



**Civil Air Patrol**  
U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

# MAINE WING

## Wing Assists State with COVID-19 Missions

Maine Wing cadets and senior members helped out at the York Hospital drive-through COVID-19 testing center from May-July. Two to four worked eight-hour shifts on weekdays, with a total of 24 participating.

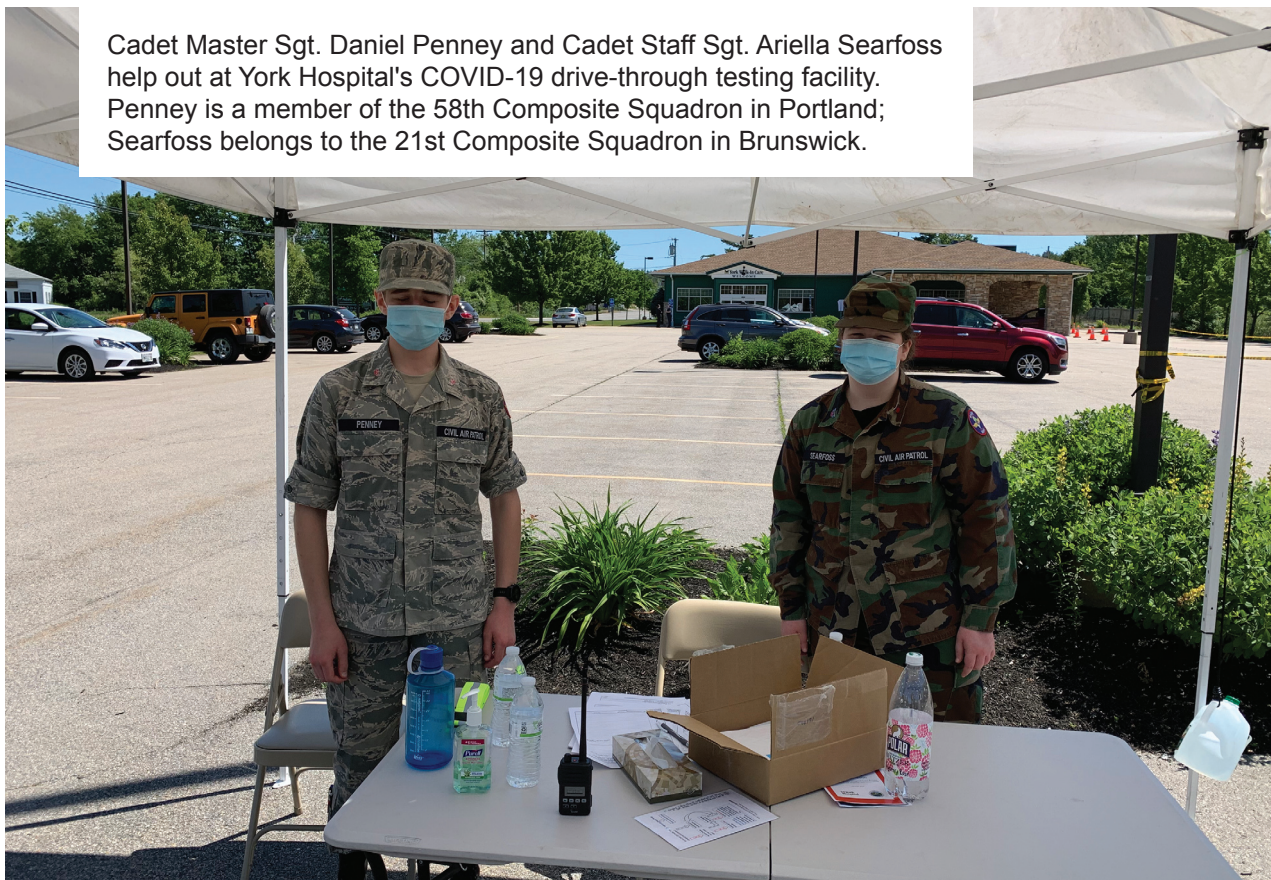
"I am extremely proud of the dedication of both cadets and officers volunteering their time," said Col. Blain A. Cote, wing commander. "Some of the members worked every day for weeks helping out. If it wasn't for that dedication, this testing site would have not worked out so well."

Seven of the wing's nine squadrons and the Brunswick Flight participated in the mission. "We even had one cadet from the Bangor squadron come from 3½ hours away to work, and her parents drove her. That's dedication," Cote said.

"It's been a tough year for Maine Wing cadets and officers — no face-to-face meetings or social gatherings," he said. "But performing missions during this pandemic was important to help people in time of need. This was the biggest CAP mission since World War II."

Toward the end of 2020, the wing was starting to perform more missions for the Maine Emergency Management Agency, delivering personal protective equipment (PPE) and testing kits to first responders. On Dec. 1, members delivered 14,500 cloth masks to emergency workers in Oxford County.

Cadet Master Sgt. Daniel Penney and Cadet Staff Sgt. Ariella Searfoss help out at York Hospital's COVID-19 drive-through testing facility. Penney is a member of the 58th Composite Squadron in Portland; Searfoss belongs to the 21st Composite Squadron in Brunswick.



# Maine Wing 2020 Statistics

## Volunteer Members

209 adult members  
142 cadets  
33 aircrew personnel  
215 emergency responders

## Squadrons

13 locations statewide

## Aircraft

5 single engine

## Vehicles

13 vehicles

## Interoperable Communications

10 VHF/FM repeaters  
91 VHF/FM stations  
28 HF stations

## Missions

5 search and rescue missions  
4 finds\*  
\* Includes finds credited with national team support  
1 disaster relief mission  
1 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flight mission  
3 other Air Force support missions  
11 training missions

## Significant Event Supported in Fiscal Year 2020

Wreaths Across America, with members making the annual trek from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery

## COVID-19 Mission Support

Distributing food and critical supplies

## Cadet Flying

50 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flights

## Total Hours Flown

430

## Financial

\$15,000 in state funding  
\$1,040,370 value of wing's volunteer hours

## National Commander

Maj. Gen. Mark E. Smith  
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## Region Commander

Col. Jack J. Ozer  
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## Wing Commander

Col. Blain A. Cote  
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## Gov. Relations Advisor

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## Wing Info

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## Website

[www.mewg.cap.gov](http://www.mewg.cap.gov)

## DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ Before World War II, Maine newspaperman Guy P. Gannett combined with pilot and minister Gill Robb Wilson and publisher Thomas H. Beck to propose Wilson's Civil Air Defense Services program as a model for organizing the nation's civilian aviation resources. Their proposal for a Civil Air Patrol was approved by the Commerce, Navy and War departments in November 1941, and CAP National Headquarters opened its doors in December. Gannett served as Maine's first CAP wing commander until June 1, 1949.
- ✓ The 38th Composite Squadron in Bar Harbor can trace its roots back to World War II at CAP Coastal Patrol Base 20. Submarine detection classes were held in a pilots' lounge after each dawn patrol along the coastline between Rockland and Eastport.

