and numerous Squadrons

from across the United States. In a pre-Academy communication, Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, the RMR's Director of Public Affairs and PAO Academy Director, stated that the number of presenters and attendees was "perhaps the largest class ever for a CAP PAO Academy."

The purpose of this annually required comprehensive training

opportunity is to bring together the Region's PAOs, RROs, and Commanders to offer "everything a PAO needs to know to successfully perform their role and

fulfill training and unit requirements." As Lt. Col. Daniels likes to say, the RMR's version of the annual event is becoming known as "the Harvard of CAP PAO Academies" due to its



FY2018 RMR PAO Academy Graduation Class and Instructor Corps. Photo by Maj. Trevor Munson, CAP, COWG, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron, PAO

comprehensive nature, outstanding attendance, and the quality of the Region's PAO contributors. The purpose of this training is to "hone our collective talents and learn from one another's successes and failures" suggested one attendee. Presentation by the Academy's ten outstanding instructors included: CAP PAO regulations and training; web design, content, and hosting; Subordinate Unit Inspections (SUI); writing and releasing news releases; the RRO/PAO working relationship; and Public Information Officer (PIO) quali-

fications and training.

The RMR had the amazing opportunity to invite one of CAP's most knowledgeable public affairs experts, Lt. Col. Paul Cianciolo, CAP's National Marketing and Social Media Manager and Vice Commander of the National Capital Wing, as the keynote speaker and presenter for the Academy. Lt. Col. Cianciolo communicated CAP's new branding initiatives and marketing direction. In addition, he joined in on another very well received presentation by Lt. Col.

Al Nash, RMR Chief-of-Staff and a longtime PAO and PIO, on how to effectively use video in CAP presentations and social media.

One of the highlights of the Academy was Rose Keating's presentation on *Denver Tech for All* and her crusade to deliver free computers and technology into the hands of "anyone who can't afford one," including CAP Cadets, home schooled children, and even CAP's CyberPatriot team members. Rose Keating's efforts have delivered "over 10,000" reconditioned computers



(L-R) SM Laurie Scott of the WYWG, and 2nd Lt. Janelle Doole, Capt. Tammy Peeples, 1st Lt. Jen Knellinger and Capt. Brittany Hardy of the COWG receive computers for CAP's CyberPatriot team members and squadron members with need from Rose Keating of *Denver Tech for All* (center with arm sling). Photo by Lt. Michael Herrera, CAP, COWG, Air Academy Cadet Squadron, ES Officer



Lt. Col. Paul Cianciolo, CAP National Social Media and Marketing Manager and Vice Commander of the National Capitol Wing presented several well received sessions on Social Media, Marketing and Branding usage and best practices to over 60 PAOs, RROs, Commanders, senior members and cadets, from 8 wings at the RMR PAO Academy. Photo by Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP, RMR Director of Public Affairs

to children across the Denver Metro Area and Colorado that she hopes will now expand across the RMR. PAOs will help facilitate the distribution of computers to their squadron's members and their respective family members in need. It's a win-win to help enhance CAP member communication and access to the internet for training and advance computer literacy.

Another special guest speaker was seasoned PIO, Ronda Scholting,

the Public Information Officer for West Metro Fire Rescue (WMFR) in Lakewood, Colorado. In addition to working as the PIO for WMFR, Scholting is a wildland fire PIO and was a TV news reporter for several network affiliate stations. Her presentation covered media relations and the need for PAOs/PIOs to know how to maintain good media relations within their communities.

Throughout the weekend Lt. Col. Daniels asked every pre-

sender to ask questions of the students and for giving correct answers the students received a prize. The students of the PAO Academy earned over 50 prizes and went home with the knowledge needed to be successful and professional PAOs, PIOs, and RROs. The weekend was a rousing success. 🏆

Aborted Takeoff: Civil Air Patrol Pilot Makes Safety A Priority During Orientation Flight

By Maj. Joseph Friel, CAP
Jeffco Senior Squadron

On 14 January 2017, an aircrew aborted a takeoff at Longmont's Vance Brand airport due to traffic on the landing roll in the opposite direction. This aircrew consisted of an orientation pilot and two cadets. It was the second flight of the day with the intention of completing the orientation flight syllabus and returning to base. After having communicated with mission base on Com 3 (FM), the pilot taxied to the same runway that he had just landed on. Two other airplanes took off and landed on that same runway in the minutes before the incident. An additional aircraft was in the runup area for that same runway. When the pilot got to the end of what he thought was the "active" runway, he completed his pre-takeoff checks and switched to Com 1 (CTAF) on the audio panel. He switched communications radios just in time to hear the tail end of a message by the aircraft waiting for takeoff saying that he was going to taxi to the other end of the runway (opposite direction).

While the pilot found this communication a bit strange, he thought the dead limp windsock was enough reason to proceed with a takeoff from the same runway that he had just landed on a few minutes prior. He made the appropriate radio call and proceeded with the takeoff roll. After approximately 400' and about 8 seconds, he saw an aircraft completing its landing roll in the opposite direction. The pilot immediately aborted his takeoff, drifted to the side of the runway in case a collision was imminent, and announced his intentions on Com 1 (CTAF). Both aircraft came to a stop more than 1000' apart. The pilot apologized to the other aircraft over the radio.

The obvious, proximate cause of this situation was

Peaks and Planes



Watch Your Six

By Capt. Tammy Peebles, CAP
COWG Assistant Director of Safety

This edition I would like to give you something simple that you can print and post on your safety bulletin board...you have one of those right?

Safety starts with you

Awareness prevents mishaps

Follow rules and regulations

Evaluate and execute your mitigation plan

The Safety First attitude is contagious

You are the key

poor situational awareness by the pilot caused by not monitoring Com 1 (CTAF) during the taxi. If he had been monitoring Com 1 (CTAF), he would have heard the radio calls by the other aircraft (a taildragger) that wanted to land on the runway with the current prevailing winds even if they were light winds. A couple of other checks could have prevented this incident which include a 360 observation from the runup area to check for traffic on downwind and the opposite direction final approach, as well as a look in both directions just before taking the runway. The pilot did clear the final approach for the runway he intended to take off from, but not the opposite direction final approach course. While taking off with a 4 knot tailwind is not prohibited in a Cessna 182, it is good practice to always takeoff into a headwind if possible. In addition, other aircraft may have more stringent operational requirements.

