

**HISTORY OF  
SUMTER COMPOSITE SQUADRON MAR-SC-075**

Civil Air Patrol  
Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

1 January, 2021 through 31 December, 2021



*Prepared By*

Captain Erick Nason, CAP  
Squadron Historian

*Reviewed By*

Colonel Christopher Peterson, CAP  
Wing Commander

**REGION COMMANDER APPROVAL**

Colonel Bruce B. Heinlein, CAP  
Regional Commander



South Carolina Wing (MAR-SC-001)  
3901 CAP Wing Dr.,  
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04 MARCH 2022

MEMORNADUM FOR Captain Erick Nason, CAP

FROM: Colonel Christopher Peterson, SCWG/CC

SUBJECT: Approval of the Sumter Composite Squadron's 2021 History Report

I approve the publication and forward to the MAR Historian to be forwarded to NHQ.

DocuSigned by:  
*Chris Peterson*  
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CHRISTOPHER PETERSON, Colonel, CAP  
South Carolina Wing Commander

## INTRODUCTION OF UNIT STAFF

Commander: Erick W. Nason  
Deputy Commander: George Stanley  
DCC for Cadets" Londa Stanley  
Aerospace Education Officer: Mitchel Monroe  
Health Services Officer Mary Hopkins  
Communications Officer Doug Anderson  
Operations Officer Freddy Williams

Captain  
Lieutenant Colonel  
  
1st Lieutenant  
  
Lieutenant Colonel  
  
1st Lieutenant  
  
Captain  
  
Captain

## **Chapter I OPERATIONS**

### **Search and Rescue**

By the conclusion of 2021, the squadron retained its three GTLs, gained with four GTM 1, gained with nine GTM 2, maintained twelve GTM3, and gained with ten UDF qualified personnel. This is meet and in some cases, exceeded the goal for 2021 in having three ground teams available. The squadron still only has two Mission Radio Operators by the end of 2020. For the aircrews, the squadron has two Mission Pilots, six Mission Scanners, but no Aerial Photographers. The squadron was able to prepare one ground team to participate in an exercise that was canceled before it could be executed due to COVID.

### **Disaster Response**

During the Wing's Hurricane Preparedness Exercise for the state, Sumter Composite Squadron provided an aircrew, an aerial photographer, and air branch director to the incident command staff, and a ground team for two days. The ground team took photographs and measurements of simulated damaged state infrastructure and provided the data to the incident command post.

### **Homeland Security**

The squadron provided an aircrew to support the North Carolina Army National Guard Air Defense exercise.

### **Counterdrug Operations**

Nothing significant to report.

## **Chapter II AEROSPACE EDUCATION**

### **Internal Aerospace Education**

The squadron's goal for 2021 in aerospace education included: completing model rocketry requirements by 11 May 2021; completing requirements for 2021 AEX by 30 June 2021; conducting cadet orientation rides for all CAP cadets within 45 days of joining and at least two orientation rides for AFJROTC cadets from Sumter, Crestwood, Lakewood, and Manning High Schools; recruiting two additional orientation pilots to expand the squadron's capability; standing up a Cyber Patriot team; and recruiting two additional AEMs by 31 Dec 2021.

The squadron did meet its model rocketry goal though with the COVID restriction, it wasn't met until September 2021. The squadron did get as many of the new cadets their orientation flights and some of the others when both the weather and COVID restrictions allowed. The squadron did not form a Cyber Patriot Team, but achieved their AEX award for the fifth year in a row.

### **External Aerospace Education**

Sumter Composite Squadron reached out to local high school science teachers for AEM, however due to COVID could not pursue any additional advancement. The squadron supported some external aerospace events, to include the Sumter County Airport Fly-In. On September 3rd, Captain Nason supported a community event at Lee County Airport/Butter's Field in memory of Herald "Hal" F. Marting who was a World War II aviator who crashed near Lee's Field on September 20th, 1943. He had a table display on CAP History during the Second World War.

## **Chapter III CADET PROGRAMS**

### **Cadet Programs**

The squadron for the most part did achieve its goal for 2021 of getting cadets earning their Wright Brothers, even adapting to the COVID restrictions for the closed book testing and drill test. While squadron members served on staff and participated in the Cadet Training Weekend in February, the Summer Encampment was originally postponed to the fall, and then canceled due to the COVID threat. The squadron did achieve the Quality Cadet Unit Award, the AEX Award, and Squadron of Merit distinctions.

### **Cadet Activities**

With the COVID restrictions, a good majority of the training at the beginning of the year was virtual training. During the year, COVID restrictions bounced between Phase I, to Phase II and for a short period almost reached Phase III. All of the prescribed hours for cadet training were met, and made interesting through other virtual effects to keep the cadets engaged. 22 out of 26 senior members have completed their Yeager Awards. 38 cadets and senior members have completed their General Emergency Services training.

### **Drug Demand Reduction**

As part of the healthy cadet training, the cadets learned different drug reduction and resistance techniques and education on the hazards of drug use.

## APPENDIX I: Core Mission Data and Statistics *(Data in support of the Narrative)*

### Operations

The squadron's goal for 2021 was to maintain and meet all national and wing required training events for the squadron, to include character development and safety specific training; all senior members qualified in Level 1/Cadet protection completed within 2 months of joining; all SMs continuing professional development IAW the Volunteer University Curriculum and instructors, and specialty track advancement; squadron senior members achieving >90% Yeager Award and CAPT 116 GES; and organizing and mentoring cadet-led training venues. Pass the Unit Inspection by June 2021.

The Wing entered 2021 still under the COVID restrictions as the numbers in South Carolina of positive cases grew from November through December. The numbers had reached a point that Colonel Safely on 07 January restricted routine in-person activities, and non-routine training events on a case-by-case basis, coordinated through him. All commanders were encouraged to continue full utilization of their virtual platforms to provide members' engagement in unit meetings and activities. Captain Nason participated in the modified National Legislation month, instead of the standard Legislation Day due to COVID.

