



# The Fly-By

A Quarterly Newsletter of the  
**Southwest Region**  
October, 2013



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**The Fly-By** is published quarterly on the first month of each quarter. Deadline for submissions are:

1Q – 20 December

2Q – 20 March

3Q – 20 June

4Q – 20 September

**Text** may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred) or as a document attached to an e-mail (a text file or, if generated in a word processor, saved in .RTF format).

**Images** must be in JPG format, un-retouched, un-cropped, and at least 1200 by 900 pixels.

**Credits:** In all cases, please give full grade, name and unit of assignment of

1. The article's author,
2. Photographer, and
3. Any person mentioned in the article.

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Send submissions to the Editor at:

[awoodgate@austin.rr.com](mailto:awoodgate@austin.rr.com)

Message size limit: 20 MB

## **News Highlights From Around the Region**

In the second quarter of 2013, SWR continued to advise and support its member wings in the accomplishment of their mission.

To avoid errors or omissions, I've asked each wing PAO to send in a summary of notable events. They are posted below in the order in which they were received, with my thanks.

**New Mexico Wing** received an Outstanding rating in its OPSEVAL in September, with 11 of 16 categories rated Outstanding, and the rest either Highly Successful or Successful. As the OPSEVAL concluded, the wing was called upon to begin flying numerous missions to support agencies responding to an almost-unprecedented, extended period of heavy rains and major flooding throughout the state. Wing personnel participated in a New Mexico Aviation Career Expo held at Kirtland AFB, providing information about aerospace careers to middle- and high-school students.

**Louisiana Wing** held its Annual Cadet Encampment at Barksdale Air Force Base in July. A total of 86 cadets from Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas attended. In August, a Flight Clinic and Rodeo was held in Lafayette. In September, cadets and senior members from Southeast Louisiana participated in a Hot Air Balloon festival in Baton Rouge. Also in September, cadets from Southwest Louisiana participated in an Air Show at Chennault Airport in Lake Charles. In June, Major John Zaremba, CAP/USAF Louisiana state director retired.

**Texas Wing** conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

**Oklahoma Wing** conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training

and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

**Arkansas Wing** conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

**Arizona Wing** conducted emergency services training at all levels, responded to requests for assistance at the local and state level, provided opportunities for senior member professional development, conducted organized cadet training and development, and participated in community service initiatives. Squadron members met regularly, and unit commanders recognized individual achievement by presenting promotion certificates to cadets and senior members, as applicable. Flight training was emphasized for both pilots and aircrew members. In keeping with national directives, safety was emphasized in planning and executing training and missions.

To everyone, our congratulations. 🇺🇸

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### **Safety is Priority One**

Please read the latest issue of The Safety Beacon for timely, seasonal advice at <http://members.gocivilairpatrol.com/safety/>

Have you taken the **Operational Risk Management** Basic, Intermediate and Advanced online courses? Please visit: [http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety\\_education/](http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety_education/)

- Safety must be on every CAP member's mind, at all times.
- Before engaging in any CAP activity, a safety briefing must be conducted.
- Don't miss the Safety Specialty Track training posted at <http://www.capmembers.com/safety/safety-newsletters-2248/>
- **Safety is our Number One Priority.**

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### **How to Submit News Items for this Newsletter**

#### ▪ **Which Articles Are Best?**

Ideally, articles should deal with a wing-wide event, preferably conducted in conjunction or coordinated with another wing (or better yet across regions).

Individual articles dealing with a subject that is of interest to a broad audience qualify as well.

Articles bylined by cadets, especially when the subject is of interest to a broad audience, are also welcome.

#### ▪ **Do I Submit Photos?**

Articles with no photos may not be selected for publication. Do not embed images in a Word document. Instead, send in the original, un-retouched, full-size digital photos as attachments.

#### ▪ **If You Have Article Ideas or Suggestions**

If you have an article in mind but are not sure whether it would be acceptable, you need some guidance in writing it, or you would like to comment on the material published here, please feel free to contact the editor: [awoodgate@austin.rr.com](mailto:awoodgate@austin.rr.com). 🇺🇸



**Top:** Cadet Shane C. Dusold (left) and Jarrod T. Sheves (center) pay attention while CAP Instructor Pilot Lt. Col. Rayford K. Brown explains to them how to properly get into a Cessna 172.

**Below:** CAP IP Charlie Watson explains how the aircraft is flown in the pattern to Cadets Eduardo Esteban and Skylar Harbin

## ***Southwest Region's Cadet Powered Flight Academy***

*by 2nd Lt. Barry Fogerty, CAP*

SHAWNEE, Okla – On July 6, 2013, 24 cadets, 12 instructor pilots and nine staff members from all over the nation arrived in Shawnee to start the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Cadet Flight Academy Powered, Southwest Region, an event organized, led and taught under Oklahoma Wing supervision.

Cadets came to Shawnee from Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Instructor Pilots (IP) came from Colorado, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas. CAP aircraft flew in from Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico,







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Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas.

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**Left:** Cadet Abigail Votava, from Colorado Springs, Colorado sets up her landing of a Cessna 172 at Shawnee, Oklahoma's municipal airport.

