

**HISTORY OF THE
OREGON WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL**

AUXILIARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



1 JANUARY—31 DECEMBER 2014

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Assistant Wing Historian

Reviewed by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Longley".

Col. John Longley, CAP

Oregon Wing Commander

***Wing Headquarters
28735 Grumman Drive
Eugene, Oregon 97402***

INTRODUCTION

Oregon is one of six states, or “wings,” that comprise the Pacific Region of Civil Air Patrol -- the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force. Civil Air Patrol (CAP), headquartered at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, under the Air Education and Training Command, is a non-profit, federally-chartered volunteer organization dedicated to serving the people of the United States through its three missions: Emergency Services, Aerospace Education and the Cadet Program.

The Wing has 542 members including 295 adults and 247 cadets. These cover an area of 98,466 square miles and serve 3.93 million people.

WING ORGANIZATION

The Oregon Wing is comprised of thirteen units—eleven squadrons and two flights. These are administered from headquarters in Eugene, Oregon, centrally located in the state.

Command Staff:

Col. John Longley, Wing Commander
Lt. Col. Ted Tanory, Vice-Commander
Lt. Col. Winton Adcock, Vice-Commander
Lt. Col. Ira Rosenberg, Chief of Staff

Oregon Units:

Aurora Cadet Squadron
Columbia Composite Squadron
Central Coast Composite Flight
Grants Pass Composite Squadron
High Desert Composite Squadron
Klamath Falls Composite Squadron
Mahlon Sweet Composite Squadron
McMinnville Composite Squadron
Medford Composite Squadron
Portland Metropolitan Senior Squadron
Northwest Coastal Flight
Salem Composite Squadron
Washington County Composite Squadron

2014 Award Recipients

Aerospace Education Officer of the Year—Capt. Bradley Nash, Washington County Composite Squadron

Frank G. Brewer CAP Memorial Aerospace Award—Capt. Bradley Nash, Washington County Composite Squadron

Emergency Services Officer of the Year—SSgt. Patrick Dukes, McMinnville Composite Squadron

Col. Edwin W. Lewis, Jr. Incident Staff Member of the Year—Capt. Adam Thompson, Medford Composite Squadron

Communicator of the Year—Maj. John Stanley, Salem Composite Squadron

Logistician of the Year—Maj. David Rudawitz, Wing Staff

Information Technology Officer of the Year—Capt. Rex Wolf, High Desert Composite Squadron

Professional Development Officer of the Year—Capt. Donnel Lang, High Desert Composite Squadron and Capt. Robert Gennrich, Washington County Composite Squadron

Public Affairs Officer of the Year—1st Lt. Joseph Schaecher, Medford Composite Squadron

Safety Officer of the Year—Maj. David Shoemaker, Metropolitan Senior Squadron

Cadet Programs Officer of the Year—1st Lt. Brian Monasmith, Medford Composite Squadron

Cadet Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year—Cadet Chief Master Sgt. Jason Cuthbert, High Desert Composite Squadron

Cadet of the Year—Cadet Lt. Col. Jared Monasmith, Medford Composite Squadron

Senior Member of the Year—Capt. Randall Ireson, Salem Composite Squadron

Squadron of the Year—Aurora Composite Squadron

Commander's Award—Ch, Maj. Marvin Owen, Central Coast Composite Flight

2014 Highlights and Accomplishments

Congressional Gold Medal:

Former Oregon CAP Lt. Col. Hellenmerie Walker was presented the Gold Medal for her service during WWII as a cadet member. When she was 16-years-old, she joined the Portland Squadron and served from 1942 through 1944. In 1944 she got married, raised a family and worked as a nurse and an occupational therapy specialist. Finally, after her husband died and her children grown, Walker rejoined CAP and served in various assignments, including historical contributions. She's pictured below.



