

HISTORY OF
ARKANSAS WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL
Auxiliary of the United States Air Force



1 January 2020 – 31 December 2020

HISTORY

Of

ARKANSAS WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL

Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

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Arkansas Wing Commander

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INTRODUCTION OF UNIT STAFF AND BRIEF NARRATIVE

The Arkansas Wing has continued to support the 3 missions of Civil Air Patrol as this report will show. 2020 is a year like no other, and this held true for Civil Air Patrol as well as for the rest of the world. While membership decreased due to the pandemic, many senior members and cadets stayed active through online meetings and events as allowed. Aerospace had great participation in AEM activity at the beginning of 2020, and though this slowed during the pandemic, it will increase in 2021. Our emergency service missions continued throughout the year as needed. When the pandemic shut-down occurred in March, most programs of the Civil Air Patrol ceased or became virtual. Cadet Programs immediately moved to virtual meetings via Zoom or similar platforms, and continued to meet in this way through the end of the year even with limited in-person meetings. Wing staff moved to virtual monthly meetings as well. Emergency Services responses and aircraft maintenance remained active as needed. Phased planning was used to resume activities as much as possible.

Wing Commander	Col Robert Allison
Vice Commander	Lt Col Larry Webster
Chief of Staff	Lt Col Marchelle Jones
Command NCO	MSgt Gary Podgurski

Civil Air Patrol opted to use the White House phased plan in order to facilitate a deliberate and careful approach to remobilize the membership as the coronavirus shutdown stretched into months. The website www.covidactnow.gov/us was used as guidance. Wings submitted plans to National Headquarters for entry into Phase 1, with the Arkansas Wing's plan being submitted on 25 June 2020 and approved by National Headquarters on 26 June 2020.

The Wing was remobilized as much as could be allowed under Phase 1 on 6 July 2020. If local restrictions were higher than allowed under Phase 1, members were advised to comply.

The Wing continued with AFAM/Corporate missions for COVID-19 support while maintaining CDC safety guidelines.

Regular Unit Meetings – Assemble outside as much as possible, maximum size groups of 10 in a local vicinity, maintaining CDC guidelines on social distancing by either limiting to only planning meetings or splitting the units up so there are no more than 10 persons, and all members shall wear cloth face coverings. Temperature measurements should be taken with no-touch thermometer, and perform health screening with questions to ensure member has exhibited no symptoms. A member has the option to take their own temperature at home and report no fever on check-in. If one's temperature is 100.4 degrees or higher or other symptoms are present, the member will not be allowed to participate.

Similar guidelines applied to Emergency Services Training and Professional Development.

For flight crews, this meant the reactivation of Form 5 and Form 91 flight evaluations, dual instruction, proficiency flights, and mission aircrew training. Cadet Orientation flying remained under the 4 April 2020 full stop. Cadet Orientation flights in the Arkansas Wing resumed on 1 October 2020.

The Arkansas Wing remained in Phase 1 through the end of 2020.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Chapter 1 Operations

Total number of missions: 55

Total number of mission hours: 1725.6

Flying: 53 missions, 873.3 flight hours, 1656.6 air mission man hours

Ground: 12 missions, 69 ground mission man hours

Total number of O-flights: 54

Total number of O-flight hours: 55.9 hours

Orientation flights were cancelled beginning 4 April 2020 and were allowed to resume on 1 October 2020.

The Arkansas Wing received the Disaster Relief Mission Award at the 2020 National Conference as a result of their actions during the 2019 floods:

Arkansas Wing completed the recent mission for the historic flooding of the Arkansas River. We were tasked by the Arkansas National Guard to take photos of assigned daily targets for 14 days. The crews took pictures of levees, dams, flooded sewage and water treatment plants, residential areas, and even correctional institutions among other places. Those photos were uploaded to the UPAD (Unclassified Processing Analysis and Dissemination) group with the 188th at Fort Smith. The photos were then distributed in a product to assist daily with predictions and what was needed to help the citizens affected by the flood. Crews from Arkansas and Louisiana were involved in these missions.