**Below:** Cadet Jason Blanco, from Oklahoma City, works through the pre landing checklist, flying downwind at the Shawnee Regional Municipal airport while in the landing pattern. He is busy flying the airplane as he communicates on the radio with traffic in the area.

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Lt. Col. Ed Angala,  
Director of Operations  
for the Powered Flight

Academy, said, "It takes the cooperation of all CAP Wings around the nation to put on an event like the Powered Flight Academy as well as the support of local squadron members who help with the logistics of an event that involves 60 hungry people."

Over 10 days packed with activities, cadets will receive ground school instruction during the hot hours of the day, while getting flight instruction when the day is cooler. The Academy is housed and fed on the Oklahoma Baptist University campus.

During those 10 days, each cadet will receive 10 hours of flight instruction on the air. Some cadets will get the thrill of solo flight during the Academy, but only after their instructors have judged them ready to take responsibility for flying the aircraft and are willing to entrust an expensive airplane to their care. All come back from their solo flight with a big smile and a dose of self-confidence that will stay with them for as long as they live. Forty hours of various types of flying are required before taking a Federal Aviation Administration oral exam and flight test for them to become private pilots.

Angala expressed his appreciation for local food and restaurant vendors such as McDonalds, Sonic, Denny's, Whataburger and IHOP who made available food at reduced pricing. Hiland Dairy in Chandler donated milk, chocolate milk and orange juice.



Very quickly, the cadets took to their new routine, settling into a dorm room, attending organizational orientations, meeting their flight instructors, starting ground school orientation and training and taking initial instructional flights. Selected as the best and brightest from CAP wings from all over the United States, they adapted to the pace with relative ease.

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CAP Instructor Pilot Maj. Jon Phelps shows how to check the position lights during aircraft pre-flight inspection to Cadets Andy Goodwin and Ben Hook.

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The cadets' day starts at 6:00 a.m. and can easily go through 10:00 p.m., though young people like to talk or text even later than that. Predictably, eyes began to redden from lack of sleep and dealing with Oklahoma's heat and allergies. However, cadets perk up when an instructor says, "Let's go flying," and rush to grab their gear.

The airplane is a challenging learning environment: it is noisy, hot and demands total concentration. Students return from their flights tired, but with a spring to their walk that reflects the many tasks they have mastered on each flight.

CAP Cadets Abigail Votava from Colorado Springs, Colo., and Jason Blanco from Oklahoma City learned to deal with Oklahoma's gusty winds. They found that crosswinds can push the airplane off the runway on take-off and cause them to make side-to-side corrections as they come in for a landing. These are skills that fledgling pilots must master before their instructor will allow them to fly solo.

All cadets wait for the instructor to say the magic words, "Take it around the pattern by yourself, you're ready," invariably followed by the cautioning, "Please don't bend my airplane."

It is on the last day in the 10-day Flight Academy that most fledgling aviators work to master the multiple tasks required of a pilot; a few managed to reach this milestone earlier.

Votava says, "I found the landings the most difficult. You are pointing the airplane down toward the runway at 70 miles per hour, descending at 300 feet a minute, and working to keep the airplane on the centerline against gusts from the sides that are trying to push the airplane off the runway. Of course, at the same time, you are using the radio, looking for other airplanes also in the pattern, and going through a checklist of things that you need to do before landing. It is really chaotic when you first start all this, but it soon settles into a familiar routine."

Blanco says, "My instructor says that being a pilot is about handling risk. You are taught how to handle every possible situation you might encounter. The idea, the instructors tell us, is to be aware of what could happen and develop the appropriate reaction to the situation. The reaction has to be instinctive and pre-planned."

Both cadets agree, "We're tired because of the long daily schedule, but thrilled to be included in an event like the Flight Academy."

Only active Civil Air Patrol cadet members are eligible to be selected to attend this event from among many candidates. Of over 300 cadet applicants, 24 were chosen to attend the Southwest Region event.

The Flight Academy has prepared the Civil Air Patrol students for this moment in which they'll be taking responsibility, after hours of ground school and flight instruction. Instructors have declared them competent, and a check pilot has made certain that they are ready to solo.



The cadet about to solo will taxi out to the end of the runway, making the necessary radio calls.

Afterwards, Cadet Shane C. Dusold will say, "Then it hits you – you have your life in your hands, and there will not be an instructor next to you if you mess up."

Many things go through the cadet's mind as the pilot-to-be smoothly advances the throttle to achieve take-off power. The cadet listens for the instructor's familiar, calm voice – only this time in the cadet's head – telling the young student what to do and when, the same as when the instructor had sat in the cockpit next to the cadet, both on the ground and in flight.

The aircraft leaves the ground a little sooner than expected, because it is lighter without the instructor on board. The young hopeful flies the pattern just as he or she has been taught to do, and sets up the descent for landing.

All goes perfectly, and a happy young person smoothly rolls out the plane on the active runway. The new solo pilot taxis up to the waiting crowd who are cheering the accomplishment. Instructors and students express their praise, "Congratulations. You have joined the select people that have soloed an airplane."

Another student pilot has risen to the challenge, soared through the air with no one else in the cockpit, and made it back to the ground safely.

