

# ARKANSAS WING

## Wing's Service to State Remains Strong

The Arkansas Wing experienced some dramatic changes during 2020 while strengthening its partnership with the state and building a lasting relationship with the Arkansas Air National Guard. Ten aircrew members and three Civil Air Patrol aircraft from the wing participated in Falcon Virgo, a Department of Defense exercise designed to train U.S. Army units tasked with protecting domestic airspace.

The wing's seven aircraft and flight crews provided valuable information to the state's emergency management agencies. Aircrews assisted the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission with night flights in six counties, conducting a survey to gather information about night hunting and compliance with commission regulations. The wing flew 20 sorties in support of the Air National Guard 188th Wing's low-level route survey, verifying the position and height of towers and other obstructions that might pose as a danger to low-flying aircraft.

CAP's mission to provide aerospace education, both within and outside the organization, is alive and well in Arkansas. Heralded as a model for CAP

wings nationwide, the Arkansas Wing has supported STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education in providing classroom tools to educator members in the state.

While activities have been affected by COVID-19 restrictions, the wing conducted an active cadet program in 2020, streaming squadron meetings online and continuing to attract new

members. The wing accomplished training and missions by using innovative methods to maintain operational readiness.

In March, Jonesboro was hit with a tornado, and the wing provided valuable support to emergency response personnel by providing 3D aerial images of the impacted area.



## Arkansas Wing 2020 Statistics

#### **Volunteer Members**

243 adult members192 cadets79 aircrew personnel301 emergency responders

## **Squadrons**

12 locations statewide

#### **Aircraft**

8 single engine

#### **Vehicles**

12 vehicles

## **Interoperable Communications**

9 VHF/FM repeaters 95 VHF/FM stations 27 HF stations

#### **Missions**

3 search and rescue missions 5 finds\*

\* Includes finds credited with national team support

1 disaster relief mission

6 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flight missions

5 other Air Force support missions 17 training missions 2 other state support missions

1 other mission in support of partner agencies and organizations or local municipalities

## Significant Events Supported in Fiscal Year 2020

Operation Falcon Virgo; Arkansas Game and Fish Commission night hunting support; Jonesboro tornado support

## **COVID-19 Mission Support**

Distributing test kits and PPE; Transporting completed test kits

### **Cadet Flying**

109 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flights

#### **Total Hours Flown**

953

### **Financial**

\$67,929.92 in state funding \$1,171,798 value of wing's volunteer hours

#### **National Commander**

Maj. Gen. Mark E. Smith msmith@cap.gov

### **Region Commander**

Col. Joe R. Smith JSmith@CAP.gov

#### Wing Commander

Col. Robert M. Allison III rallison@cap.gov

### Gov. Relations Advisor

Capt. Cliff McKinney jmckinney@cap.gov

## Wing Info

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#### Website

www.arwg.cap.gov



## **DID YOU KNOW?**

The Arkansas Wing debuted a new emblem in 2020. The completely redesigned emblem features a broad blue bar representing the Arkansas River, the state's major geographical feature. The river also harkens to the wing's first major mission, carried out in response to the Arkansas River Floods of 1943. The blue bar contains three diamonds, signifying the state gemstone; CAP's three core missions (emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs) and Arkansas' role as the third CAP wing by charter number (03), still represented in the wing call signs for aircraft and vehicles; the state's role as the third state created from the Louisiana Purchase and the three nations that ruled over it before statehood in 1836 (Spain, France and the U.S.); and the CAP cadet program's goal of moving cadets to achieve the three diamonds of the Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award. The emblem features the original wing emblem's roundel design. The coloration pattern and field of stars reflects the Arkansas state flag and the colors of the U.S. and Air Force