Professional pilots are expected to make good decisions all the time. They also have a duty to be vigilant for the safety of their aircraft and others. Civil Air Patrol pilots have an opportunity to be unpaid professionals in the aviation arena. In this case, a civilian pilot has a tarnished reputation of CAP pilots due to an unfortunate series of events. 

Fall-Winter 2017

Vance Brand Cadet Squadron Participates in Annual Community Parades

*By Cadet 1st Lt. Caleb Parker, CAP
Vance Brand Cadet Squadron, Cadet PAO*

For the past five years of my membership in Civil Air Patrol, members of our squadron and myself have looked forward to participating in our local parades. This year, we marched in the Boulder County Fair Parade for the fifth consecutive year. The significance of our consistent presence is that it is the fastest way to tell our community about our unit and Civil Air Patrol as an organization. Think of it as free advertising! Hundreds of people come out to support the parade participants, see the floats, and in our case, see groups that are offered within the city. Our unit had two cadets join who had been to the parade and decided to join, too. Score one for Recruiting!

The other parade we had the honor of participating in was the Longmont Veteran's Day Parade sponsored jointly by the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). As members of Civil Air Patrol, we proudly represented all the dedicated men and women who have served over the past 76 years and have passed on their wisdom, knowledge, leadership skills, morals and values on to thousands of cadets. 

Valkyrie Safety Stand-down a Success

*By Maj. Trevor Munson, CAP
Valkyrie Cadet Squadron, PAO*

Once per year, every Civil Air Patrol squadron must have a day completely dedicated to safety, called a Safety Stand-down. On the last Tuesday in January, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron performed a safety stand-down in a spectacular and enjoyable fashion.

First, the squadron was treated to a talk by Maj. Gen. John Barry, USAF (retired). Gen. Barry is the new CEO of Wings Over the Rockies, and over his career, he has overcome many different challenges, ranging from graduating from the US Air Force Academy, being a combat fighter pilot during the cold war, USAF wing commander, being present at the Pentagon on 9/11, and was the Executive Director of the Columbia Space Shuttle Accident Investigation. Needless to say, his experience gave him a unique perspective on safety that he shared with the squadron. His anecdotes kept the cadets engaged, as he spoke about how complacency can cause accidents, or make a bad situation worse.

Next, Capt. Melton held an aircraft ground handling training class. This training is useful for orientation flights, glider flights, or anyone interested in being in or around aircraft. This training is a good primer for aircraft and aircrew safety. The squadron viewed a video made by Civil Air Patrol, followed by a quiz. Both the video and Capt. Melton tied in with the theme of preventing complacency that was initiated by Maj. Gen. Barry. Overall, 34 cadets passed the quiz, and are now proficient in ground handling procedures.

In Civil Air Patrol, safety is a primary concern. Whether it is at a meeting, during an ES exercise, or even at home, it is our goal to keep members safe and accident-free. We appreciate all of our members' attention and positive attitudes toward safety. 



Chaplain's Corner

I wanted to take a moment to say “Thank You,” for being a volunteer with the Civil Air Patrol. We hear about the Core Values of “Integrity, Respect, Excellence, and Volunteer Service” through the incredible work of our Character Development Instructors and our Chaplains throughout the Colorado Wing and beyond. I say “Thank You,” because you are all doing work that you don’t need to do. I hope nobody has twisted your arm or is forcing you to be in the Civil Air Patrol. I hope that you are involved with CAP because you truly believe that you can help this organization by utilizing your skills and talents for the benefit of others.

Without volunteers, CAP would simply not exist. Without people like each of you giving selflessly of your time and energy, our Cadets would not be given the chance to grow into amazing adults who go on to do wonderful things in this world. Without people like you, who would go out in the middle of winter to search for a downed aircraft so that you might be able to help those involved? Without your volunteer service there would be many left stranded in the mountains or not being given an opportunity to experience aviation and what it means to truly be part of a team.

While I was watching the movie Pearl Harbor the other day, I heard an amazing statement about being a volunteer. If you don’t know the story: This scene takes place a few years after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Lt. Col. James Doolittle had the inspiring, if somewhat crazy, idea to launch B-25B Mitchel medium bombers from the deck of an aircraft carrier. As the crews are training Lt. Col. Doolittle is talking to another person and he said that these people are rare. That these people have stepped up when no one else would. Then he looks at his men and says **“There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer.”** This quote struck me as absolutely true. I would rather work with volunteers whose hearts are driven by the purpose of the mission or organization than I would for a group of people being paid but who do not believe in what we are doing.

One definition in the Merriam-Webster dictionary of the word ‘volunteer’ is: *“one who freely offers to do something”*. All of you are volunteers, stepping up to do something to make the lives of others better. Through working with cadets and seniors, to taking time off of work for missions and training, through wading through very difficult times, you are all freely giving of yourselves for the benefit of others. It is my honor to work with each of you in every aspect of the important work we do. I truly believe that if we put our volunteer hearts to work, we can accomplish anything we set our minds to.

Again, it is an honor and a privilege to work with and beside each one of you. Keep up the great work that only a volunteer can do and Blessings up on each of you as well. 

Cadet O-Ride Rally Provides Education Even Without Flying

*By 2nd Lt. Thomas J. Welle, CAP
Black Sheep Senior Squadron
Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Todd Chwialkowski, CAP
Black Sheep Senior Squadron
Aerospace Education Officer*

Ten cadets from the Evergreen Squadron experienced one of the first tenets of aviation-Safety First, when their orientation flights were cancelled due to high winds.

They were attending a Cadet Orientation Flight Rally at Centennial Airport, (KAPA), sponsored by the Black Sheep Senior Squadron AND coordinated by 2nd Lt. Lee Ormiston and Capt. Todd Chwialkowski. “We had predicted high winds and they eventually surfaced, so the decision was the right one”, Chwialkowski said. However, all was not lost as the cadets received some one-on-one instruction on the ground from Black Sheep pilots and crew members.