Next comes the traditional shirt-cutting – the shirt piece will be signed by the student's instructor, then the bucketsful of very cold water will follow, and a new replacement shirt, reserved for those who solo, will materialize.

After his solo flight, Dusold said, "I was scared and elated at the same time. I'd worked so hard for this moment, and suddenly here it was."

Dusold says that his self-confidence, "Will be higher whatever challenges life gives me, and the Flight Academy was worth all the hard work for the privilege of soloing my airplane." 🇺🇸

**Below:** CAP Cadet Shane C. Dusold from Tuttle, Oklahoma is congratulated after his solo flight by his instructor, Lt. Col. Rayford Brown of Wanette, Okla.





**Top:** Maj. James W. Steele, commander of Albuquerque Senior Squadron II at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. His squadron is also based at Kirtland.

**Below:** Senior Master Sgt. Chuck Grosvenor inspects the wing of a Gipsyland GA-8 during a search-and-rescue evaluation by the U.S. Air Force. (Photos: 2nd Lt. Ryan Stark, CAP)

## ***New Mexico Wing Gets Top Rating from Air Force***

*by Maj. David G. Finley, CAP, New Mexico Wing*



ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – In the course of a formal evaluation exercise over the weekend of Sept. 13-14, 2013, New Mexico Wing earned a rating of Outstanding (the highest possible) from a U.S. Air Force team. CAP members from around the state responded to emergency scenarios presented in real time, designed to test their effectiveness.

CAP aircrews flew a variety of missions, and a CAP ground search and rescue team took to the field. The exercise was coordinated from a command post at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque; members operated out of that command post and from CAP squadrons all over New Mexico.





**Top:** Lt. Col. Sharon Lane, Lt. Col. Beverly Vito and Maj. Chris Branam. CAP members serving as ground staff during search-and-rescue operations do vital work for incident command staff, air crews and others.

**Below:** L-R) Maj. Scott Zenonian, planning branch director, and Lt. Col. John Hitchcock, incident commander, stay in touch with members across the state during the wing's evaluation by the U.S. Air Force

Air Force evaluators presented their initial report to the participants on Sunday, Sept. 15. Of 16 separate areas evaluated, New Mexico Wing received 11 Outstanding ratings, with the remainder either Successful or Highly Successful. The wing's overall rating was Outstanding.

"I couldn't be more proud of the dedicated members who gave their time and efforts to this operation," said New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark E. Smith. "This team received the highest possible endorsement from the Air Force, and that is a rare accomplishment," he added.







**Top:** Members of the New Mexico Wing of Civil Air Patrol perform a pre-flight inspection as they prepare to launch an aircraft at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., on Sept. 14, 2013.

“This rating was earned by a fantastic team, both those who worked at the command post and those who responded from their home bases around the state,” said CAP Lt. Col. Jon Hitchcock, incident commander for the exercise. “These people worked for four months preparing for this evaluation, and their efforts paid off well,” he added.

Participants included CAP pilots and aircrew members, the ground search team, and command and support personnel. Both senior members and cadets were part of the New Mexico team, several of whom were singled out by the Air Force for special commendation.

The missions performed by CAP members during the exercise included a ground and air search for a simulated missing hiker in the Sandia Mountains, an urgent flight to transport blood supplies from Albuquerque to Gallup, and numerous flights to take aerial photos of flooding, endangered bridges and dams, and sites of a simulated oil-field fire and train derailment.

As the exercise progressed, the Air Force evaluators threw sudden changes and complications into the mix, such as a power and Internet outage at the command post and simulated mechanical trouble with one of the mission aircraft.

Coincidentally, the simulated emergency scenario, prepared well in advance by the Air Force team, closely paralleled the recent real-world flooding experienced around the state. Because of this, later in the day, CAP crews began flying photo-reconnaissance missions related to the actual flooding, in addition to the exercise missions.

“No matter what happened, our team responded calmly and professionally to accomplish the mission in spite of all difficulties,” Hitchcock said.

Today, with nearly 1,000 members and 13 aircraft, New Mexico Wing is an active part of New Mexico’s emergency services infrastructure, working with state and local agencies to enhance public safety. Wing members devote much volunteer time to training and serving for emergency services; advancing education about aviation, space and high-tech careers; and teaching and mentoring America’s future leaders. 🇺🇸



**Top:** CAP planes on the tarmac, ready to fly. (Photo: Lt. Col. Bobby Allison, Arkansas Wing director of emergency services)

## **Arkansas Wing Conducts a Search and Rescue Exercise**

*by Maj. John Brandon, CAP, Arkansas Wing*

WALNUT RIDGE, Ark. – On July 27, 2013, the Arkansas Wing of Civil Air Patrol (CAP) conducted a search-and-rescue exercise (SAREX), with mission base located at the Walnut Ridge Municipal Airport. The SAREX simulated an overdue aircraft scenario requiring that mission base staff and equipment be relocated from their normal duty stations to Walnut Ridge, and CAP airplanes and other equipment be flown from various locations in Arkansas to the Walnut Ridge Municipal Airport in order to exercise command and control in the area of the probable search.