Honored posthumously for his service with CAP during WWII, Harry M. Hewitt from Oregon lost his life while flying a Southern Liaison Patrol mission. He was 38-years-old when he made the supreme sacrifice on January 17, 1944. His Gold Medal was accepted by Lester Wolf, a member of CAP during WWII who later served in Congress. Hewitt's son, Harry Hewitt Dichter of Oregon received the Bronze replica of the medal.



Harry M. Hewitt in CAP uniform

New Unit Chartered:

A highlight of the Wing Conference was welcoming a new flight that was chartered in September 2014. Recruiting work was done by Ch. Maj. Marvin Owen. Members of the new flight—Central Coast Composite—worked registration and did various support duties for the Wing conference. The new unit is commanded by Maj. Don Cole, former commander of the Mahlon Sweet Composite Squadron in Eugene.



Central Coast Composite Flight is located in Florence, Oregon. Shown are the new unit's commander, Maj. Don Cole (left) with Pacific Region commander, Col. Brian Bishop (right).

Professional Development:

Six Oregon Wing members received their Gill Rob Wilson awards during the year. Presenting these awards was Pacific Region commander, Col. Brian Bishop. Recipients were Capt. Dan Ash [Capt. Mike Watson pictured for Dan Ash who's deployed], Maj. Mike Robertson, Lt. Col. Winton Adcock, Maj. Al Sandner, Ch. Maj. Marvin Owen and Maj. Bill Ray (pictured below with Wing and Region Commanders).



Quality Awards:

Showing a significant increase, the Oregon Wing had three squadrons that achieved the Quality Cadet Unit Award. These squadrons being recognized are the Aurora Composite Squadron, Mahlon Sweet Composite Squadron and Salem Composite Squadron. To achieve this, they met at least five of eleven measures ranging from Adult Leadership to CyberPatriot.

National Cadet Special Activity:

The Oregon Wing hosts and staffs the Michael King Smith Aviation Academy each year in McMinnville. Directed by Maj. Hilda Pereyo, the academy attracts cadets from around the nation. During the weeklong event, cadets tour the Evergreen Aviation Museum as well as aviation companies like Garmin, FLIR, Rockwell and Collins. At these companies, participants learned about operations, toured production, testing and flight areas and developed a business plan of their own that was presented at the conclusion of the academy.



Cadets touring the Michael King Smith Air & Space Museum
as part of the Aviation Business Academy

Missing Person Search:

Mission 14-M-0481A was opened and closed on 22 September when the Deschutes County SAR Team requested support from CAP for a missing ATV rider near Bend, Oregon. The ATV rider was reported missing the previous day by his family. After the request was received through AFRCC, an aircrew, ground team and base staff were quickly assembled to begin the search. CAP 3683 subsequently reported a target of interest near East Butte. It was the missing man and he was found in good condition. All members of the mission received the CAP Save Award.



Mission Base crew pictured left to right: Lt. Col. Rogers Walker, 1st Lt. Rex Wolf, Maj. Al Sandner and Maj. Bob Parker (top row)
Flight crew: Capt. Don Lang and Capt. Mike Wissing (bottom row)

Evaluated SAREX—“Highly Successful”:

More than 85 Oregon Wing members spent three days conducting search and rescue exercises at the Aurora State Airport and staging areas in Bend and Medford. They were evaluated by representatives from the U. S. Air Force and CAP officials from the Pacific Region. Scenarios included volcanic eruptions, a missing aircraft and pilot and a search for a vehicle. Five aircraft were used along with numerous other CAP assets. When it was concluded the Wing received a Highly Successful rating.



Mission Base personnel at Evaluated SAREX briefing

Chaplain Award:

Ch, Lt. Col. Bob Ledden has served the McMinnville Composite Squadron for many years. For his contributions in the lives of cadets and senior members, his faithful service and his commitment to excellence, he was awarded the Squadron Chaplain of the Year award at the CAP National Conference in Las Vegas.



Ch, Lt. Col. Bob Ledden, pictured with Oregon Wing Chaplain Maj. Marvin Owen (left) and Pacific Region Chaplain Lt. Col. Charlie Sattgast (right) at the National Conference in Las Vegas after presentation of his award.