With 20 senior members in attendance, the cadets received personal instruction in charting, flight planning and pre-flight procedures for the aircraft.

After safety and weather brief-



1st Lt. Doug Hindman takes some Evergreen Cadets through Preflight Inspection.
Photo by SM Nick Campbell

ings, the cadets were split into teams and assigned to a pilot. Some focused on charting, the use of the plotters, and did some basic flight planning calculations on distance and time. The others went over to the three aircraft assigned to the exercise and learned pre-flight procedures and cockpit orientation. Then each team swapped so that both teams received the same instruction.

Additionally, the cadets got a Control Tower tour, and experienced an actual in-flight emergency of a wheels up landing of

a Cessna Cardinal 177.

Although disappointed at the flight cancellation, most were able to reschedule their flights with their respective pilots and the overall feedback was very positive.

Both Cadets and the attending parents experienced the professionalism and dedication of the 20 CAP senior members that attended. And hopefully, they learned a real life lesson in aviation safety and Operational Risk Management. 🛩️

CAP Heroes of The Miracle on Buffalo Pass

Meet seven true CAP heroes. Seated are (L to R) Sonny Elgin, Rick Hopp, and Harry Blakeman. Standing are Dan Alsum, Jim Alsum, Jerry Alsum, and Don Niekerk. This team searched through the night in blizzard conditions to find Rocky Mountain Airways Flight 217 at the 10,500 foot level of Buffalo Pass near Steamboat Springs, Colorado. They saved the lives of 20 of the 22 souls on board. The rescue occurred in 1978 and they are pictured here almost 39 years later at the book release of “Miracle



on Buffalo Pass” which documents their heroic mission. They graciously autographed books for all in attendance in Denver at the Wings Over the Rockies Museum on Sept 23rd. Read more about the mission at www.harrisonjones.org and the book is featured in this issue’s Cover to Cover. 🇺🇸

COWG Aircrews Assist with Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Mission

Some of the COWG’s top aircrew members flew to Texas to join aircrews from around the nation to perform Civil Air Patrol’s mission for FEMA and the state of Texas supplying aerial photography of Hurricane Harvey’s flood damage. A few of those volunteers who flew mission sorties were (L to R) 1st Lt. Randy Settergren and Capt. Katie Mikevich of the Jeffco Senior Squadron, 1st Lt. Jen Knellinger and Capt. Loren Lancaster of the Pikes Peak Senior Squadron. 🇺🇸



CAP COWG Aircrew Members deployed to Texas for Hurricane Harvey Mission.

COVER TO COVER

Miracle on Buffalo Pass

Rocky Mountain Airways Flight 217

By Harrison Jones

Published by Av Lit Press

On the evening of December 4, 1978, Rocky Mountain Airways Flight 217 departed Steamboat Springs, Colorado bound for Denver with twenty-two souls on board. Less than an hour later, the flight was forced down on Buffalo Pass at an altitude of 10,500 feet when it encountered severe winds of a mountain wave. The tragic accident triggered one of the most intense search and rescue efforts in Rocky Mountain history.

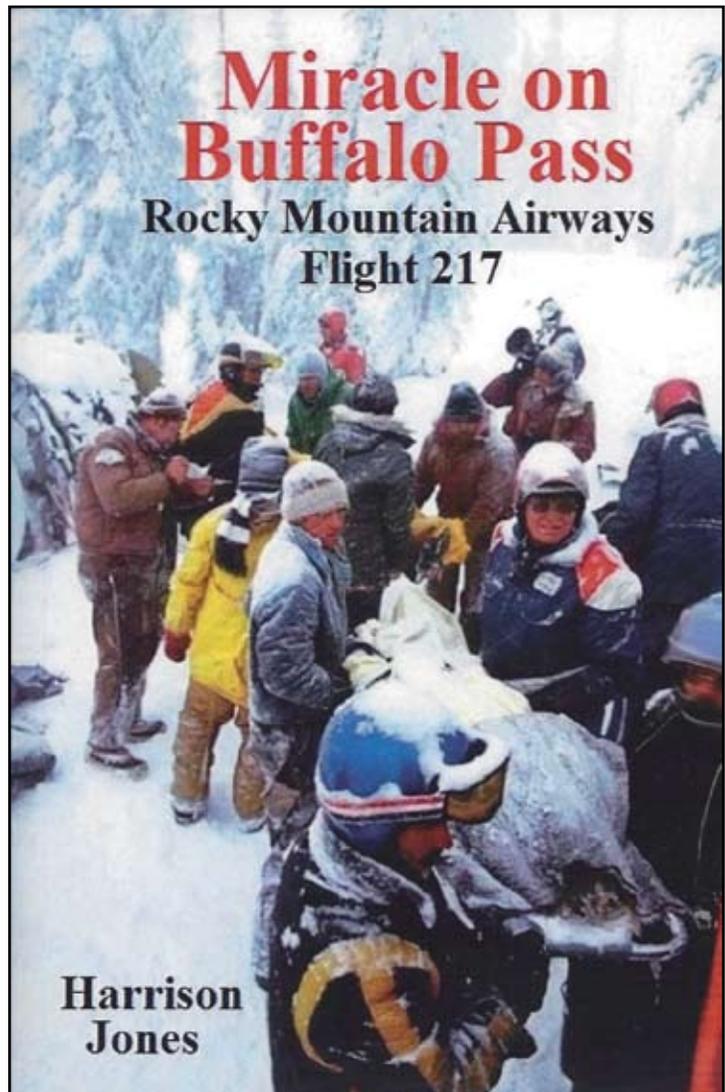
This true story is told in the words of the courageous passengers and crew who found themselves struggling to survive the arctic type blizzard conditions with no hope of immediate help and the heroic search and rescue personnel who risked lives to save lives. Led by an elite Civil Air Patrol unit, with assistance from other rescue organizations and civilian volunteers, the search and rescue effort is considered one of the most successful in Civil Air Patrol history.

The book includes photos taken of the rescue and names many well-known Colorado Wing legendary members who were involved. It's an incredible story with interesting recollections of the passengers and crew who lived through it.

Every member of the Colorado Wing of the Civil Air Patrol as well as all CAP members should have a copy for historical reference and documentation of what committed, well trained CAP volunteers have done and continue to do.