The scenario was based on a pilot of a small aircraft having left Conway, Ark. on Friday evening en route to Manila, Ark. without filing a flight plan, and had failed to arrive at Manila. While responding to Walnut Ridge for the exercise, an aircraft from Ft. Smith, Ark. detected an actual emergency locator transmitter signal and determined that the signal was being emitted from the airport at Clinton, Ark. After landing there, the Ft. Smith aircrew located the airplane and caused that signal to be deactivated.

Incident Commander Maj. Lee Nelson was one of the first CAP members to arrive at Walnut Ridge, and quickly assembled his mission staff. As aircrews began to arrive, the now-functioning mission base began dispatching search aircraft to various locations along the search area. An





emergency locator transmitter signal was actually discovered by an aircrew from Monticello and another aircrew with members drawn from Ft. Smith and Jonesboro that indicated the lost aircraft was located in an area near Waldenberg, Ark. After circling the area, the wreckage was confirmed from the air.

**Above:** (L-R) Former Arkansas State Director Lt. Col. Bob Betzold, Incident Commander Maj. Lee Nelson (writing), Wing Standard Evaluation Officer Maj. David Wilkins and Mission Pilot Capt. Wes Minear.

**Below:** (L-R) Incident Commander (in training) Maj. Marchelle Jones and Incident Commander Maj. Lee Nelson. (Photos this page: Maj. John Brandon, CAP)

A total of 9 CAP aircraft participated in the search. Maj. Nelson determined that the exercise had demonstrated the wing's ability to quickly relocate and assemble a mission base and personnel, successfully operating in a remote location outside Little Rock, the wing's headquarters. The scenario also provided an opportunity for mission base personnel and aircrews to receive hands-on training to improve their skills for actual emergencies. Arkansas Wing Commander Col. Doug Alexander was on site, and was able to assess the wing's readiness and capability in satisfying the requirements of the search and rescue scenario.

After the exercise had come to an end, Col. Alexander said, "The Arkansas Wing does an excellent job of performing its search and rescue function, and continues to improve through mission training such as this." He expressed his thanks to Airport Manager Michelle Anthony, for allowing CAP personnel to use the Walnut Ridge Municipal Airport facilities as a base for the exercise, and added, "She has been very cooperative in every way during the planning and execution of this exercise." 🇺🇸





**Top:** Members of Lubbock and Three Rivers Composite Squadron stand beneath the nose of a B-1 in a hangar at Dyess AFB, Abilene, Texas. (L-R) Cadet Airman Caleb Michie, Capt. Leslie Roblin, Cadet Airman Joseph Kolas, Cadet Airman First Class Connor McCallum, Maj. Terence Maroste, Cadet Master Sgt. A.J. Augustine, Cadet 2nd Lt. Andrew Allison, Cadet Airman Ryan Schlake, 1st Lt. James Preidis, Cadet Airman Basic Noah Brumley, 2nd Lt. Lauri McCallum and Cadet Airman Chris Stroud. (Not pictured, 2nd Lt. Renee Allison.)

**Right:** Cadet Airman Basic Noah Brumley, Three Rivers Composite Squadron, examines the cockpit of a B-1 bomber. (Photos: Maj. Johanna O. Augustine, CAP)

## ***Texas Wing Cadets Visit Dyess AFB***

*by Maj. Johanna O. Augustine, CAP, Texas Wing*

DYESS AFB, Texas – Summer is a busy time for most Civil Air Patrol members, but on July 31, 2013, Lubbock Composite Squadron and Three Rivers Composite Squadron members who weren't attending encampments or National Cadet Special Activities took time out of their busy schedules to go on a tour of Dyess AFB. USAF Senior Airman Charles Rivezzo, 7th Bomb Wing Public Affairs, planned a full day of activities and was the group's tour guide for the day.

Upon arriving at Dyess, members of the 7th Security Forces provided a military working dog demonstration. Two dogs assigned to the unit charmed the group with their ability to act as a regular dog one moment and then a working police dog the next. Both dogs looked like the typical household pet, but they were all business when "on the job." The demonstration included escorting





a detainee and preventing the detainee from running away, even when the detainee tried to jump a fence.

**Right:** Cadet Airman Ryan Schlake, Three Rivers Composite Squadron, sits at the navigator position in the first C-130 ever delivered to the Air Force.

**Below:** Maj. Terence Maroste looks up into the bomb bay of a B-1 mock-up.



Next on the agenda was a tour of a B-1 hangar and a B-1 itself. Air Force personnel that were performing regularly-scheduled maintenance on the aircraft took time to explain the aircraft's capabilities and what their job entails.

Everyone had the opportunity to climb the narrow ladder into the cockpit and see what a small, confined space the pilots have to work in. Because of lack of space, only 1 or 2 persons could go up at a time. To get into the seats, aircrew members must climb over the equipment placed between the seats. Since visitors weren't allowed to touch anything, the cadets couldn't get into the seats.

Aware of the visitors' very tight schedule, Sr. Airman Rivezzo led the group to the Dyess AFB airpark located at the base entrance. There, CAP members joined Richard "Doc" Warner, the 7th Bomb Wing Historian, who guided the group through the very first C-130 ever delivered to the Air Force, as he explained the role this aircraft has played in U.S. history.