Captain Nason, along with members representing the Wing, had Team meetings with key staff members of State representatives in the Congress and Senate. Captain Nason met with the staff of Congressman Ralph Norman, Tim Duncan, Senator Lindsey Graham, and Tim Scott.

On February 18th, the Wing announced the 2020 Member of the Year awards. From Sumter Composite Squadron: Lt. Col. Stanley, Character Development Instructor of the Year, Captain Nason for Historian of the Year, and Incident Staff member of the Year, and Lt. Col. Monroe received Senior Member of the Year.

On February 12th, the Mid-Atlantic Region Commander Colonel Heinlein passed his vision for 2021. "In 2021, we plan to emerge safely from the pandemic into our "new normal" operations that provide for our force's safety, cadet programs emergence, continuity of missions, and continued support to ending the pandemic. Emerging the Force for safe and effective operations. We must continue to follow CDC and other guidelines, but with the arrival of vaccines, we have new opportunities.

As the vaccine roll-out continues and the virus is checked, we will be able to emerge more safely and take-on more activities. In the ensuing months, as conditions improve, even more will be achievable. It is our goal to return to essentially normal meeting opportunities as soon as practicable but certainly before the end of the calendar year. That said, normal meetings will continue to develop in a hybrid model.

Normalizing Cadet Programs for continued excellence. Integrating the lessons learned from the pandemic, we will strengthen Cadet Programs while hopefully providing opportunities to participate in encampments and cadet special activities. Virtual meetings will increase, improve, and enrich the opportunities available to cadets as we return to in-person activities.

Likewise, we will continue to develop a variety of cadet special activities within the Region that incorporate virtual and in-person components to continue to maintain the safety of our members, enrich the depth of our programs, while working to decrease barriers to participation. As National Headquarters adjusts the waiver process and member risk is reduced, Wings and Region will work together to ensure cadets have opportunities to fulfill all requirements previously waived.

Expanding Mission Capability to deliver value to the Air Force and our communities. Our vision is to return every member of our mission force, including Ground Teams, Incident Command Staff, Aircrews and others, to pre-pandemic readiness levels. This will focus on localized flight and ground training, squadron, wing, and region-level exercises, and specialty training. We have been reminded that our missions are critical to our communities, and so our crews must be at their peak performance. We will provide new ratings, skills, and expertise to our membership wherever possible.

Expanding Pandemic Relief and Emerging Missions as a fast, flexible force. Across the nation, Civil Air Patrol and been central to our nation's response to COVID-19. Even in our darkest hours, CAP stepped forward in response. In 2021, that service will likely expand and not shrink: CAP will be there at testing and vaccinations sites, in warehouses, and transporting people and materiel. It is in our vision that our Region's Wings should remain ahead of mission need and prepared to serve—safely. As we know, this pandemic will not end quickly but we do know that Civil Air Patrol will be in the fight with well-trained, capable, and enthusiastic personnel.

Our vision is simple for 2021: from here we move forward to a “new normal” in an environment with a receding COVID-19 threat. We hope this vision helps you to understand your place in Civil Air Patrol and the destination we have in mind. We hope it becomes your vision, because you, the members, are the Civil Air Patrol. You are our lifeblood. You do the work in this organization. And, you achieve the mission.

Captain Nason hosted a squadron historian professional development seminar on February 27th. Four members from the wing participated, where they learned about the new regulations, how to be a historian, the specialty track, and the report format.

Captain Nason giving a Physical Training Class as part of Healthy Cadet  
On February 27th, South Carolina Wing announced that Phase I remobilization for COVID was active. Units could start conducting in-person meeting and training



events following the specific Phase I guidelines. This included no more than 10 personnel, facemasks, temperatures taken and recorded, and six foot spacing. On March 18th, the Wing entered Phase II of the COVID remobilization plan. This now allowed for squadrons to have meetings and activities up to fifty people. This included cadets, senior members, guests and parents. Requirements still included masks on inside, temperature recorded and health screening questions during sign in. The six foot spacing was removed, and if activities were done outdoors, then no masks.

However, there were still some high risk zones, including Sumter County that prevented other squadrons to participate at our events. Flight operations returned to include orientation flights, mission flights and exercise flights. The next thirty days will determine if South Carolina Wing will enter Phase III.

During the 2nd Quarter Wing Command Council, the New Wing Commander Colonel Peterson explained his vision and mission statement for the Wing. He also shared his credo of "Air"; putting a strong emphasis on Aerospace Education, STEM and flying. He highlighted his goals, to include Opportunistic Goals:

Cadet Orientation Flights from 75.39% to an end of year of 86%  
Wright Brothers from 141 to an end of year of 155  
Eaker Awards from 0 to an end of year of 1  
Aircraft Utilization from 78.84% (13.14 hours) to an end of year of 100% (16.67 hours)  
Quality Cadet Unit Award from last years of 11 to an end of year of 13  
Yeager Award for seniors from 264 to an end of year of 270  
Mission Pilots of current of 33 to an end of year of 40  
Aerial Photographers of 33 to an end of year of 45

Colonel Peterson's immediate goals included stabilizing unit. While recruiting is encouraged, he identified a need to keep and retain what cadets and senior members that squadrons have as they emerge from the COVID restrictions. Squadrons should develop their bench strength, establish standard operating procedures, mentor ship and identify two key staff positions to prepare them to take over the positions in two years. Squadrons need to develop both short term and long-range plans, schedules and goals.

He also requested squadrons to conduct an internal review of their best practices, what makes their squadrons good. He also tasked squadrons to look at where they are weak at or are threats to their squadrons. The squadrons are to bring their findings to the next Council.

An update concerning the COVID remobilization plan was provided, and an update on which county was still considered Red/High Risk areas. The Wing is still holding off in requesting going to Phase III until there is a well-defined downward trend on the infection rate.

The Group 1 Commander Lt. Col Selig passed information to the squadron concerning up-coming training for senior members. There is a proposed TLC Courses at JB Charleston on June 12 and June 13th. While Group 2 has priority, specifically Low Country for whom all 8 TLC graduates exceed 48 months on 01 Jun, and we will need to schedule an additional class if we have more than 18 students.