Here are some stats from the Mission:

Total sorties: 41

Found 2 broken levees of which FEMA was unaware

Total hours: 75.3

Total Members: 45

Man-hours: 410

Image upload: 4618

Chapter II Aerospace Education

AEMs: At highest point in year, 337

Workshops - the SWR AEO School was held in conjunction with the AR Wing Conference with 117 participants and 612 hours of PD awarded.

24 teachers flown in TOP Flights - a new record.

Unfortunately there were no more TOP flights in 2020 due to the pandemic. TOP flights were not permitted in Phase 1.

The 83rd Composite Squadron received the 2019-2020 Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Excellence Program for outstanding achievement in promoting Aerospace Education in Civil Air Patrol.

Chapter III Cadet Programs

An outstanding encampment was planned for 19 June – 27 June 2020 by the Director of Cadet Programs, Capt Michael Probus, Encampment Cadet Commander, C/Major Zachary Probus, 42nd Composite Squadron (Little Rock), Cadet Deputy Commander, C/Maj Nick Sowerbutts, 40th Composite Squadron (Hot Springs), and Cadet Deputy Commander of Support, C/1st LT Katia Van Horn, Missouri Wing 126th Composite Squadron.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and the Department of Defense extension of the travel restrictions “Stop Movement Order” through 30 June 2020, Camp Robinson and the Little Rock Air Force Base were no longer be able to support and host the ARWG Summer Encampment.

After the pandemic began, rules were established by NHQ that wings had to be in Phase 3 for 90 days prior to an encampment in order for it to take place. As Arkansas was still in Phase 0 at 90 days out from encampment, there was not an option for it to be relocated, and so it was cancelled.

No teams from Arkansas attended the 2020 SWR Cadet Competition. This event may not have been held in 2020 due to Covid-19.

The 42nd Composite Squadron entered 2 teams in the 2020-2021 Air Force Association CyberPatriot XIII State Round Competition. 8 cadets participated with assistance from 3 senior members. The Junior Team won 3rd place in the state.

The 83rd Composite Squadron won the 2019-2020 Air Force Association CyberPatriot XII State Round 1st Place Gold Tier Award.

Fun at the Fort was unable to be held in 2020 due to Covid-19 Restrictions

A Wing-wide virtual NCOA was hosted by the 42nd Composite Squadron Cadet Command Staff on 12 September and 19 September 2020, with classes taught by cadets across the Wing. 8 cadets attended and all graduated.

Cadet Milestone Awards:

40th Composite Squadron: 1 Wright Brothers

42nd Composite Squadron: 7 Wright Brothers, 5 Billy Mitchell, 1 Amelia Earhart, 1 Ira Eaker

83rd Composite Squadron: 1 Wright Brothers, 1 Billy Mitchell

95th Composite Squadron: 1 Billy Mitchell

99th Composite Squadron: 3 Wright Brothers

102nd Composite Squadron: 1 Billy Mitchell

107th Composite Squadron: 1 Billy Mitchell

115th Composite Squadron: 9 Wright Brothers, 4 Billy Mitchell, 4 Amelia Earhart

Total: 21 Wright Brothers, 13 Billy Mitchell, 5 Amelia Earhart, 1 Ira Eaker

Chapter IV Overall Wing Activities



The Arkansas Wing Patch

22 February 2020

New Wing Emblem and Heraldry

The Arkansas Wing shield was created with the following goals in mind:

1. The shield should represent the Civil Air Patrol and our missions.
2. The shield should represent our ties and support to the state of Arkansas.
3. The shield should represent the Wing's significant historical actions, and therefore should draw some symbolism from the two former wing emblems.
4. The shield should look professional, yet remain simple with strong symbols, and members should be proud to wear it as the wing patch.
5. The shield should be unique and not be composed of any college or university mascots in order to avoid being divisive.
6. The shield should be in compliance with the Civil Air Patrol and U.S. Air Force guidelines for heraldry.