Everyone had the opportunity to check out the C-130 cockpit, which was a lot more spacious than the B-1's. Senior members and cadets took turns sitting in the pilot's and navigator's seat, as they checked the instrument panels and maps.

As the temperature rose past 100° F outside, the group headed indoors and had lunch at the base's air-conditioned Longhorn Dining Facility, which provided excellent service and a very reasonably priced meal. No one left hungry, and the visitors' opinion was unanimous: "Delicious."

Next on the agenda was a tour of the 7th Munitions Squadron training area, where can be found a B-1 mock-up and dummy munitions used for training and re-certification of Air Force personnel. Technical Sgt. Ferguson showed everyone the different types of munitions that the 7th Bomb Wing uses, and explained the capabilities of each.

This ended the tour for Lubbock Squadron members, as they had to return to home base; however, Three Rivers Squadron members made one more stop at the Dyess AFB museum. Here they found an excellent collection of military memorabilia related to Dyess's past and present missions, and Doc Warner was there to tell all about the displays. The cadets were especially interested in the old missile launch controls and took the opportunity to sit in the chairs and pretend they were launching missiles against some imaginary enemy.

Members of both squadrons enjoyed learning about the Dyess mission and the men and women who support that mission. The professionalism exhibited by Air Force personnel is certain to have left a favorable impression on the cadets, lasting for a very long time. 🇺🇸

**Below:** USAF Technical Sgt. Ferguson explains the purpose of each type of bomb.







**Top:** (L-R) Arizona Wing External Aerospace Education Officer Lt. Col. "Fritz" Seifritz, Cadet Sgt. Huley Middleton, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Emilee Mandile, Cadet Airman Natasha Loving, S.M. Lisa Mandile and Arizona Wing Director of Aerospace Education Lt. Col. Peter Feltz.

## ***Arizona Wing Assists in Military/Veteran Women's Health & Knowledge Fair***

*by Lt. Col. A. Peter Feltz, CAP, Arizona Wing*

PHOENIX – On Aug. 17, 2013, the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services and the Phoenix VA Health Care System presented a family-friendly event that continues the annual tradition of service and support for Arizona Military and Veteran women who have served and continue to serve in uniform. During this event, military and veteran women are able to connect with health services, skill building, benefits and resources.

Close to 200 military and veteran women attended the event, and about 30 provider/vendors supported the fair. The Civil Air Patrol display was well received. Articles and photos of past famous military women were displayed and received a lot of attention. Also popular were CAP membership recruiting hand-outs.

The CAP folding paper glider was a big hit with dozens being distributed. The CAP table was staffed by three female cadets in CAP Air Force-style blue uniforms who enhanced the display and brought favorable attention and discussion.

Senior Member Lisa Mandile, of Squadron 388, brought the cadets to the fair. Participating in the event were Cadet Tech. Sgt. Emilee Mandile; Cadet Sgt. Huley Middleton; Cadet Airman Natasha Loving, S.M. Lisa Mandile, Arizona Wing External Aerospace Education Officer Lt. Col. "Fritz" Seifritz, and Arizona Wing Director of Aerospace Education Lt. Col. Peter Feltz. 🇺🇸



**Top:** New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith displays the Unit Citation Award, awarded to the squadron for outstanding duty performance during the period Aug. 1, 2010 to Dec. 31, 2011, at the squadron's Sept. 12 meeting. The Unit Citation is a separate award from the unit's Squadron of Distinction. (Photo: Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP)

## ***New Mexico Composite Squadron Earns Top Awards***

*by Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron received a visit from New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith twice in a two-week period. Smith was on hand to recognize the squadron for its accomplishment as Civil Air Patrol’s Squadron of Distinction for 2013. The squadron was also recognized as the top squadron in the nation at CAP’s National Conference in Denver, Aug. 15-17.

Smith presented squadron commander Maj. Michael E. Eckert with a plaque denoting the Squadron of Distinction award; a streamer to be affixed to the squadron guidon is still pending.

The New Mexico National Guard was also on hand to honor Eckert, who is a senior master sergeant in the Air Force Reserve. New Mexico National Guard Adjutant General Brig. Gen. Andrew E. Salas, USAF, commended Eckert on his leadership, which reflected credit not only upon CAP, but also the Air Force Reserve.

Gen. Salas also presented Cadet Senior Airman Joseph Burkett with a National Guard challenge coin, for acting as the general’s escort during the open house.

Smith put in a return appearance two weeks later, to present the squadron with a streamer for a Unit Citation, which was separate from the unit’s Squadron of Distinction award. The vetting process for the unit citation, which took a year and a half, delayed the awarding of the streamer until September 2013. All personnel who were members of the squadron when the unit citation was awarded are entitled to wear the unit citation ribbon.

Smith praised the squadron for its efforts, and encouraged them not to become complacent. “At this point, you don’t rest on your laurels,” he said. “You continue to raise the bar, for yourselves and for others.” He reiterated his expectations of greatness for the squadron. “I’ve seen great things from this squadron, and will continue to expect great things in the future,” Smith concluded. 🇺🇸





**Top:** At the U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala., Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford and Astronaut Don Thomas during a break in the course curriculum.