The author held a book launch and signing at the Wings Over the Rockies Museum on September 23rd and a number of the passengers, crew and CAP members who had experienced the Miracle on Buffalo Pass were there to reunite, recall memories, speak with attendees and sign books.

Miracle on Buffalo Pass: Rocky Mountain Airways Flight 217 is a 6" x 9", 174 page softcover available from the author, Harrison Jones, at www.harrisonjones.org. Mention you saw the book featured in *Cover to Cover* in your CAP wing's magazine to receive a CAP member discount. 🇺🇸



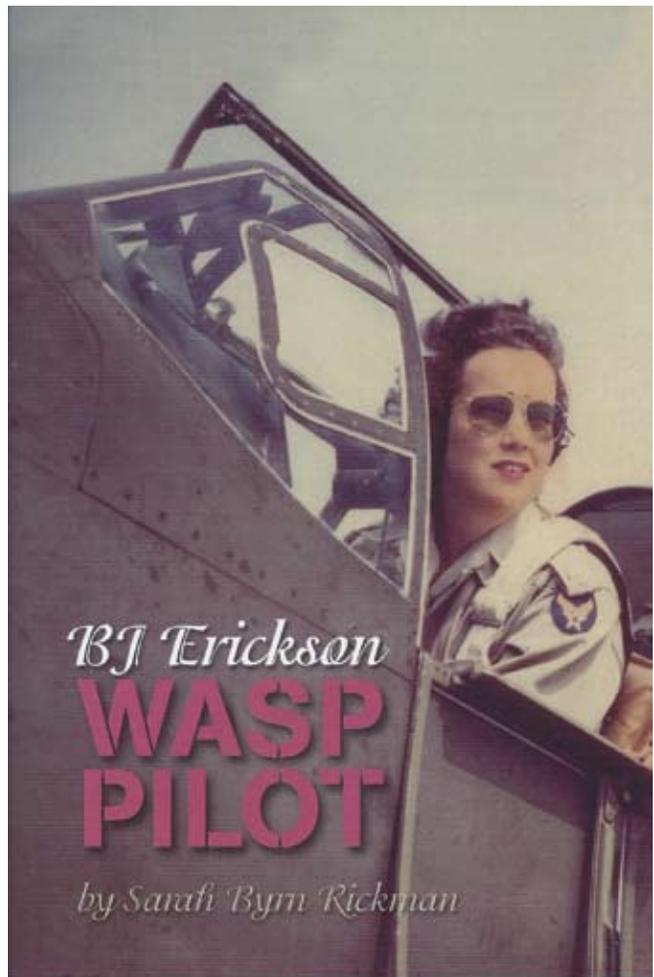
COVER TO COVER

BJ Erickson: WASP Pilot

By Sarah Byrn Rickman
Published by Filter Press

World War II gave young women an unprecedented opportunity to fly military aircraft for their country. In 1939, Congress approved the Civilian Pilot Training Program (CPT). One student out of every ten could be a female. More than 2,000 women learned to fly through CPT, just in time to make a difference in the outcome of the war. One such young woman was Barbara Jane Erickson of Seattle, Washington.

BJ Erickson: WASP Pilot, is the biography of Barbara Jane Erickson who became a Women Airforce Service Pilot (WASP) and it's specifically written for young adult readers so it's ideal for the Civil Air Patrol cadet audience. The book includes an informative history of WASP, WWII aircraft and a glossary of terms in addition to the various experiences and photos of BJ Erickson and the different planes she flew such as the B-17 Flying Fortress, B-25 Mitchell Bomber, P-38 Lightning, P-40 Warhawk, P-51 Mustang and many others.



This is an excellent book to complement CAP aerospace education training and inspire our young cadets, especially female cadets, to pursue their aviation goals. Here are some testimonials from notable female aviators:

“Personal stories like the one told by Sarah Byrn Rickman in *BJ Erickson: WASP Pilot* offer us a window into WASP, the inner workings of the Army Air Forces, and World War II. Sarah has done us all a service by writing this engaging book that brings flying to life and offers a valuable resource for historical research.”

Michelle D. Johnson, Lieutenant General, USAF Retired
Superintendent, U.S. Air Force Academy, 2013-2017
Graduate, AF Academy Class of 1981; C-141 Starlifter Pilot

“BJ Erickson blazed a trail for the women of my generation. I know, as I was part of the 1980 US Air Force Academy Class - the first to graduate women! *BJ Erickson: WASP Pilot*, is an amazing story that will challenge today's young women to blaze new trails as BJ did, no matter the obstacles.”

Margaret “Peggy” Dennis Carnahan, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF Retired
Captain, NetJets Aviation

BJ Erickson: WASP Pilot is a 6” x 9”, 172 page softcover available for \$12.95 from Filter Press at www.filterpressbooks.com. Mention you saw the book featured in *Cover to Cover* in your CAP wing's magazine to receive a CAP member discount. 🇺🇸

Does Your Squadron Fly Fire Watch Missions?

*By 2nd Lt. Thomas J. Welle, CAP
Black Sheep Senior Squadron
Public Affairs Officer*

In my “real” job, I work with about 42 state forestry agencies in wildfire. Since my early days as a Fire Captain in California, I have about 35+ years working with the wildfire problem in the U.S.

Recently, I tripped across a blog about a state that was going to reinstate its Fire Lookout Tower program due to the high cost of their state aircraft performing aerial reconnaissance for wildfires. I found that a bit amusing since the technology available to us in fire is so high tech now and the lookout towers are used more for vacation accommodations rather than actual fire detection.

But there is opportunity here for CAP. Fire watch missions are nothing new to CAP, but I wonder how many Squadrons and Wings actually pursue them. For several years now, the Black Sheep Senior Squadron in Centennial, Colorado has had an agreement with Douglas County Office of Emergency Management for fire watch missions.

Director of Douglas County Emergency Management Tim Johnson sees the low cost of CAP aircraft as a real advantage to get him early detection intel. Even with the recent availability of the State’s two Pilatus PC-12 aircraft



Photo Credit: National Interagency Fire Center

equipped with the latest sensors, and available to fire cooperators for free, Johnson still seeks out CAP’s help.