Captain Karin Taylor of Greenville Composite Squadron was looking to develop an in-person Phase II, Part 2 professional development day they would host. Additionally, she hosted a specialty track training for personnel officers on May 15th via Teams.

The squadron received updated guidance on May 18th concerning COVID-19 and mask wearing from the National Commander, General Smith. CAP will follow national policy, and when members are fully vaccinated no longer are required to wear masks indoors and outdoors. Those members who are not fully vaccinated are still required to wear their masks. Health screenings will still be conducted prior to meetings or events until notified.

Squadron received their 60-day notice concerning the 2021 SUI, in which the squadron began reviewing and preparing for the inspection. Captain Karen Taylor sent updates to the squadron concerning updates in promotions, awards, education and training. New member promotions was stipulated that all will complete their Phase I, Part A of Phase II and six months before their award of 2nd Lieutenant.

Members should be recognized and presented with awards throughout the year. Squadrons will process all award requests through e-Services except "Of The Year" and those awards that need approvals above wing level. Achievement Awards are approved at the group level and should be printed and signed from the local level to be presented shortly after the event/action that precipitated the award. Lieutenant Colonel Shaffner reached out to the squadrons concerning the new implementation of education and training for senior member development.

A meeting was held on May 26th to look at options. Level 1 being responsible at unit level; Level 2 & 3 being responsible at Group level; a mix of virtual and on-site attendance options; wing cohort groups who work together to accomplish their training; twice a year weekend ET training events. Additionally, Lt. Col. Shaffner approached a Wing program to develop their core cadre of education and training instructors.

On Friday, August 13th, South Carolina Wing reverted to PHASE II of the COVID remobilization plan due to the Delta variant of COVID-19. This reversion unfortunately required the 2021 SC Wing Summer Encampment to be canceled. Lt. Col. Shaffner reached out to the Wing to develop a Wing Virtual Training Syllabus where subjects will be taught by subject matter experts from across the Wing. Capt. Nason volunteered to be the lead for Emergency Services, Leadership and

## Aerospace History.

The Wing began planning for the return to Phase I of COVID, by developing a pool of instructors and classes that can be taught virtually over Teams, like it was done this past Spring. This menu of classes were designed to assist squadron commanders in planning their unit training activities with subject matter experts across the Wing. The training venues were scheduled for Monday nights, and both Lt. Col. Stanley and Capt. Nason from the squadron were part of the pool of instructors.

On Friday, September 3rd, Captain Nason supported a community event at Lee County Airport/Butter's Field in memory of Herald "Hal" F. Marting who was a World War II aviator who crashed near Lee's Field on September 20th, 1943. Flying Officer Marting was first a Marine, then became a private pilot, and at the beginning of World War II, joined the Canadian Air Force as a member of the Eagle Squadron. He was shot down in 1942, was able to escape and through the assistance of the Greek Underground, made it back to Cairo. Due to his injuries, he had to resign his commission, but became a test pilot for the Curtis Company, and was flying a P40 when it crashed due to weather in 1943.

During the ceremony, Captain Nason ran a table that recognized Civil Air Patrol's contribution to the war effort during the Second World War. Additionally, he provided personal items to a table recognizing the veterans of Desert Storm. The Lee County Military Museum had displays honoring veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm. Additionally, a P40 and P51D that had done a fly-by for the ceremony, landed and were on display at the airport.

The Wing initiated a virtual training menu for squadron commanders could pass to their squadron and participate in, due to the new COVID restrictions. Captain Nason, Lt. Col. Stanley and Lt. Col. Monroe volunteered to be virtual instructors. Captain Nason began on September 13th, providing a two-hour block of instruction on General Emergency Services (GES). 35 senior members and cadets were in attendance.

On October 13th, the Wing returned to COVID Phase II protocols, with the expectations of returning to Phase I in a few days. This allowed the squadron to return to meeting at the hut only, increase numbers to just under fifty, and remove the mask requirements. Self-evaluations were still mandated.

SCWG is finalizing plans for a Level III cohort to begin in December. The cohort will meet monthly on a Saturday morning, currently the second Saturday of the month, from 9-12. The plan is to cover up to three moderated modules each month in one morning. Anticipate some months as in-person instruction and others as "virtual in residence" (VIR).

Captain Nason planned to conduct an in-person Phase II, Part 1 and 2 professional development training for the squadron's senior members on November 20th, 2021.

SM Neeld and 2nd Lt K. Nason participated and were able to complete their Phase II professional development.

#### Emergency Services:

The 2021 squadron's goals for emergency services included developing and maintaining three complete UDF/ground teams (3 x GTLs, 9 x GTM2 or higher, 12 x UDF) by 31 December 2021, which would include a 50% increase of GTM 2s and GTM 1s; having two complete aircrews (2 x mission pilots, 2 x observers, and 2 x scanners/AP); having four MRO-qualified members to support operations; participating in one exercise with local responders/searchers, all regional and wing Emergency Services exercises, and supporting the USAF directed Search and Rescue Evaluation involving the Mid-Atlantic Region exercises. Develop one Ranger Qualified ground team by 31 December 2021.

As the Wing remained in restricted COVID operational environment, Colonel Safely indicated on 07 January for non-routine CAP ES missions, such as a planned outdoor UDF training event January 16th, as well as the squadron's training on January 30th will be approved on a case-by-case basis by either himself, or on his behalf by Lt Col Nikki Shaffner or Lt Col Chris Peterson.

On January 30th, the Wing conducted an Incident Command Post exercise for the Wing Staff. Captain Nason participated as the Ground Branch Director. The exercise was designed to be executed in a COVID environment, staff members used Teams from their respective homes. The scenario was a damage assessment after an earthquake of the Thurman Dam, that included air and ground assessment. The exercise was deemed a success, where new techniques were used, and better coordination through Teams achieved. It was recommended that the Wing conducts a Incident Command Post exercise at least once a quarter to maintain proficiencies.