### ***Louisiana Wing Member Attends Space Academy for Educators***

*by Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford, CAP, Louisiana Wing*

NEW ORLEANS – During July 27-Aug. 1, 2013, about 60 educators attended the Space Academy for Educators at the U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Ala. The event included an address by Astronaut Don Thomas on his experiences on several space shuttle missions. The history of the space program was presented by Ed Buckbee who was public affairs officer throughout much of America's space program, and interacted with many of America's astronauts as well as Dr. Werner Von Braun, head of the early U.S. space program.

Subjects presented at the Academy included planning Moon bases, designing "green" rocket fuels, and designing ablative shielding for the Orion Capsule (that is slated to be America's vehicle for a return to the Moon and a manned mission to Mars). Participating educators were required to conduct group activities as they designed and tested landing capsule systems, as well as programming robots. Educators also received the Solid Edge computer-aided design program and instruction on its use. They also built and flew model rockets that rose to 1,000 feet and were recovered after a parachute landing. Other topics included the history of America's space programs and its discoveries.



**Right:** The multi-axis motion trainer that rapidly rotates the subject through all axes of movement.

**Below:** Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford “commands” the Space Capsule Orion “traveling” to the Moon on a simulated mission.

The course also offered individual activities, during which educators tried some astronaut training devices such as the 1/6-G (gravity) Moon simulator and the multi-axis motion trainer (that rapidly rotates the subject through all axes of movement, simulating an out-of-control space capsule). Students also experienced a parachute landing on a zip-line that rapidly landed them in water from a 5 story-high platform. Educators took part in extended simulated space shuttle, Moon, and International Space Station missions.

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center Museum tours included artifacts from America’s space program



and models illustrating their history and performance. Educators from around the United States and England took place in the week long program and received multiple educational resources to take back to their classrooms and school districts. Educators interested in attending Space Academy for Educators should contact U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama.

At the graduation ceremony, CAP aerospace educator Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford was presented the “Right Stuff Award,” named after America’s first astronauts. 🇺🇸





**Top:** Cadet Senior Airman Joseph R. Burkett prepares his replica rocket for launch at the Albuquerque Rocket Society launch facility. Cadet Burkett had the highest launch of his replica, and his egg-o-naut returned undamaged. (Photo courtesy Mr. Art Burkett)

### ***New Mexico Squadron Successfully Concludes Rocketry Program***

*by 1st Lt. Mary A. Fox, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

RIO RANCHO, N.M. – On July 13, 2013, the Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron concluded its rocketry season with several successful launches at the Albuquerque Rocket Society’s launch facility in Rio Rancho, N.M., for an overall rating of successful.

Four senior members and nine cadets participated in the launch that consisted of launching replica rockets and “egg-o-nauts,” the latter consisting of a rocket that carries an egg as payload, which must return without causing the egg to break – a difficult condition to satisfy.

Cadet Senior Airman Joseph Burkett had a record launch of over 300 feet. His egg-o-naut rocket was one of the few to return to Earth unbroken. 🍳





**Top:** (L-R) Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Noah Ritter and Capt. Barry Dunning strap on their parachutes.

**Below:** Cadet Tech. Sgt. Andrea Guerrero is ready for another flight. (Photos: 1st Lt. Randy Ritter)

## ***Texas Wing Cadets Spend a Weekend on "Silent Wings"***

*by 1st Lt. Randy Ritter, CAP, Texas Wing*

WALLER, Texas – On July 13-14, 2013, five cadets from the Corpus Christi Composite Squadron spent a weekend in Waller for two days of glider orientation, courtesy of the Soaring Club of Texas. Upon their arrival, Cadet Amber Duhan, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Andrea Guerrero, Cadet Capt. Christopher Lidy, Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Miguel Ortiz, and Cadet Sr. Master Sgt. Noah Ritter met with Lt. Col. Eston Hupp for a thorough safety briefing and instruction on the principles of flight. Then, it was time to fly.

The pilots for the first day were Lt. Col. Eston Hupp and Capt. Barry Dunning, both CAP members. Conditions were perfect for a day spent riding the thermals to altitudes of as high as 7,100 feet. Each cadet concentrated on catching the perfect thermal. By the end of the first day, every cadet had made two flights.

Although the second day, Sunday, provided less than ideal conditions, with thermals not as prevalent as the previous day, the cadets were still able to enjoy between 2 and 3 flights each. The pilots for day two were again Lt. Col. Hupp and Capt. Dunning, with the addition of CAP Capt. Dale Brooker.

By the end of the second day, the cadets were tired but knowledgeable in sailplane basics. They were now ready to pursue their glider ratings, thanks to the hospitality and instruction of their host pilots. 🇺🇸







**Top:** Pontchartrain Composite Squadron Color Guard members Cadet Master Sgt. Dean Scott, Cadet 2nd Lt. Francesca Giroir, Cadet Airman First Class Mario Molina and Cadet Airman First Class Colton McClintock.