The missions usually launch during fire season behind thunderstorms moving across the Front Range. Often, these storms produce a significant number of dry lightning strikes to the ground which are visible early as “smokes” to low flying aircraft trained in search techniques.

Early detection and accurate location reports can keep these fires small and allow fire mangers to engage in initial attack much

earlier in the fire cycle.

So, if your unit is not flying these missions, you may want to look into it. Your ES staff should have a conversation with your local emergency managers and County Sheriff about what we can offer and the considerable low cost.

This is just one more way CAP can serve our nation and our communities. 

Organization Established Dec. 1, 1941

CAP Observes 76 Years of 'Vigilant Service to Country and Community'

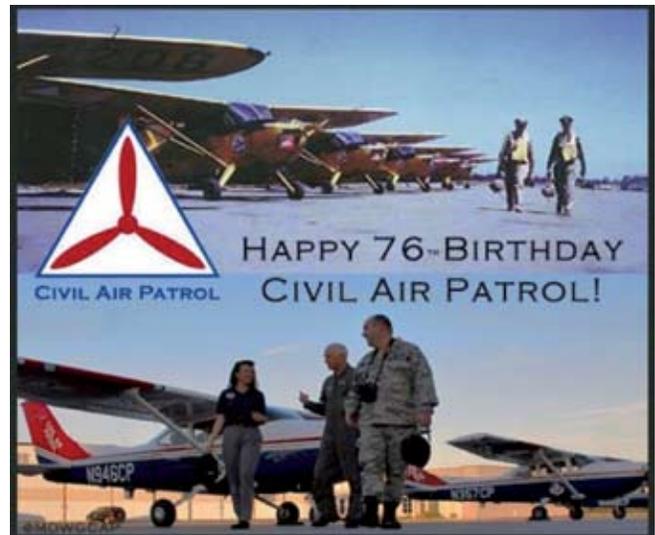
Civil Air Patrol's rich heritage of volunteer service is front and center today as the U.S. Air Force auxiliary celebrates its 76th anniversary.

"What a legacy we have!" exclaimed Maj. Gen. Mark Smith, CAP's national commander and chief executive officer. "Each year, on this special day, we are reminded of the sacrifices of CAP's earliest members, whose extraordinary contributions to America represent our proud history of vigilant service to country and community."

CAP was founded on Dec. 1, 1941, less than a week before the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor led to America's involvement in World War II. Its members soon proved their worth by conducting aerial patrols on their own, displaying heroism that discouraged and eventually stopped deadly German U-boat attacks along U.S. coastlines and waterways. The wartime service of CAP's "subchasers" helped stop the loss of American and Allied merchant vessels, saving the lives of untold thousands of sailors and countless millions of dollars of war materiel destined for the battlefields in Europe and the Pacific. In addition to coastal patrols, CAP crews assisted with other essential wartime missions on the home front, such as search and rescue, disaster relief, border patrol, forest fire patrol, target towing for military practice and transporting critical supplies. Members also managed hundreds of airports and trained aviators — many of them cadets — for future service in CAP and the military.

Those services provided by Civil Air Patrol's World War II-era veterans earned CAP a Congressional Gold Medal on Dec. 10, 2014. The medal — the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress — was presented to CAP on behalf of those founding members.

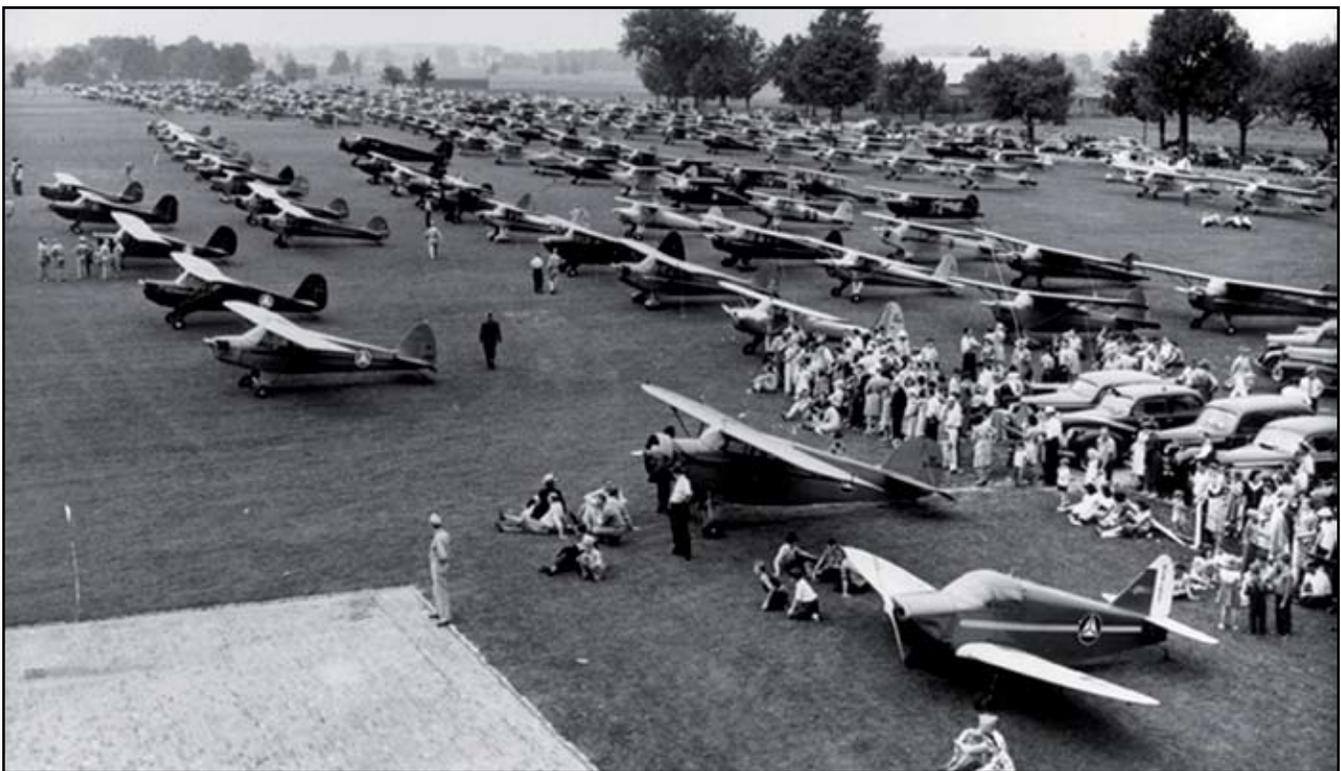
Their legacy lives on in today's all-volunteer force, which continues to contribute greatly to America's defense by providing aerial reconnaissance for homeland security, giving Air Force



fighter pilots practice in protecting America’s airspace and helping train U.S. military troops for service overseas.