Hawk Mountain Ranger School offered virtual training February 13-14, to allow both cadets and senior members to participate and earn certification. The courses included Introduction to Winter Operations; Basic Ranger Course; Advance Ranger Course, and the Special Advance Ranger Course. The Hawk Mountain Summer Ranger School is still planned for 10 – 18 July in 2021.

Lt. Col. Stanley, Wing Director for Cadet Programs listed the goal for 2021 was 75% of cadets in each Squadron will have the GES certification (QCUA criteria 60%).

Major Carnes, Wing Emergency Services Officer stated he would run a Mission Support Assistant (MSA) on-line, April 1st and 15th.

Capt. Nason provided instruction to Sumter and Florence Composite Squadron on GTM 2 and GTM 3 skills. Along with Captain Nason was C/A1C Taylor, C/Amn J. Butters; C/SSgt Barwick, and Lt. K. Stokes. Both Cadet Barwick and Lt. Stokes

completed and became fully qualified GTM 2s.

Combined Sumter and Florence Emergency Services Training at Florence While at Florence, Capt. Nason worked with Major Carnes who was instructing a GTL course. They combined the classes in the afternoon for the field training exercises of a practice line search, and two sorties line searches. Unfortunately at the end of training, the Sumter van's transmission died and Florence assisted in lending their van to Sumter to get the team home.

A GTM 3 training weekend was conducted on April 10th conducted out at the Sumter CAP hut. Participants included Lt Karin Nason, C/CMSgt Hoppmann, and Cadet Iglesias. Upon the completion of the training, Lt. Karin Nason achieved her GTM 3 badge.

On April 17th, Captain Nason provided the hands on portion as well as a review of the introduction to communication training. In attendance was Lt. Karin Nason, Lt. Hendricks, C/SrA Hendricks, C/SrA Joseph Butters and Cadet Maas. As the van was available, the students were able to use bot the hand held radios and the base station radio in the van. Upon the conclusion of the training, C/SrA Butters achieved GTM 3.

Captain Nason conducted Ground Branch Director training for the Wing on May 7th and 20th. Lt. Col. Shaffner, Major Carnes, and Major Williams were the participants of the virtual training via Teams.

Over the May 29-30th weekend, Lt. Col Bryan with Lt. Stanley, Lt. Nason and Capt. Nason conducted the air practice sorties for mission scanner. By the end of the weekend, both Lt. Stanly and Capt. Nason completed their two required sorties for certification, Lt. Nason would complete hers at a later date.

The squadron was notified about the South Carolina Hurricane Response Exercise scheduled for June 17-19. This year's exercise will be a bit different in the past but will mirror what was to have been accomplished last year if weather and COVID did not get in the way. The Wing will have the traditional pre-hurricane strike response supporting EMD and State Police followed by a transition to a day or two of post-strike activities. 17 Jun will be the pre-strike activity while 18-19 Jun will be post-strike activities. There will be some centralized execution from Wing HQ and some decentralized execution from home stations.

Sumter hosted an emergency services training weekend, providing urban direction finding, ground team member 3, 2 and Ranger 3rd Class qualifications June 5th and 6th. Capt. Nason was the lead instructor, supported by C/SSgt Barwick and Lt. Col. Stanley. Lt. Hendrick supported as the mission radio operator for the exercises. Eight members participated in the UDF training on the 5th. Eleven members participated in the training on the 6th. C/SSgt Hendrick; C/Arm Proctor, C/SSgt Butters, Lt. Nason, and Lt. Knight from Emerald City earned their UDF qualifications.

On the 6th, Capt. Nason was the lead instructor, supported by C/SSgt Barwick as his assistant, Lt Hendricks as the Mission Radio Operator, and Lt. Col. Stanley. C/A1C Lever from Lexington, C/Arm Proctor, C/SrA George Butters, C/SSgt Joseph Butters, and SM Scott completed their GTM 3 qualifications. Additionally, after all of the GTM 3 training was completed, C/A1C Lever, C/SSgt Barwick, C/Arm Proctor, C/SSgt Joseph Butters, C/SrA George Butters and C/SSgt Hendricks earned their Ranger 3rd Class qualifications.

During the weekly meeting on June 8th, Captain Nason assisted by C/SSgt Barwick, did the annual fire making skills training. Capt. Nason provided the materials, a quick explanation and demonstration, then the cadets were required to build a fire and it had to burn for 5 minutes. This was challenging as it had just rained and the air was very humid. All the cadets were able to get a fire going, and most were able to keep it burning for five minutes.

On Sunday June 13th, Capt. Nason assisted with Lt. Nason instructed an American Red Cross First Aid, CPR and AED course to the members of the squadron, and MSgt McManus. At the end of the day, the following personnel from Sumter earned their American Red Cross card: C/A1C Anderson, C/SSgt Barwick, C/SSgt Bradshaw, C/Arm Burdick, C/SSgt J. Butters, C/A1C P. Butters, C/SrA G. Butters, Cadet Collins, 2nd Lt Hendrick, C/SSgt Hendrick, C/CMSgt Hoppmann, C/Amn Lefevre, and C/Amn Proctor.

#### CPR and AED Portion for the Red Cross Certification

The South Carolina Hurricane Prep exercise, involving the State's Emergency Management Division and the Wing Headquarters, 17-19 June. The 17th was strictly the Wing and the State working together doing pre-storm aerial reconnaissance. The 18th-19th is the follow-on Wing missions, where air and ground teams participated.

Wing Hurricane Exercise: Lt Stanley Aerial Photographer; Capt Nason Air Branch Director. The Squadron provided an aircrew with Lt. Col. Bryan as the mission pilot, and Lt Stanley serving as the aerial photographer. Major Hill supported the exercise by flying the aircraft based at Marion. Wing identified an issue of not having enough certified mission pilots and aerial photographers. Sumter did respond and provided aircrews for both days.