**Right:** Billy Mitchel Senior Squadron member 2nd Lt. Erin Seidemmann dressed to honor Amelia Earhart who had stayed at the terminal on her last flight before her unsuccessful attempt to fly around the world. (Photos: Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford)

## ***Louisiana Wing Squadrons Participate in New Orleans Lakefront Airport Re-dedication***

*by Lt. Col. Kathy Beauford, CAP, Louisiana Wing*

NEW ORLEANS – On Sept. 28, 2013, five Civil Air Patrol Squadrons assisted at the recent re-dedication ceremony of the New Orleans Lakefront Airport’s historic terminal. The forty cadets and senior members represented the Pontchartrain, St. Tammany, Ascension Parish, and Alvin Callendar Composite Squadrons as well as the Billy Mitchel Senior Squadron.

The Pontchartrain Composite Squadron color guard presented the colors with ceremonial precision and respect. Civil Air Patrol (CAP) members assisted with brochures and parking, a table full of free aerospace education materials such as bookmarks, photos, and toy propellers. Photos and stickers of the Mars Rover “Curiosity” were distributed to the public, because the NASA Solar System Ambassador arranged for the Civil Air Patrol’s name to be placed on the rover itself.

Civil Air Patrol cadet and aerospace education activities include experiments, demonstrations, leadership, physical training, and trips to air shows and aviation museums. Other activities include robot building and robotics programming, building and flying remote-control airplanes, and building and launching model rockets. 🇺🇸





**Top:** (L-R) Cadet Col. Christopher S. Medina receives a challenge coin from U.S. Army Brig. Gen Gwendolyn Bingham, and 2nd Lt. Jeremiah Fish holds the award certificate.

**Below:** New Mexico Wing Commander Col. Mark E. Smith (right) congratulates Cadet Col. Medina on his having earned the Spaatz Award. (Photos: Lt. Col. Alan Fisher, CAP)

### ***New Mexico Wing Cadet Earns the Spaatz Award***

*by Lt. Col. Alan Fisher, CAP, New Mexico Wing*

LAS CRUCES, N.M. – On July 27, 2013, Christopher S. Medina, a member of the Las Cruces Composite Squadron, became the latest cadet from New Mexico Wing to earn the prestigious Gen. Carl A. Spaatz Award, a distinction that carries with it automatic promotion to the grade of cadet colonel.

The award ceremony was held at a Las Cruces International Airport hangar. Dignitaries included U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Gwendolyn Bingham, commander of White





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Sands Missile Range (who made the presentation); U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Andrew E. Salas, New Mexico National Guard Adjutant General (who made closing remarks); and CAP Col. Mark E. Smith, New Mexico Wing commander.

Medina becomes the 1,893rd cadet in the history of Civil Air Patrol to have merited the Spaatz Award. Since the award's inception in 1964, just over 1,900 cadets have earned the award – less than one-half of one percent of all cadets who joined CAP during the same period.

The award, named after the first chairman of CAP's National Board and first Chief of Staff of the United States Air Force, is the highest award a cadet can earn, and also the hardest. To achieve it, a cadet must pass a four-part examination consisting of written tests in leadership and aerospace, a character development essay and a physical fitness test. A cadet may test for the award only three times in order to pass. Failure of the third attempt disqualifies the cadet from ever taking it again.

Should Cadet Col. Medina elect to transition to senior member status at age 21, he would be eligible for direct appointment as a CAP captain. 🇺🇸

**Above:** 1st Lt. M. Catherine Fish presents a bouquet of flowers to Cadet Col. Medina's mother.

**Below:** Cadet Col. Medina celebrates with his parents, Frank and Karen Medina.





**Top:** (L-R) Outgoing squadron commander Capt. Carder Ehlert welcomes incoming commander Maj. Marco Criscione.

### ***Oklahoma Squadron Gets New Commander***

*by Capt. Rick Rutledge, CAP, Oklahoma Wing*

BROKEN ARROW, Okla. – On June 10, 2013, after one year of command, Capt. Carder Ehlert stepped down as Commander of the Broken Arrow Composite Squadron, Oklahoma Wing. Ehlert, a former member of the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 138th Fighter Wing and an Iraq War veteran, was selected to begin Naval Pilot training in the last class of 2013.

Taking his position is long-time squadron member and former Air Force officer Maj. Marco Criscione. A Broken Arrow resident, Criscione is an FAA licensed pilot and flight instructor in addition to his day job as a trauma nurse at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa, Okla. The father of two spent many years working in the Office of Special Investigations in the United States Air Force.

"I'm so proud to have been selected for this position," said Criscione. "I've worked very hard to achieve this honor and I'm excited to serve both our members and the community as commander of a Civil Air Patrol squadron in Broken Arrow." His appointment is effective immediately.

Ehlert will remain a member of the squadron from a distance, as he reported to Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island on June 23, 2013, where he will remain until this fall, and upon graduation will move to the initial phase of pilot training at Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla.

In addition to the change in commander, the Broken Arrow Composite Squadron appointed Capt. William Vickers of Broken Arrow to Deputy Commander for Seniors and Capt. Rick Rutledge to Deputy Commander for Cadets, respectively. 🇺🇸



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## ***New Mexico Wing Squadron Changes Command***

*by Capt. Mike Lee, CAP,  
New Mexico Wing*

ROSWELL, N.M. - On Sept. 9, 2013, Capt. Mike Lee, commander of Roswell Composite Squadron, stepped down and Maj. Tom Clarke assumed command during a change of command ceremony. Lee had commanded the squadron since 2009.