CAP members also make a profound difference in more than 1,400 communities across the nation, saving lives through search and rescue and other emergency services and conducting aerospace education and youth programs that help develop the nation’s next generation of leaders.

In the past fiscal year, CAP was involved in 1,127 search and rescue missions and credited by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center with saving 110 lives. Of those saved, 105 were found with the help of CAP’s national cell phone forensics and radar analysis teams. In addition, CAP members helped emergency personnel determine critical infrastructure needs following Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria by providing nearly 500,000 aerial damage assessment photos.



“Every day, our citizen airmen continue to build on the terrific foundation forged by our forefathers,” Smith said. “Their contributions have helped Civil Air Patrol evolve into the premier public service organization that it is today.”

The 76th anniversary observance includes an annual “CAP Sabbath/Sunday” activity in which chaplains, character development instructors and other members are encouraged to wear their uniforms to their place of worship. The activity is scheduled for this weekend, Dec. 1-3. 🇺🇸

Reprinted from CAP.NEWS



FACT SHEET 2017

OUR MISSION

Supporting America's communities with emergency response, diverse aviation and ground services, youth development, and promotion of air, space and cyber power.



ABOUT CAP

Civil Air Patrol is congressionally chartered and operates as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. CAP performs services for the federal government as the official civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force and for states/local communities as a nonprofit organization. CAP is made up of eight geographic regions consisting of 52 wings (the 50 states, Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia). It is a strategic partner of the Air Force, serving as a member of its Total Force. CAP has three primary missions — Emergency Services, Cadet Programs and Aerospace Education.

Marking its 75th anniversary this year, Cadet Programs can track its beginnings to Oct. 1, 1942 — 10 months after the formation of CAP itself. More than one million cadets have benefited from the Cadet Programs' leadership, character development, fitness and aerospace/STEM education curriculum.



75

MEASURING OUR IMPACT

80

Saves an average of 80 lives per year

560

Operates one of the largest fleets of single-engine piston aircraft in the world, with 560 planes currently in the fleet

56,000

Consists of 1,437 squadrons and approximately 56,000 volunteer youth and adult members nationwide

104,500

Flew over 104,500 hours in 2016

167 million

Contributed nearly \$167 million in man-hours in past year, serving the disaster relief and emergency service needs of communities, states and the nation



CADET PROGRAMS

- ▲ Attracts nearly 24,000 members ages 12-20.
- ▲ Educates youth in four main program areas — leadership, aerospace, fitness and character development.
- ▲ Enriches school curricula through after-school programs.
- ▲ Offers orientation flights in powered and glider aircraft, as well as flight training scholarships.
- ▲ Provides activities and competitions for cadets at the local, state, regional and national levels.
- ▲ Presents opportunities for community

involvement through emergency service missions and color guard/drill teams.

- ▲ Challenges youth to be ambassadors for a drug-free lifestyle.
- ▲ Encourages cadets to “Aim High”; about 10 percent of each U.S. Air Force Academy class is comprised of CAP cadets.
- ▲ Allows cadets who have earned the Gen. Billy Mitchell Award the opportunity to enlist in the Air Force at a higher pay grade.
- ▲ Participates in the International Air Cadet Exchange program.
- ▲ Awards college scholarships in several disciplines.

EMERGENCY SERVICES

- ▲ Conducts 90 percent of inland search and rescue in the U.S. as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and other agencies.
- ▲ Coordinates Air Force-assigned missions through CAP National Operations Center at Maxwell AFB, Ala., at a cost of \$120-\$165 per flying hour.
- ▲ Trains more than 6,900 aircrew members and over 30,700 emergency responders to FEMA standards.
- ▲ Provides 450 chaplains and 500 character development instructors who minister to youth and adult members and help comfort survivors and victims of disasters.
- ▲ Performs aerial reconnaissance for

homeland security.

- ▲ Provides air intercept training, impact assessment, light transport, communications support and low-level route surveys for the Air Force.
- ▲ Provides disaster-relief photography and support to local, state and national agencies.
- ▲ Transports time-sensitive medical materials, blood products and body tissues when commercial resources are unavailable.
- ▲ Assists federal, state and local law enforcement agencies in the War on Drugs.
- ▲ Maintains an extensive nationwide VHF and HF communications network.



AEROSPACE EDUCATION

- ▲ Educates adult and cadet members and the community on the importance of aerospace.
- ▲ Develops, publishes and distributes national academic standards-based science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) aerospace education curricula for kindergarten through college classrooms, affecting about 200,000 K-12 students nationwide.
- ▲ Generates interest in STEM careers through aviation, space and technology focused activities and CAP “STEM Kits” associated with astronomy, flight simulations, model and remote-control aircraft, robotics, rocketry, weather, hydraulic engineering and computer programming.
- ▲ Provides educators with free educational programs, products and services, including airplane orientation flights.
- ▲ Offers grant and college credit opportunities for adult and teacher members.
- ▲ Provides aerospace support for educational conferences and workshops nationwide.



CAPabilities and Aircraft

INTRODUCTION

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is the Air Force Auxiliary and a national community service organization made up of professionally trained civilian volunteers. CAP has a modern, well-equipped fleet of aircraft, vehicles and equipment that is exercised and utilized daily. CAP is a locally-available talent and asset pool for federal, state and local government entities.