This was a highly discriminating, multi-year endeavor which resulted in dozens of designs being produced by a number of Arkansas Wing members. This process has culminated with the design of the following shield with accompanying symbolism:

Arkansas River:

A broad blue bar runs from the top left to the bottom right of the shield. The bar represents the Arkansas River, a major tributary which flows across the entire state from the Ozark Plateau highlands in the northwest to the Mississippi Delta plains in the southeast, where it joins the Mississippi River. Its prominence in the physical geography of the state is represented by its placement on the shield.

The wing's first major mission occurred with the Arkansas River Floods of 1943. During this event, the wing performed a wide range of tasks including carrying U.S. mail, patrolling levees from the air and on the ground, transporting critical parts and personnel, spotting people stranded by the floodwaters, and conducting aerial photography. Disaster response remains a major component of Arkansas Wing operations, with the wing recently supporting the state during the historical Arkansas River flooding that occurred May/June 2019.

Diamonds:

Arkansas is home to the only active diamond mine in the United States and contains the only publicly-accessible diamond field in the world at Crater of Diamonds State Park. For many years, it was the only known source of diamonds in the United States, and this is represented by the prominent diamond in the state flag. For this reason, the diamond is a well-known symbol for the state, and is the state gemstone.

The broad blue bar representing the Arkansas River, contains three silver diamond shapes evenly spaced. These diamonds, referred to as a "lozenge" in heraldry, carry several meanings:

- The diamond is the state gemstone of Arkansas, with legislation Act 128 in 1967.
- There are three diamonds, representing:

- The three missions of Civil Air Patrol
 - Arkansas is the third state by charter number (03), which is still represented in our wing call signs for aircraft and vehicles.
 - In the state's own history, Arkansas was the third state created from the Louisiana Purchase, and three nations ruled over Arkansas before it achieved statehood in 1836 (Spain, France and the United States).
- The three diamonds also serve as a nod to the CAP Cadet Program

Civil Air Patrol Roundel:

The shield displays the roundel used during World War II by the Civil Air Patrol, to represent the organization. This roundel was also on the original Arkansas Wing patch and serves as a historical tie. Its placement within a red field in the upper right corner of the shield provides aesthetic balance in the shield with the other symbols.

Arkansas State Flag:

In the lower-left portion of the shield, in a white field, are four blue stars. Their pattern is similar to their layout on the Arkansas state flag. In conjunction with the blue bar and the red upper field of the shield, these items combine to represent a stylized partition of the Arkansas state flag. This represents the wing's commitment and support to the state, as well as utilizing an element from the previous wing emblem.

Coloration:

The shield is composed of five colors, and all (sans white) are matched to the Civil Air Patrol colors in accordance with CAPR 900-2. Their meanings on the emblem are:

- Red, White, and Blue – These colors together represent patriotism and support of the United States and the state of Arkansas, as well as reflecting the colors of both of their flags.
- Blue and Yellow – The colors of the United States Air Force appear in the design, representing our relationship with and support of the branch with which we are affiliated as an auxiliary. The blue represents “the sky”, the primary theater of operations, while yellow represents “the sun” and the excellence required of personnel.
- Silver/Gray – represents our volunteerism and dedication to the organization and reflects the silver-gray background color of the Civil Air Patrol seal.

Arkansas Wing Conference

The Arkansas Wing Conference was held February 21-22, 2020 at Camp Robinson, with the Wing Banquet held at The Little Rock Club in the Regions Building, Little Rock.

Hosted by Wing Committee

New Wing Emblem was debuted at Wing Conference on 22 February 2020. It incorporates the symbols of the Arkansas River, Diamonds, Civil Air Patrol Roundel, Arkansas State Flag, and 5 Civil Air Patrol colors.