Capt. Nason led a ground team on the 18th consisted of cadets C/A1C Nicholas Anderson, C/SSgt Barwick, Cadet Jeshua and C/SSgt Johnathan Bradshaw, C/SrA George Butters, C/SSgt Hendricks, C/Arm Lefevre, Cadet Lippy, and C/Arm Proctor. Lt. Col. Stanley led the second team on the 19th, consisting of 2nd Lt. Hendricks and cadets C/A1C Nicholas Anderson, C/SSgt Barwick, C/SSgt Hendricks, C/Arm Proctor. Sumter squadron was the only squadron to provide a ground team on both days. The Wing commander passed his thanks for a job well done.

Sumter hosted a GTL, GTM re-certification and training day on July 10th. Capt. Nason instructed and participants included Lt. Col. Shaffner from Wing Staff; Capt. Jane Proell and Lt Don Proell from Florence, C/TSgt Hendricks and C/SSgt Barwick from Sumter. Lt. Col. Shaffner recertified as a GTL, Capt and Lt Proell earned their GTLs, C/TSgt Barwick earned GTM 1 and C/TSgt Hendricks completed 80% of GTM 2.

Captain Nason traveled to ACE Basin on July 17th and 18th for emergency services training. He provided ground team member three on the 17th, then urban direction finding on the 18th. Two senior members and three cadets earned their GTM 3 certification on the 17th, and two senior members and two cadets earned their UDF certification on the 18th.

During the Wing Council on July 24th, Captain Nason was recognized with a lifesaving award for when he responded as a first responder at a local steak restaurant and a patron was choking. Along with Lt. Nason, Capt. Nason provided immediate first aid for choking, saving the man's life.

With the uptick of the Delta variant of COVID, the September MAR-SAR College would become a virtual only event instead of a mix of virtual and in-person training. The squadron was notified of a fatal plane crash near Waterboro SC, and the Wing requested support in site security. Unfortunately, the squadron had no team leaders available to support the Wing.

On November 20th, Lt. Nason flying as a mission scanner with Lt. Col. Bryan and Maj. Hill, completed her second training sortie, and completing her requirements to earn mission scanner status, and basic aircrew wings.

Capt. Nason began working with the Wing, Group Commanders and other emergency services stakeholders in developing a plan that will see ground team academics during the aircrew academics on the 29th of January 2022, to be followed up at a later day with the mission sorties where air and ground teams would train together. The intent is to develop and grown the emergency services ground and aircrew bench strength for 2022.

#### COVID-19:

Since the 1st Quarter of the FY, there had been a steady increase in the rate of positive cases within South Carolina, reportedly due to the holiday season. Due to this increase of risk, Colonel safely implemented a update to training and operations within the wing. This included no in-person routine activities, and any non-routine activities like emergency services training will be approved by the chain of command.

On the 24th of January, due to the steady increase of the number of infections in the state, the Wing reverted back to Phase 0. This means that only those tasks that fall under Mission Essential Functions may be done face to face, with all

precautions in place, and with Wing Commander approval.

"Mission essential travel is defined as those missions that involve the potential for loss of life or property such as search and rescue, disaster relief or other emergency response and recovery operations. Mission-essential travel also includes providing CAP resources to help train DoD components to perform their mission essential functions." (Gen Mark E. Smith).

Major General Smith stated that every CAP member is a valued team member and is critical to all our mission accomplishments.

"Continue being vigilant by wearing face coverings, socially distancing, washing your hands frequently, monitoring your health, not gathering in crowds, avoiding closed spaces with poor ventilation, limiting time with others, and not participating in CAP activities if feeling sick."

General Smith also stated, "It's important for leaders to encourage each member to make an informed decision about the pros and cons of vaccination by consulting government sources like the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and each member's healthcare professional team. Additionally, your CAP Health Services Officer can provide additional informational resources so you are well-informed to make the best decision for you."

On May 29th, Wing released the report that it was entering PHASE III of the COVID remobilization plan. This allowed the resumption of near normal weekly meetings and weekend events for the squadrons, plus now family members can participate in promotions and other activities. Orientation flights with three people resumed. Health screening was still recommended, and it was advised if members did not feel well, to not attend the activity.

General Smith provided additional guidance with a memorandum on 1 June concerning vaccination. All members who have received their vaccinations did not have to wear their masks. Those who have not, were still required to maintain social distancing, and wear their masks. Health Safety Officers, Safety Officers or Commanders will continue to conduct health screenings. General Smith did pass a job well done to the organization during this crisis.

On Friday, August 13th at 1800 hours, Colonel Peterson directed that due to the increasing numbers of the Delta variant of COVID-19 was growing in South Carolina at an alarming rate, to revert back to Phase II. This was modified again on August 24th, with due to the steady increase in the number of positive cases in South Carolina, the Wing reverted to Phase I. The squadron began looking at for the weekly meetings to have station training where the cadets and senior members are spaced out.

On Friday, August 27th, the squadron was alerted to a 406 emergency boat beacon detected in vicinity of St. George SC. Lt. Col. Bailey contacted Capt. Nason to see



if Sumter could form a team. The squadron was able to field a ground team consisting of Capt. Nason as the team leader, Lt. Col. Monroe as the assistant team leader/navigator, and 2nd Lt Nason as the scribe, team member in support of 21-M-0438.

Supporting the mission was an aircrew from Mount Pleasant under Lt. Col. Dean, and a second ground team under Captain Newell from Coastal Charleston. Using the location provided by the AFRCC, Capt. Nason provided SARTOPO maps that identified three potential search areas. The team deployed and arrived at the search area, interviewed locals as it was misunderstood that it was a boat beacon, and not an aircraft. Capt. Nason used the direction finding gear, however none of the receivers were capable of picking up the 406 signal.

The ground team coordinated with the aircrew, and moved to a staging area while the aircraft used the Becker system to attempt to locate the beacon. To make spotting the van easier, the team used orange duct tape to place a large "X" across the top of the van along with a small orange panel.