CAP'S BENEFITS

◆ Professionally trained National Incident Management System (NIMS) qualified personnel ◆ Rapid response ◆ Low cost ◆ Located in all 50 states plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia

CAP'S CUSTOMERS

◆ DoD ◆ FEMA ◆ USCG ◆ CBP ◆ USFS ◆ USGS ◆ EPA ◆ DEA ◆ BLM ◆ NOAA ◆ NWS ◆ NGA ◆ plus hundreds of state and local agencies

CAP ASSETS/RESOURCES AVAILABLE

◆ 31,000 trained volunteers ◆ 550 aircraft and over 900 vehicles owned by CAP
 ◆ Over 10,000 VHF-FM and HF interoperable radios ◆ Fixed digital nationwide radio network with over 500 repeaters ◆ 133 tactical (portable) repeaters
 ◆ 900 ground teams ◆ Over 500 chaplains

CAP MISSION TYPES

◆ Search and Rescue ◆ Disaster Response ◆ Drug Interdiction ◆ Law Enforcement Support ◆ Homeland Security ◆ Environmental Monitoring and Response
 ◆ Air Intercept and Radar Evaluation Targets ◆ Low-Level Route Surveys
 ◆ Fire Spotting ◆ Traffic Monitoring ◆ Ground and Aerial Digital Imaging & Reconnaissance ◆ Hyperspectral Imaging ◆ Endangered Species Tracking
 ◆ Air and Ground Communications Support

CAP MISSION DETAILS

◆ Airborne reconnaissance of border and coastal areas, ports and harbors, and critical infrastructure as "presence" missions; impact and damage assessment and recovery support for disaster areas
 ◆ Damage assessment and disaster recovery with trained ground teams able to augment civil and military authorities
 ◆ Aerial transportation of personnel, equipment, blood, tissue, organs and various customer-supplied sensor packages (subject to FAA reimbursement rules)
 ◆ Communications support, nationwide VHF-FM and HF capability to include fixed site and tactical (ground and air) repeaters
 ◆ CAP has ICS/NIMS trained emergency services personnel available to serve at all levels in the Incident Command System mission organization
 ◆ Chaplain and critical incident stress management support



Gippsland GA-8 (16)

Cruise speed 110-135 kts

Range 520-730 NM



Cessna 206 (22)



Cessna 182 (285)

Can operate with 2500' runway
 VHF AM and FM radio
 100 aircraft have satellite phones



Cessna 172 (195)



Citizens Serving Communities

Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs & Emergency Services

Have you ever wanted to serve your country, but weren't sure how?

In Civil Air Patrol, a humanitarian and educational nonprofit organization, you CAN serve the United States as a civilian volunteer of the Air Force's auxiliary. Join more than 54,000 members who expand and share their expertise with CAP in a wide variety of fields.



Cadet Programs

Youth 12 to 18 years old can develop leadership and technical skills, learn about aviation and enjoy training in search and rescue, model rocketry, physical fitness, sports, advanced technologies and much more.



Officer Program

Adult members are part of a team of volunteers from all walks of life. And, regardless of your background, you can choose to train in any CAP position. Opportunities are available in writing, flying, radio operations, teaching, emergency services, finance, law, and much, much more.



Civil Air Patrol...Citizens Serving Communities
United States Air Force Auxiliary

For more information go to www.gocivilairpatrol.com

Pikes Peak Regional Air Show

By Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP
RMR Director of Public Affairs

The Colorado Wing had a great exhibit at the Pikes Peak Regional Air Show the weekend of September 23-24 that attracted young and old and COWG members from the Pikes Peak Senior Squadron, Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron, Air Academy Cadet Squadron, Colorado Military Academy Squadron and other units volunteered their time to speak with the show's attendees about the Civil Air Patrol and to help them view the CAP aircraft on display. In addition, cadets from local squadrons volunteered to work at some of



the vendors' booths to help raise funds for CAP. Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate and the USAF Thunderbirds aerial demonstration team were unable to fly but there were a number of other military and historical aircraft on display and in the air for aviation enthusiasts to enjoy. Kudos to Maj. Mike Fassi COWG PAO and Lt. Jen Knellinger, Group III PAO and their team for putting together a great exhibit and an excellent presence for the Civil Air Patrol at the air show. 🇺🇸



REMEMBER HONOR TEACH



WREATHS
— across —
AMERICA

A boyhood visit to Arlington National Cemetery left a big impression on Morrill Worcester—one he never forgot. Decades later, in 1992, his company's surplus of 5,000 wreaths and his desire to have them placed at Arlington kicked off an annual tribute that went on quietly for over ten years. With national interest in the project having grown so greatly, in 2007 a dedicated group of volunteers formed Wreaths Across America as a non-profit 501(c)(3) to continue and expand the mission to **Remember, Honor, and Teach**.

The national theme for 2017 is: ***I'm an American. Yes, I am.***

Each December, on National Wreaths Across America Day wreath-laying ceremonies are held at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as over 1,200 additional locations across the country and abroad. Worcester Wreath Company (the wreath company that provides holiday greenery for L.L. Bean) makes and decorates holiday wreaths and places them on headstones as a tribute and remembrance to American heroes. Coordinated with the Cemetery Administration and the Maine State Society, adorns the white tombstones with evergreen wreaths and red bows to recognize sacrifices our Veterans and their families have made for our country.

Due to interest in this project from around the nation, the Arlington Wreath Project now includes over 1,100 participating locations in all 50 states, and

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

By Lt. Col. Gene Munson, CAP
COWG Asst. PAO



Cadets from the Mustang Cadet Squadron with (L-R) Ch. Lt. Col. Jeff Williams, RMR Chaplain, Col. Gary Tobey, COWG Govt. Relations Officer, Col. Celeste Gamache, COWG Commander and Lt. Col. Buddy McCormick, COWG Vice Commander participated in the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony at the Capitol. Photo by Lt. Col. Gene Munson, COWG Asst. PAO

24 national veteran cemeteries abroad. Each year, Wreaths Across America and a national network of volunteers lay over 540,000 memorial wreaths at 545 locations. A Moment of Silence will be held at ALL locations on December 16 at Noon EST. To learn more about ceremonies, at locations around the country, see the official website: <http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org>.