AEM Workshop was held in conjunction with the Wing Conference on February 21, as discussed above in Aerospace Education.

ARWG General Assembly and Breakout Sessions took place on February 22.

Breakout Sessions included:

Legislators' Executive Session/Working with Government Representatives

Arkansas SkyDome Planetarium

Canine Training & ES Basics

Doolittle Raid Presentation

CAC Town Hall Meeting

How to Train at ARNG Bases

Cargo Paper Airplanes

Human Factors in Flying

Safety Program Overview

Fundraising Strategies

Encampment Info Session

Using Your Legal Officers

APPENDIX 1 – Chapters 1-3 – Data and Statistics

OPERATIONS

Director of Operations

Lt Col Charles Rine

Standardization/Evaluation Officer

Capt Lance Oakley

Director of Counterdrugs

Lt Col Red Smith

Deputy Director of Emergency Services

Lt Col Marchelle Jones

ES Officer

Capt Holly M Holmes-Smith

Director of Operations sUAS

2nd Lt R. Wright

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS JANUARY 2020 – 31 DECEMBER 2020

OPERATIONS

Director of Operation

Total number of O-flights: 54

Total number of O-flight hours: 55.9

Total number of hours flown in missions: 873.3

Total number of hours flown in training: 57

Total number of hours flown in SAREX: 37.9

Total number of hours flown in JRAFROTC/AFROTC O-flights: 4 flights, 2.1 hours

Director of Emergency Services

Number of SAREX: 10

Director of Counterdrug Operations

No counterdrug operation missions due to lack of funding.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Director of Aerospace Education

Maj Garrick St.Pierre

Deputy Director of Aerospace Education:

Capt Janice Podgurski

Assistant Aerospace Education Officer:

Maj Keith Hudson

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS JANUARY 2020 – 31 DECEMBER 2020

Director of Aerospace Education

Current AEMs: At highest point in year, 337

Workshops - the SWR AEO School was held in conjunction with the AR Wing Conference with 117 participants and 612 hours of PD awarded.

24 teachers flown in TOP Flights - a new record.

No further TOP Flights took place in 2020 due to pandemic restrictions

APPENDIX I: Chapters 1-3 – Data and Statistics (continued)

CADET PROGRAMS

Director of Cadet Programs

Capt Michael Probus

NCO Cadet Activities Officer

MSgt Gary Podgurski

Cadet Program Development Officer

Lt Col John Gender

Cadet Advisory Council Chairman

C/Lt Col Katherine McKinney

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS CY JANUARY 2020 – DECEMBER 2020

Director of Cadet Programs.

1. 54 orientation flights were done.
2. No Spaatz Awards were earned in the wing in 2020.
3. 2 units earned the Quality Cadet Unit Award. They were as follows:
 - a. 115th Composite Squadron (4th consecutive award)
 - b. 42nd Composite Squadron (4th consecutive award)

NCO Cadet Activities Officer

There was 1 wing-wide Cadet Activity in 2020, the Virtual NCOA held in September.

Cadet Advisory Council Chairman :

C/Lt Col Katherine McKinney

CAC had 11 meetings during 2020 and for their achievement they worked on allowing cadets to wear the Arkansas Wing patch on a ballcap to go with ABUs.

2020-2021 Region Cadet Advisory Council representative:

Allison Dunn

Region Cadet Leadership School:

All in-person Regional Cadet Leadership Schools were cancelled in 2020. This prevented some cadets from promoting as the RCLS waiver did not cover all affected cadets. Two virtual RCLS were held nationwide. The Pacific Region held an RCLS in December 2020. This was attended by several Arkansas Wing cadets.

Encampment

Encampment was not held due to Covid-19 restrictions. No in-person encampments were held nationwide, which affected some cadets from promoting as the encampment waiver did not cover all affected cadets. Wings had to be in Phase 3 for 90 days out from the event in order for them to be held, and Arkansas was still in Phase 0 at that time.

