



U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY

NATIONAL CAPITAL WING

CIVIL AIR PATROL

Members' service extends beyond Washington, D.C.

The National Capital Wing conducts important missions in emergency services and civil support, aerospace education and cadet programs in the Washington, D.C., metro area. It is the operational component of Civil Air Patrol when conducting missions for federal, state and local customers, and it includes local squadrons throughout the District of Columbia, Fairfax and Arlington counties; the city of Alexandria in Virginia; and Prince George and Montgomery counties in Maryland.

Accomplishments for 2012 included:

Emergency Services

- Accomplished 100 percent of all assigned missions.
- Field tested several new, innovative technologies and processes for air defense enhancements over the nation's capital.
- Conducted 20 homeland security missions over Washington with 89 flights and staffed District of Columbia's Emergency Operations Center during events of national significance, such as the State of the Union.
- Carried out all operations with no accidents, greatly exceeding standard operational risk management safety

requirements during missions.

Aerospace Education

- Participated in the U.S. Science Festival and YMCA Thingamajig Invention Convention.
- Cadet Lt. Col. Michael R. Poussard earned the Frank G.

Brewer Sr. Civil Air Patrol Memorial Aerospace Award and was also honored as the Air Force Association's CAP Aerospace Cadet of the Year.

Cadet Programs

- Cadet Col. William B. Vician earned the prestigious Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award, CAP's highest cadet honor, by demonstrating excellence in leadership, character, fitness and aerospace.
- 80 percent of all squadrons met national standards as quality cadet units.
- The wing's color guard competed in CAP's National Cadet Competition after winning the Middle East Region event.
- Produced the nation's top cadet noncommissioned officer, Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Stephon J. Tonko, and top cadet programs officer, Lt. Col. Janon D. Ellis, as recognized by CAP.



Maj. Jerusha McLeod of National Capital Wing headquarters operates camera equipment in-flight during a post-Hurricane Sandy damage assessment mission.

2012 Statistics

Volunteer Members:

- 224 adult members
- 167 cadets
- 243 voting-age members
- 67 aircrew personnel
- 213 emergency responders

Squadrons:

- 8 locations statewide

Aircraft:

- 3 single engine

Vehicles:

- 13 vehicles

Interoperable Communications:

- 5 VHF/FM repeaters
- 61 VHF/FM stations
- 6 HF stations

Missions:

- 1 search and rescue mission
- 1 find
- 20 other state support missions

Cadet Flying:

- 127 cadets flown

Total Hours Flown:

- 993

Financial:

- \$1.6M value of wing's volunteer hours

- **Wing Commander** Col. Richard J. Cooper Jr. (cc@natcapwg.cap.gov)
- **Government Relations Advisor** Maj. Catherine M. Collom (collom.c@natcapwg.cap.gov)
- **National Commander** Maj. Gen. Charles L. Carr Jr. (ccarr@cap.gov)
- **Region Commander** Col. Larry J. Ragland (mer_cc@mer.cap.gov)

Congressionally chartered mission No. 1

Emergency Services

No strangers to serving their communities in crisis, dedicated Civil Air Patrol members across America once again answered the call in 2012, responding to tornadoes, wildfires, hurricanes and tsunamis throughout the year. Their service was most notable in response to Hurricane Sandy's onslaught on the East Coast in October. The superstorm, which was followed by an early winter blast, left more than 100 people dead, millions without power or potable water and thousands homeless.

Working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, states and other relief agencies, CAP's unpaid professionals representing 20 wings from the Great Lakes, Middle East and Northeast regions helped make sure the hungry were fed and the cold sheltered, as other CAP officers, noncommissioned officers and cadets did earlier in the year when Hurricane Isaac struck the Gulf Coast.

Sandy marked what turned out to be a significant milestone

An F-16 maneuvers to intercept a Civil Air Patrol Cessna during a Fertile Keynote exercise near the nation's capital in August. As part of its expanding homeland security missions, CAP aircrews flew more than 2,000 hours during air defense exercises in 2012 helping prepare fighter units across the country.



in the organization's 71-year history. CAP aircrews in the skies along with image evaluation teams on the ground, including officers, noncommissioned officers and cadets whose own lives were shattered by Sandy, captured and processed more than 158,000 photos of the hurricane's destruction — one of the largest missions in CAP's history. The images

helped provide FEMA as well as state and local responders with an accurate picture of the damage and where help was needed.

In all, CAP supported 52 requests for assistance from federal, state and local authorities in disaster relief operations during 2012. As the U.S. Air Force auxiliary, CAP also helped save 32

lives across the nation using such high-tech tools as in-flight video equipment as well as radar and cell phone forensics software developed by CAP members. In addition, CAP worked with the Department of Defense, flying 2,017 hours of air defense intercept training missions to help prepare fighter units across the country. Aircrews conducting counterdrug and drug interdiction operations flew 8,362 hours helping law enforcement agencies seize more than \$491.4 million in illegal drugs and currency, leading to 632 arrests.



Capt. Rheta Perkins, airborne photographer with Civil Air Patrol's North Carolina Wing, prepares to take photos of damage wrought by Hurricane Sandy. Aerial imaging crews like the one Perkins was a part of took tens of thousands of damage assessment photos for government agencies while flying some 696 sorties and logging 1,407 flight hours above the shredded East Coast.