New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith presided over the ceremony by accepting the squadron's guidon from the outgoing commander and handing it over to the new



one. Lt. Col. Lee Ann Wade, a member of the squadron, served as narrator, and Cadet Airman Caleb Allen served as squadron guidon bearer. The ceremony makes use of the guidon to symbolically transfer command of the squadron from the former commander to the new one.

Afterwards, in recognition of Lee's service to the squadron, the wing and Civil Air Patrol, Smith presented him with a CAP Meritorious Service Award. 🇺🇸

**Top:** New Mexico Wing commander Col. Mark E. Smith (left) presents incoming squadron commander Maj. Tom Clarke with the squadron guidon.

**Right:** Col. Smith presents to outgoing commander Capt. Mike Lee a CAP Meritorious Service Award. (Photos: Maj. Stan Nelson, CAP)





**Top:** (L-R) Mr. John Zaremba receives a plaque from Louisiana Wing Commander Col. Art Scarbrough; in background, Wing Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Amos Plante. (Photo: Lt. Col. Joe DePaolo, CAP)

## ***Louisiana Wing State Director Retires***

*by Lt. Col. Joseph T. DePaolo, CAP, Louisiana Wing*

BATON ROUGE, La. – On Aug. 3, 2013, Mr. John Zaremba, Louisiana CAP-USAF State Director, was honored at the monthly Louisiana Wing Staff meeting by Wing Commander Col. Art Scarbrough and the Wing Staff, after Zaremba announced his retirement on Aug. 23, 2013. He was presented with several plaques and a two-night stay at a landmark Baton Rouge hotel for him and his family.

Zaremba had retired in 1994 after more than 20 years of active military service in the U.S. Air Force, where he had held the rank of Major and had been a B-52 Bomber pilot.

In 1995 he became the Air Force Liaison Officer to the Louisiana Wing, Civil Air Patrol, working for the Air Force as a retiree. In 2002 the job became that of Louisiana State Director, a Civil Service position, in which he worked as a General Schedule (GS) employee for the U.S. Air Force.

Since 1995, Zaremba provided advice, liaison and oversight to Louisiana Wing, including assisting wing commanders in carrying out the three CAP missions of Emergency Services, Aerospace Education and Cadet Programs. While discharging his duties, he formed strong bonds of friendship with wing members, based on mutual respect and appreciation. 🇺🇸



## ***How the Southwest Region Public Affairs Awards Program Works***

Starting with the Jan., 2013 issue of The Fly-By, by directive of Southwest Region Commander Col. Frank A. Buethe, the region will recognize contributions to The Fly-By as follows:

1. A SWR **CAP Achievement Award** for article publication on three different issues of The Fly-By. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.
2. A SWR **Commander's Commendation Award** for article publication on an additional six different issues. Multiple articles in the same issue will count as one.

Region will issue the certificate and send it to the winner's unit at the first available opportunity. The award certificate will be presented at the first available opportunity.

### ***How to Make Submissions Suitable for Publication***


Since The Fly-By is posted on the SWR website, it is an external communication. Therefore, as required by CAPR 190-1, Sec. 7.b.(7), articles must be written in Associated Press Style. If a submission that is not in AP Style is selected for publication, it will be edited to this standard. (NHQ/PA has been using AP Style for all external communications since 2005.)

AP Style is defined in the Associated Press Stylebook (available at [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org)). For a brief summary, please see "Associated Press Style in a Nutshell," overleaf.

"Article" is defined as a narrative that:

- Is written in AP Style;
- Answers the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and preferably also How;
- Has one or more quotes from participants, with attribution;
- Has two or more digital photos attached (not embedded in the text), with appropriate cutlines (photo captions). An article submitted without digital photos that is selected for publication will count as a half-credit. For full credit, it must have accompanying photos.

### ***General advice on writing a good article***

- Get all the facts right, stick to the facts, and do not use hearsay or express opinion.
- Take good digital photos.
  - Do not use digital zoom, or else your photos will lack good focus and definition;
  - Take "action shots" of people doing something interesting that is material to the article;
  - Make sure everyone is in the correct uniform and you identify all.
  - **Note:** Good photos are essential to add immediacy and flavor to the story.
- Get good quotes.
  - Ask participants for their opinion;
  - Get full grade, name, position title and unit of assignment for each quote.
  - Get the individual's consent to publish the quote as recorded (read it back).
  - **Note:** Getting quotes is how you get to express opinion, and get your readers to share the experience that you are writing about.
- Write in good, idiomatic, unadorned English.
  - Do not "pad" your sentences, such as saying "due to the fact that" when "because" will do;
  - Avoid trite expressions, such as "it goes without saying" – if it does, don't say it;
  - Avoid colloquial expressions;
  - Do not write in acronyms – always define the first instance, such as "Federal Aviation Administration" before you use FAA;
  - No nicknames – unless famous, such as "Ike" for Pres. Dwight E. Eisenhower. 

## ***Associated Press Style in a Nutshell***

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion.
- To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person's permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person's grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as "kid."
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use "boy," "girl" or "child" but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use "their" for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, "the cadet took their meal."
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or higher ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. The Navy is the only service that has the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the good rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- **For best results**, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org) – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