Non-commissioned Officer Academy (NCOA)

No in-person NCOA was held.

A Wing-wide virtual NCOA was hosted by the 42nd Composite Squadron Cadet Command Staff on 12 September and 19 September 2020, with classes taught by cadets across the Wing. 8 cadets attended and all graduated.

Cadet Honor Guard Academy (CHA). No CHA was held in Arkansas.

Wing Cadet Competition

No teams from Arkansas attended the 2020 SWR Cadet Competition. This event may not have been held in 2020 due to Covid-19.

CyberPatriot

The 42nd Composite Squadron entered 2 teams in the 2020-2021 Air Force Association CyberPatriot XIII State Round Competition. 8 cadets participated with assistance from 3 senior members. The Junior Team won 3rd place in the state.

The 83rd Composite Squadron won the 2019-2020 Air Force Association CyberPatriot XII State Round 1st Place Gold Tier Award.

APPENDIX II: Unit Staff – Data and Statistics
Unit Map



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APPENDIX III: Director of Logistics – Data and Statistics

Director of Logistics	Maj Sam Macheak
Supply Officer	vacant
Transportation Officer	vacant
Maintenance Officer	vacant

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS CY JANUARY 2020 TO DECEMBER 2020

Maintenance Officer

There were 4 Cessna 172's and 4 Cessna 182's in 2020. A new Cessna 172 was received in 2020 giving the Wing their 8th plane.

Supply Officer

There were 12 vehicles and 1 trailer in 2020.

APPENDIX IV: Director of Communications – Data and Statistics

Director of Communications	Maj William Leeper
Communications Licensing Officer	vacant
HF Coordination Officer	vacant
ORMS Officer	vacant
Communications Training Officer	SM Zachary Wouters

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS CY JANUARY 2020 TO DECEMBER 2020

There are 6 permanent VHF/FM repeaters and 3 portable VHF repeaters. There are 4 locations that can be used on a temporary basis. There are 23 VHF bases. We have 24 VHF mobiles and 46 VHF portables.

APPENDIX V: Director of Professional Development - Data and Statistics

Director of Professional Development	Vacant
Arkansas Wing Education & Training Officer	Lt Col Larry Webster

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS CY JANUARY 2020 TO DECEMBER 2020

1. There were no classes done in 2020. Effective 4 Aug 2020 the new Education and Training program came on board and SLS, CLC and UCC was eliminated. The program now has a 2 fold program of self-study and moderated blocks. For the self-study blocks the member gets on AXIS and completes it on their own with no instructor. The other blocks, moderated, have to be done onsite, virtually, or with a cohort who is a certified instructor with Volunteer University. Members can complete all the blocks for L1 in AXIS, then have the summary conversation just as the legacy

program was, and earn L1. After that L2 thru L4 can be a mix of self-study, onsite, virtually or with a cohort. L5 is totally moderated.

APPENDIX VI: Staff Officers - Data and Statistics

Director of Administration	Capt T. Roberts
Director of Personnel	Capt Justin Brand
Director of Recruiting & Retention	MSGT Podgurski
Director of Plans & Programing	vacant
Director of Public Affairs	vacant
Director of Information Technology	Lt Col Charles Rine
Chaplain	Lt Col Larry Killian
Finance Officer	Lt Col Reba Wingfield
Historian	1 st Lt Karen McKinney
Assistant Historian	Maj Blake Sasse
Health Services Officer	Maj Jim Bryan

j COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS CY JANUARY 2020 TO DECEMBER 2020

Director of Personnel

Below is a list of individuals recognized in 2021 for end of year 2020 awards.