After not receiving the signal, the aircrew returned to base while the ground team continued a local search and interviewed homes with boats in the area. Using Google Earth, a boat was spotted near by, and the team investigated. While a boat was found, the owner was not home. After recording the information, the team returned to Sumter.

On 13 October, the Wing returned to Phase II of the COVID remobilization plan as the number of new cases diminished and met the national standard. This was quickly followed by the announcement on 17 October where the Wing returned to Phase III.

The Wing received further guidance on COVID and DoD facilities as it pertained to vaccinations from the national commander, Major General Phelka. His memo stated that all CAP members who fly, train, or attend meetings in a DoD facility must now report vaccine status or submit negative COVID tests per DoD's policy. Entry into DoD facilities around the nation will require compliance with his memo. This impacted members who work or conduct business on a DoD facility on a regular, or daily basis.

The commander stated that all CAP members acting in official capacity who seek access to DoD facilities on a routine basis will complete DD Form 3150. The form must be submitted upon request to designated DoD personnel at the military facility. CAP members requiring access to DoD facilities who have not been fully vaccinated will have to show an electronic or paper copy of negative results from an FDA-authorized or approved COVID-19 test administered no earlier than 72 hours prior to their visit.

## Aerospace Education

The squadron's goal for 2021 in aerospace education includes: completing model rocketry requirements by 14 May 2021; completing requirements for 2021 AEX by 30 June 2021; conducting cadet orientation rides for all CAP cadets within 45 days of joining and at least two orientation rides for AFJROTC cadets from Sumter, Crestwood, Lakewood, and Manning High Schools; recruiting two additional orientation pilots to expand the squadron's capability; and recruiting two additional AEMs by 31 Dec 2021. Initiate a drone training program, develop a deployable drone team. Earn Aerospace Achievement Award for 2021-2022.

Lt. Col. Stanley, Wing Director for Cadet Programs published the Wing's Goal for cadet activities, to include Aerospace. These goals for 2021 are:

50% of cadets in each Squadron will have at least one orientation flight.

Five Squadrons participate in the Cyber Patriot program.

80% of Squadrons earn the AEX Award (QCUA criteria).

During the 2nd Quarter Wing Command Council, the Wing Aerospace Officer Lt Bob Roberts highlighted getting the model rocketry program engaged, involving both the cadets and the senior members as well. The Wing will conduct a high altitude balloon launch, and squadrons were encouraged in securing and using STEM kits from national.

Lieutenant Colonel Selig, Group 1 commander and Wing Cyber Officer, announced Ace Basin was hosting two Air Force Association cyber camps. Air Force Association Standard Camp (for those cadets without any CyberPatriot experience) was conducted as a Virtual Attendance in the evening hours June 14 – 18, 2021. Air Force Association Advanced Camp (for those cadets with some CyberPatriot experience) was conducted Virtual or as an In-person attendance, held July 12 -16, 2021. Additionally, Lt. Col. Selig reminded that cadets and Senior Members may take on-line training for free that is offered by the Cisco Networking Academy. This training would cost several thousand dollars outside of CAP.

Lt. Col. Selig recommended squadrons to consider forming a Cyber Patriot Team where cadets could earn the Cyber badge. A senior members to serve as a coach did not require extensive cyber or computer knowledge. He offered to provide a Cyber presentation at the squadrons if they had an interest.

On June 17th, Sumter Composite Squadron received an Aerospace Education Challenge where a team of six cadets or six senior members develop a prototype glider using recycled materials. The challenge is broken down into three phases: A design Phase, the Results Phase, and then the competition where the glider will be presented to a team of judges. Judging will occur on October 9th.

On June 23rd, Colonel Monroe passed to the squadron that at long last, the South Carolina Wing is ready to begin small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS) training in

earnest. The CAP sUAS program exists to train CAP members in the art and science of aviation and to provide unmanned aerial vehicle support to incident commanders. A fully trained and equipped CAP sUAS team can provide a birds-eye view from low altitudes, as well as collect large amounts of photographic data, but we have limitations.

The systems the Wing has are limited in terms of loiter time and cameras. On average, we can employ our UAVs for about 20 minutes, depending on winds and temperature, and our cameras are only traditional electro-optical (no thermal or infrared capabilities). Still, our sUAS teams can provide an incident commander with near real time information on structure conditions (e.g., water levels of dams, conditions under a bridge, or post-natural disaster overview) or assist in a search effort.

The Wing has the unmanned aircraft, but we have very few qualified pilots and visual observers. CAP National Headquarters tasked the SCWG to certify and be able to employ five sUAS Teams (a team consists of one UAS Mission Pilot and one UAS Technician). A UAS Mission Pilot can be CAP senior members or cadets (at least 16-years-old), who hold a current FAA Part 107 rating (Remote Pilot – Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems). A UAS Technician can be any CAP senior member or cadet. For either crew position, the CAP member must have also completed Level 1 of the senior member professional development program or, if a cadet, the Achievement 1 (Curry). The SQTR task guide and qualification requirements for each crew position are available through eServices and the CAP National website

Colonel Peterson highlighted the need for our aircrews to get back into the air on June 23rd. He understood 100% the Wing has to crawl before we walk and run as it comes out of the COVID's 15+ Month Hiatus. The Hurricane CONOPS Dress-Rehearsal yielded the need for more preparation, currency, proficiency with the aircrews. SC Wing is well behind the power curve in flight hours in FY2021. The concern is, if the Wing doesn't show use of their aircraft, national can reassign it to another Wing.

On July 17th, Lt. Col. Monroe provided an overview briefing to ACE Basin and other CAP members on drone operations. He emphasized the importance of understanding the capabilities and limitations that CAP drones can do for ground teams during search operations. After the briefing, Lt. Col. Monroe took his students to work on their drone certification.

The squadron traveled to Fort Bragg NC for National Airborne Day as part of the AEX certification for a museum tour. At the National Airborne and Special Operations Museum, the squadron received a personal tour by Captain Nason who pointed out unique historical events that applied to CAP, as well as his own military experience.