To honor our fallen heroes at Ft. Logan National Cemetery, the Civil Air Patrol held a kickoff event at the State Capital including speakers from the Gold Star Wives and Volunteer Coordinator for Wreaths Across America. The event included: a Color Guard of cadets from the Air Academy Squadron in Colorado Springs, CO, singing of the National Anthem, moment of silence for the fallen heroes, and a symbolic wreath laying, which will be placed on Saturday December 16th during the actual wreath laying event at Ft. Logan. Volunteers will begin laying wreaths at 10 a.m. and will continue until all wreaths are placed. 

Achievements

Congratulations to the Cadets and Senior Members listed below. The Colorado Wing is proud to acknowledge the dedication, determination and hard work these individuals demonstrate by earning these important milestones in the spirit Civil Air Patrol seeks in each of its members.



Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award

C/Col. Nicholas Timpe, Boulder Composite Squadron



Gen. Ira C. Eaker Award

C/Lt Col Matthew Claar, Air Academy Cadet Squadron
C/Lt Col Jordan Akins, Douglas Cadet Squadron



Amelia Earhart Award

C/Capt Alexis Clements, Highlander Composite Squadron
C/Capt Leighton Wright, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
C/Capt Charles Ross, North Valley Composite Squadron
C/Capt Bethani Hartman, North Valley Composite Squadron
C/Capt Nathanael Leavitt, Thompson Valley Composite Squadron
C/Capt Anna Stoltz, Thompson Valley Composite Squadron
C/Capt Isaac Stone, Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron
C/Capt Garret Tolman, Dakota Ridge Composite Squadron
C/Capt Ashley Shuler, Broomfield Composite Squadron
C/Capt Shane Lindsay, Thompson Valley Composite Squadron
C/Capt Matthew Warren Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron
C/Capt Richard Martin, Mustang Cadet Squadron



Gen. Billy Mitchell Award

C/2nd Lt Eliasam Sosa, Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Wyatt Bohren, Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Kedrick Schmidt, Mustang Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Robert Schermerhorn, Mile High Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Rachel Keller, Montrose Composite Squadron
C/2nd Lt Avrami Olesky, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Lucas Russell, Thompson Valley Composite Squadron
C/2nd Lt Caleb Han, Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Allie Windham, Montrose Composite Squadron
C/2nd Lt Lincoln Roch, Broomfield Composite Squadron
C/2nd Lt Matthieu Shippy, Douglas Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Trevor Schlieman, North Valley Composite Squadron
C/2nd Lt Aaron Rainey, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Louis Stein, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Ryan McGuffin, Mustang Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Terren Clark, Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Hannah Lee, Montrose Composite Squadron

C/2nd Lt Taylor Metzger, Banning Lewis Ranch Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Bassly-El Daba, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Harrison Kairalla, Mesa Verde Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Eric Yi, Vance Brand Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Benjamin Bi, Vance Brand Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Eugene Martin, Mustang Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Brett Hubert, Parker Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Westin Marsh, Montrose Composite Squadron
C/2nd Lt Nathan Leusink, Air Academy Cadet Squadron
C/2nd Lt Eion Bowman, Mustang Cadet Squadron



Paul E. Garber Award

Lt Col Mark Myers, Group 3 Headquarters
Lt Col Joseph Stanford, Vance Brand Cadet Squadron
Lt Col Nathan Van Dam, Broomfield Composite Squadron
1st Lt Sally Williams, Broomfield Composite Squadron
Lt Col Bruce Wright, North Valley Composite Squadron



Grover Loening Award

Capt Dale Casebolt, Valkyrie Cadet Squadron
Capt Donald Crisman, Mile High Cadet Squadron
Maj Charles Danley, Banning Lewis Ranch Cadet Squadron
Capt Gregory Deemer, North Valley Composite Squadron
Maj Luis Gamarra, Jefferson County Senior Squadron
2nd Lt Keneth Perry, Banning Lewis Ranch Cadet Squadron



Gill Robb Wilson Award

Maj Mary Cast, Foothills Cadet Squadron
Lt Col Gary Falls, Colorado Wing Headquarters
Lt Col Floyd McCormick, Colorado Wing Headquarters
Lt Col Andrew Rajca, Evergreen Cadet Squadron



Specialty Track Master Rating

Maj Justin Holloway, Cadet Programs, Mile High Cadet Squadron
Maj Kristine McGovern, Cadet Programs, Colorado Wing Hq
Lt Col Christopher Roach, Health Services, Cortez Senior Squadron

Valkyrie Squadron Serves at United Veterans Committee Awards Ceremony

*By Maj. Trevor Munson, CAP
Valkyrie Cadet Squadron, PAO*

Valkyrie Cadet Squadron was invited to the 45th annual awards banquet for the United Veterans Committee of Colorado (UVC) to assist with their event. The cadets and senior members were put to work checking guests in and showing them where their tables were located. During the ceremonies, the Valkyrie Color Guard presented the colors after the invocation and retired the colors at its end. Music was presented by the U.S. Army Band.

During the event, there were several esteemed guests. Past Civil Air Patrol National Commander, Brig. Gen. James “Jay” Bobick was the master of ceremonies, and introduced the event. He also serves on the chair of the UVC. Several federal legislators were honored, including Senators Michael Bennet and Cory Gardner, and Representatives Ed Perlmutter, Mike Coffman, and Doug Lamborn.

The keynote speaker of the event was Scott Blackburn, the Interim Deputy Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. He spoke about the completion of the Veteran Medical Facility located in Aurora and



Valkyrie Cadet Squadron Color Guard

the personal interest he has with Veteran’s benefits and health-care, since as a wounded Veteran himself, he is also a customer of the Veterans Affairs.

A falconer from HawkQuest who has brought a bald eagle for the past 3-years was also present to provide some entertainment and for fundraising pictures with Veterans. During the National Anthem, the bird spreads its wings, and everyone was awed at the symbol of our country and our freedom.

This event is an annual event that Valkyrie Cadet Squadron does to Support and honor Veteran’s Awards of Achievements. This year makes over 10 years that the squadron has been invited, and as expected, performed admirably. The attendees were all appreciative of the assistance that the cadets offered, and impressed at the performance of the color guard. The squadron is preparing for next year’s awards ceremony by training new color guard members. 🇺🇸