

OKLAHOMA WING

Wing Stands Mission-Ready Through Pandemic

Despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Oklahoma Wing stepped up to provide invaluable support by providing damage assessment photographs when severe weather struck eastern Oklahoma in the spring.

And once the wing was able to resume flight training operations, squadrons found creative ways to continue training new aircrew members and maintain mission proficiency while adhering to strict COVID-19 mitigation protocols.

Individual units were also forced to be creative in conducting their regular weekly meetings. Virtual platforms were used to continue to provide training for cadets and senior members. Monthly wing staff meetings followed the same procedures. In addition, virtual incident command posts helped conduct several missions during the year, providing a new type of interface for mission staff.

The ongoing challenges arising during the pandemic have proven to be a catalyst for change and a real incentive to take a hard look at the way training and operations have previously been conducted. Many of the practices put into place in order to safely operate during the pandemic will become the wing's normal way of conducting operations.



An Oklahoma Wing aircrew – (from left) 2nd Lt. Jason Zondor, mission observer trainee; Senior Member Kristina Chilton, mission scanner trainee; and Lt. Col. David E. McCollum, mission pilot – follows COVID-19 mitigation protocols.

Oklahoma Wing 2020 Statistics

Volunteer Members

402 adult members
315 cadets
90 aircrew personnel
437 emergency responders

Squadrons

17 locations statewide

Aircraft

10 single engine
1 glider

Vehicles

20 vehicles

Interoperable Communications

13 VHF/FM repeaters
209 VHF/FM stations
29 HF stations

Missions

4 search and rescue missions
 3 finds*
* Includes finds credited with national team support
1 disaster relief mission
14 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flight missions
6 other Air Force support missions
18 training missions
2 other state support missions
9 other missions in support of partner agencies and organizations or local municipalities

Significant Events Supported in Fiscal Year 2020

Muskogee storm damage assessment; tornado damage assessment; Falcon Virgo

COVID-19 Mission Support

Distributing food and critical supplies

Cadet Flying

249 CAP, AFROTC and AFJROTC cadet orientation flights

Total Hours Flown

1,157

Financial

\$32,625 in state funding
\$2,099,825 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. David L. Roberts Jr.
droberts@cap.gov

Government Relations Advisor

Lt. Col. David E. McCollum
david.e.mccollum@okwgcap.org

Wing Info

3800 A Ave., Room 303
Tinker AFB, OK 73145-9111
405-736-6044

Website

www.okwgcap.org

DID YOU KNOW?

- ✓ The Oklahoma Wing has the only unit in CAP authorized to re-enact the Tomb of the Unknowns ceremony every Memorial Day weekend.
- ✓ The Oklahoma Wing has gained a seat with Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management and annually flies hundreds of hours for disaster relief.
- ✓ The wing biennially provides support to the Star Spangled Salute Air & Space Show at Tinker Air Force Base.

