

Senior Member of the Year

Colonel Brian W. Schmuck

Kentucky Wing

Col Brian W. Schmuck originally joined Civil Air Patrol as a cadet in 1995 in Indian Wing, earning the Amelia Earhart Award prior to converting to senior member status in 1999. He has held a variety of duty assignments at the squadron, group, wing, and region levels most recently culminating in his selection as the Kentucky Wing Commander. Col Schmuck holds the three master ratings, two senior ratings, a host of Emergency Services qualifications including Incident Commander 1, and has completed Level V of the Senior Member Education and Training program.



During the past year he is led Indiana Wing through the COVID-19 pandemic as the focal point for the planning task force. As incident commander, he served over 60 continuous days leading the response mission that ultimately provided more than 1.5 million meals to residents, requiring more than 3,000 miles driven, over 100 members participating, more than 7,000 volunteer hours, and saving the state nearly \$250 million. Indiana Wing was recognized for its efforts through articles in the *Air Force Magazine* and other national media outlets, including CAP.News and the *Civil Air Patrol Volunteer*.

Chairman of the COVID-19 remobilization team, Col Schmuck developed relationships with the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, and Indiana Army National Guard resulting in CAP being considered a resource for response efforts and recognized by the Indiana National Guard by inclusion on a commemorative coin.

Through the Aerospace Connections in Education program, Col Schmuck built on the relationship with the local Air Force Association (AFA) chapter to develop a program in collaboration with the Thrive Afterschool Program, awarded the 2020 CAP National ACE Collaborative Program of Light Award. He also crafted CAP's Adopt-a-Classroom program and serves as its national ambassador.

Serving as the Chief of Staff for Missions of Indiana Wing, he oversaw the Cadet Programs directorate and served as Commandant of Cadets for over 20 cadets at the only U.S. encampment during the pandemic.

He revived the Indiana Wing Cadet Advisory Council by serving as its senior advisor; the Wing CAC resumed regular business as a result.

Col Schmuck connected aerospace and STEM professionals to CAP Cadets through YouTube interviews, and in September 2020, was a co-presenter at the CAP virtual National Conference.