Aerial images like this billowing smoke in the Manitou Springs area of Colorado, taken in rough air from 13,500 feet by a CAP aircrew on fire watch, were some of the first of what later became the Waldo Canyon Fire in 2012. The massive fire near Colorado Springs, coupled with 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 Colorado's history. More than 200 CAP members worked both in the air and on the ground in response to the fires.



This aerial image taken by a CAP aircrew reveals tidal surge damage to homes in New Jersey. Last year the photo review process was streamlined through crowdsourcing, using 6,000 volunteers, many of them CAP members, to assess 158,012 images placed on a website created for that purpose. The images' depictions of storm damage were rated as light, moderate and severe, providing response agencies faster, more accurate evaluations of Hurricane Sandy's destruction.

Congressionally chartered mission No. 2

Cadet Programs

Civil Air Patrol inspires youth to be responsible citizens who embody the organization's core values of respect, integrity, volunteer service and excellence.

In school- or community-based squadrons, cadets ages 12-20 benefit from a complete curriculum that teaches leadership, physical fitness, character development and aerospace education. Cadets serve their communities by helping with CAP's humanitarian efforts. In addition, they gain an appreciation for America's role in the global community by serving as goodwill ambassadors abroad or hosting aviation-minded youth from around the world.

Cadets attend weekly meetings and participate in weekend activities once a month. Each summer, they have the opportunity to participate in one or more of 30 national cadet events, which offer hands-on

training and activities covering subjects as diverse as U.S. Air Force career familiarization, aerospace technology, leadership development and flight training.

As a testament to its relevance and appeal, the cadet program has grown more than 25 percent over the past four years, from 21,000 cadets in 2008 to 26,384 in 2012. The opportunity to fly is a major attraction for cadets; 29,856 cadet orientation flights were conducted in CAP planes last year (some received more than one flight).



Civil Air Patrol cadets experience flight firsthand through the efforts of CAP adult volunteers — aviation enthusiasts eager to share their love of flying. Often, it is through CAP that a cadet receives the first flight of his or her life. Aviation education is delivered in both the classroom and the cockpit. Cadets gain an understanding of the complex forces that cause an aircraft to achieve lift and study other fundamental topics, such as navigation, engines and aerospace history.



Eager to show off their aerospace knowledge, physical fitness and precision, cadet drill teams and color guards participate in competitions at the state, region and national levels. Rising to the occasion with good sportsmanship, cadets amaze spectators with their skill and *esprit de corps*. The competitions are varied, but this activity is all about character. Each year, 144 cadets from CAP's eight regions earn the right to compete for national honors, and about 800 more compete locally.



Civil Air Patrol develops youth through self-paced study of the art of leadership. Cadets learn how to lead through formal classroom instruction and a laboratory of hands-on experiences where they apply leadership principles to real-world challenges. Through a graduated curriculum, they first learn to follow, then to lead small groups, ultimately experiencing command and executive-level leadership, advancing in rank and earning honors along the way. Topics include how to think critically, communicate effectively, make good decisions, motivate others and manage conflict.



National Flight Academies are among 30 annual cadet activities that help mold the next generation of citizens through top-notch instruction that emphasizes hard work, self-discipline and teamwork.

Congressionally chartered mission No. 3

Aerospace Education

Civil Air Patrol's award-winning aerospace education program promotes aerospace history, flight principles, careers and relevance in today's world. CAP's more than 26,000 cadet members as well as about 220,000 K-12 students nationwide benefit from the program, composed of a plethora of inquiry-based products aligned with national standards of learning that perpetuate an interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects and professions. Both cadets and teachers are given orientation flights that encourage real-world application of skills and investigation of potential STEM careers. Cadets also receive a variety of employment exploration opportunities in partnership with aerospace business, industry and educational institutions that are helping prepare the country's workforce to maintain national security well into the future.

The Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron is the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot IV national champion in the All Service Division — the second straight year CAP has won this top honor. More than 1,000 teams entered the 2012 competition. Also, the South Dakota Wing's Big Sioux Composite Squadron won the inaugural Cyber Forensics Challenge in 2012.



The Teacher Orientation Program Flight initiative provides teachers and administrators the opportunity to experience firsthand the excitement of flying while also increasing their aeronautical knowledge. TOP Flight ignites aviation enthusiasm that these educators transfer into the classrooms of more than 15,000 students annually.



Civil Air Patrol offers more than 30 free aerospace education products and programs designed to generate interest in STEM careers for about 250,000 cadets and K-12 students nationwide. The Aerospace Education Excellence program includes 150 inquiry-based activities easily accomplished within the squadron or classroom. Subjects such as robotics, rocketry, remote-controlled flying, cyber security, satellite imagery, astronomy, math and science help inspire young people to pursue STEM careers.



The K-6 Aerospace Connections in Education program provides engaging, cost-free, grade-specific, aerospace-themed academics, character education and physical fitness lessons for living a healthy, drug-free life. Ninety-one percent of the teacher participants register again for the following academic year. In 2012, more than 18,000 students and 700 teachers in 92 schools in 27 states participated in the ACE program.