Senior Member of the Year: Lt Col Pat J. Schmidt
Cadet of the Year: C/Lt Col Katherine J. McKinney
Cadet Junior Officer of the Year: C/Capt Robert L. Lutgen
Cadet NCO of the Year: C/CMSgt Aubrey L Messick
Squadron Commander of the Year: Lt Col Matthew W. Anderson
Safety Officer of the Year: Maj Danny L. Marsh
Communicator of the Year: Maj William Leeper
Character Development Officer of the Year: Capt Michael T. Probus
Historian of the Year: 1st Lt Karen McKinney
CAP Family of the Year: The McKinney Family
Col Edwin W. Lewis, Jr. Incident Staff Member of the Year: Lt Col Adam B. Boyd
Frank Brewer Memorial Aerospace Award (Senior): Capt Janice R. Podgurski
M. Douglas Wood Staff Member of the Year Award: Lt Col Marchelle Jones
Robert Penton Aircrew Excellence Award: Maj Steven L. Johnson
SWR 2020 Squadron of Distinction: 42nd Composite Squadron

Unit Citation awarded to the Arkansas Wing in 2020 at the National Conference for our response to the historic Arkansas River flooding disaster in Spring 2019

"The Arkansas Wing, Civil Air Patrol, is hereby recommended for the Unit Citation Award for exceptional achievements during disaster relief operations necessitated by the historic flooding of the Arkansas River in the Spring of 2019. This unprecedented flooding catastrophe resulted in a federal "Major Disaster" declaration covering some seventeen counties, stretching in a wide swath across the entire state from northwest to southeast. During the period of 27-May-19 to 9-Jun-19, the Arkansas Wing responded to this emergency with outstanding vigor and tenacity, utilizing its

six aircraft to fly some 41 airborne photography sorties totaling 75.3 hours. These sorties resulted in a remarkable 4,618 images being provided to the 188th Wing of the Arkansas Air National Guard, who in turn were able to utilize their Unclassified Processing, Assessment, and Dissemination (UPAD) capability to interpret the images obtained by the Arkansas Wing into critical, near real-time analysis of the disaster as it unfolded. The efficiency and effectiveness with which these operations were conducted would not have been possible without the superb level of mission readiness which the Arkansas Wing constantly maintains, as well as the high level of cooperation and partnership which the wing demonstrated with the Arkansas National Guard, the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, and various other agencies throughout this catastrophic event. Anticipating the enormity of the event and the scope of the response which would be required, the Wing also had the foresight to request two additional airplanes and crews from Louisiana Wing to assist. The tremendous and tireless efforts put forth by the Arkansas Wing proved to be one of the most critical components of the successful response to this historic event and had a rapid, direct, and positive impact upon the safety and well-being of the hundreds of thousands of people who suddenly found themselves in the path of this disaster. In total, members from both the Arkansas Wing Headquarters and multiple squadrons throughout the state contributed some 410 man-hours to this mission...an extraordinary effort given the relatively-small size of the wing. The success of this response could not have been possible without the tremendous dedication, professionalism, and steadfast devotion to duty of the members of the Arkansas Wing, and reflects great credit upon both the wing itself and Civil Air Patrol as a whole."

APPENDIX VII: Special Staff Officers – Data and Statistics

Inspector General

Lt Col Adam Boyd

Safety

Major Danny Marsh

Government Relations

Capt Cliff McKinney

Legal

Capt Cliff McKinney

COMPLETED STAFF ACTIONS CY JANUARY 2020 TO DECEMBER 2020

Inspector General

Five squadrons had their SUI in 2020: 42nd Composite Squadron (Little Rock), 95th Composite Squadron (Texarkana), 99th Composite Squadron (West Memphis), 107th Composite Squadron (Mountain Home), and the 115th Composite Squadron (Rogers).

Director of Safety

Wing Director of Safety, Maj Danny Marsh, attended the National Safety Officer College in October and November 2020. He participated in Falcon Virgo in December 2020 virtually.

Government Relations

We had very a successful 2020 Legislative Day in D.C., gaining audiences with almost all of our representatives.