Additionally, the cadets were able to look at the various static displays presented by

elements from the 82nd Airborne Division. The cadets tried on field equipment, parachutes, handled the different weapons systems, and were able to interact and ask questions from the soldiers present. The event concluded when jump teams from the Black Knights and US Army Special Operation Command's Dagger jump demonstration team.

#### Internal Aerospace Education

With the squadron in Phase II of the COVID remobilization plan, orientation flights were authorized with a special exception for one pilot, with one cadet. Capt. Nason coordinated with Grand Strad to have a flight weekend where they would bring their aircraft and with two airplanes, get numerous orientation flights executed.

The Squadron conducted an orientation flight day on May 8th, where Major Hill flew cadets Tai Rutland, Mckenzie East, Abigail Lefevre, Mia Iglesias, and Bryan Burdick.

Cadet Orientation Flights resumed on October 23rd, with C/Airman Lane Bledsoe; C/Airman Kelsey Martin, C/Airman Kiara Londo and Cadet Coleman Williams getting their first flights. Lieutenant Colonel Bryan and Major Hill flew the cadets. Lt. Col. Bryan and Maj. Hill flew cadets again over the weekend of November 20 and 21st. Cadet Bradshaw received his first orientation flight, C/Amn Proctor received his first orientation flight, and Cadet Martin received her second orientation flight.

A second orientation flight Saturday was set up on May 22nd. Major Hill flew C/CMSgt Hoppmann; Cadet Martin, Cadet Maas, and Cadet Wright. Additionally, Capt. Nason, Lt. Nason with Lt. Col. Bryan flew their mission scanner sorties. On May 25th, Colonel Peterson sent out a message concerning a general aviation accident at Myrtle Beach where contaminated fuel may have been the issue. A second event occurred at the same airport, and a third occurred up in North Carolina. The message was intended to advise the SC Wing's aircrews to be vigilant.

June was identified when the squadron will begin this year's model rocketry program where eligible cadets could work on their model rocketry badge. Captain Nason provided a primer, an overview of the model rocketry phases of training on May 11th. Then beginning in June, the squadron began with the Phase I Fizzy Rocket and Goddard Rocket builds, along with a session of Goddard Golf.

This was placed into action when the squadron on June 15th, everyone participated in the "Fizzy Engine" development. The intent of the exercise was to allow the cadets to come up with their own ratio of water to Alka Selzer tab(s), and its effect on height. Additionally, the air powered Nerf rocket was used, and the results of the force was compared. As part of the group discussion, the point was to show the importance of Aeronautical Engineers and experimentation.

During the weekly meeting on June 29th, the cadets participated in the Goddard Rocket build, and then the launching of their rockets to determine if their construction was correct. The next phase of the rocketry badge was set for July 9th where Phase II of the rocketry will be conducted at the Sumter Hut.

The model rocketry build on July 9th included Lt. Col. Monroe and Lt. Hendricks, with C/TSgt Hendricks, Cadet Martin and C/A1C Patrick Butters. The cadets built and launched both the Mosquito and the snap together rocket. With this phase complete, they will move onto the Saturn Phase of Model Rocketry.

Due to the water survival training being canceled for July 16th, Lt. Col. Monroe offered a second Phase II model rocketry build for other cadets to get caught up on their model rocketry badge. Four cadets participated and completed the requirements for Phase II with successful launches of their rockets.

The 21st of August saw the second model rocket build for the Saturn Phase of the model rocketry program. Along with Lt. Col Monroe, Lieutenants Hendricks and Stanley supported while C/CMSgt Jacob Marshall, C/TSgt Joseph Hendricks, C/SrA Patrick Butters, C/A1C Abigail Lefevre, C/Amn Kelsey Martin, and C/Amn Christopher Proctor built their rockets. The schedule for the launch will be on the 28th of August.

At the end of the model rocketry training in September, the squadron standing included:

- Cadet TSgt Hendricks and C/Arm Proctor are complete have earned their model rocketry badges.
- Cadets Butters and Lefevre only need to build and launch one rocket.
- C/CMSgt Marshall needs to build two rockets (Titan) and launch all three rockets (already built his Saturn).
- C/Amn Martin needs to take two quizzes and launch her Saturn rocket.

By the conclusion of the training, C/Amn Proctor and C/TSgt Hendricks completed all required training and earned their model rocketry badge and patch.

#### External Aerospace Education

No significant activity occurred due to COVID restrictions with the local schools that prevented any presentations, and for teachers to get orientation flights. This also had an impact on the local Air Force JROTC cadets.

#### Cadet Programs

The squadron's 2021 cadet program goals included having new cadets earn Wright Brothers-C/SSgt within 18 months of joining (4 achievements, 4 months each and two months of overlap); all cadets promoting within six months unless waiting for staff position; having fifteen cadets and ten senior members attend SC Wing summer encampment (which accounts for ~50% and 40% respectively if available); at least two weekly meeting lessons per month taught/led by cadets; 75% of cadets in HFZ, with 25% earning Presidential Youth Fitness Award by July 2020; and creating an additional color guard team by 31 December 2020. Cadet leadership continues to

plan and manages the squadron's weekly meeting. Initiate a mentorship/feedback program for cadets. Mentor and develop cadet officers and leaders. Continue to earn Quality Cadet Unit Award, stand up a Cyberpatriot team.

Captain Mercer, Wing Public Affairs Officer initiated the Wing Photo Contest on the 14th of January. Contest was open to both cadets and senior members, and was divided into two categories. Category A: Any photo taken January 1-December 31st 2020 representing a South Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol activity. Category B: Any photo taken March 1, 2017 to December 31, 2020, representing any event that you found particularly meaningful, successful, or demonstrates someone meeting a challenge within the membership of the South Carolina Wing. Lt. Col. Peterson sent out an invite to assemble a team of cadets and senior members from the Wing to conduct a virtual Legislation Day with South Carolina congressmen and senators February 16th, 17th, 25th, and 26th.

On February 9th, the Wing announced the 2020 Quality Cadet Unit Award Winners, which included Sumter Composite Squadron. Colonel Safely would state, "Congratulations to all award winners. This has been a very tough year. In spite of it all each unit represented here pulled together to adapt, retool and to overcome the adversity of COVID. I am proud of the cadets and senior members of each award-winning squadron who have demonstrated this leadership." Captain Nason challenged the cadets during the February 9th meeting to identify research projects in Aerospace, Leadership, Healthy Cadet and Emergency Services, and to give that presentation to the squadron during the weekly meetings beginning in March.

Lt. Col Stanley, Wing Director for Cadet Programs published on the 15th of February, the 2021 goals for Cadet Programs. The goals are:

Leadership:

Each Squadron has at least two senior rated CP officers.

Each Squadron has at least five TLC basic/intermediate/advanced graduates within the last 48 months (QCUA criteria 3).

80% of new cadets (joined after 31 Aug 20) earn Achievement 1 within 8weeks (QCUA criteria). SC Wing offer at least one Wing cadet leadership training event per quarter (in-person or virtual).

80% unit participation (SM &/or cadet) at each major Wing events such as Spring CTW, summer encampment, & Fall STA (COVID permitting).

Each Squadron grows 10% cadet membership.

Each Squadron retains 50% of first year cadets.

30% of cadets in each Squadron have received Encampment credit.

Seven squadrons shall achieve the Quality Cadet Unit Award.

SCWG Cadet Advisory Council completes two projects that enhance the SCWG Cadet Programs.

Physical Fitness: 100% of Squadrons have appointed a physical fitness officer in e-Services.

Character Development: Three Squadrons conduct a Red Ribbon Leadership Academy (QCUA criteria).

## Cadet Milestone Achievements:

Wing achieves eight new Mitchell Award recipients.

Wing achieves two new Earhart Award recipients.

Wing achieves one new Eaker Award recipient.

Wing achieves 1 new Spaatz Award recipient.

The Sumter Composite Squadron participated in a Community Service activity by supporting the annual Camden Irish Festival. The team consisted of Capt. Nason, Lt. Nason, Lt. Stokes, Lt. Hendrick, C/A1C Taylor, and C/SrA Hendrick. The team was assigned the responsibility of traffic control and the parking of the spectators. It is estimated the team parked over 2,000 cars during the day. The event organizers and spectators praised the squadron on their professionalism and skill, and the event provided a donation to the squadron for a job well done.

On 14 March, the cadet leadership consisting of C/Captain Ducra, C/CMSgt C. Anderson, C/Lt Harvey, and C/Lt. Schroeder. Lt. L. Stanley, DCC for Cadets chaired the meeting, with Lt. Col. G. Stanley, Capt. Nason, and Lt. Schroeder observing. The meeting focused on getting the command team refocused, and identify goals for the coming year for the squadron.

After the COVID Phase II announcement, the squadron conducted their first in-person meeting on March 16th. It had been approximately one year since the squadron met back in 2020. For the first meeting, the squadron did a uniform inspection and drill, followed by the second portion of Character Development on Goals, then concluded by C/2nd Lt Mason Schroeder gave an aerospace class on Mars.

On March 26th, the Wing received guidance from both the Region Commander and Major General Smith concerning Cyber Training and Objectives. Major General Smith highlighted the National Cyber Mission Team (NCMT) is working hard to develop the draft guidance and training requirements for CAP to perform defensive cyber operational missions in the future. All units are encouraged to continue with defensive cybersecurity education. CAP is becoming more recognized through the various partnerships currently underway.

In support, the Regional Commander Colonel Bruce B. Heinlein reinforced that support to offensive operations is prohibited. Remember that Civil Air Patrol, by our charter and US Code, is a non-combatant.

During the 2nd Quarter Wing Command Council, Lieutenant Colonel Stanley was recognized for his dedicated efforts by receiving the Meritorious Service Award.

During the Sumter Composite Squadron Weekly Meeting on May 4th, a good number of the squadron was recognized for promotions and achievements. Colonel Peterson, the Wing Commander and MSgt McManus the Wing NCO, were on hand to present the awards and speak with the squadron.

The promotions include Jakob Phillips being awarded his Billy Mitchell Award, which was presented to his mother as he was in Army Basic Training. C/CMSgt Anderson received his Arnold Achievement; C/SSgt Anderson, Hendrick and Butters received their Wright Brother Achievements, and C/SrA Taylor received his Mary Feik Achievement.

Additionally, 2nd Lt Karin Nason and C/SrA Joseph Butters earned their GTM 3 badges and Emergency Services Patches. C/SMSgt Marshal was awarded his NRA Marksmanship Badge, and sixteen members received their Red service Ribbons. Finally, Senior Members Sanner and

Scott received their Phase I Membership Ribbon.

On Monday, May 31st, the Squadron established two tables to support the Wreaths Across America Fund drive. A team was established at Simpson's ACE Hardware, consisting of Capt. Owen, Lt. Barwick, C/Arm Lefevre, C/SSgt Barwick, C/A1C Anderson, C/SMSgt Rutland, and C/A1C Butters. A second team was established at Wally's hardware consisting of Lt. Col. Stanley, Capt. Nason, C/CMSgt Hoppmann, Cadet Collins, C/Arm Proctor, C/SSgt Hendricks, and Ms. Linda Hasty. The Squadron was able to raise \$580.00 for purchasing wreaths for the December 18th ceremony.

Maj. Gen. Edward D. Phelka, after assuming command as the new National Commander, directed that Friday, 3 September 2021, a CAP Family Day. He acknowledged that the summer of 2021 has been a very busy and productive time for CAP nationwide, despite the public health challenges our nation faces.

"I encourage all our dedicated members to take a break for the four-day weekend to relax and recharge their batteries. Our "Five Pillars of Wellness and Resilience" clearly delineate "Family" as one of the key and important pillars to maintain with diligence. Stepping away from the typical day-to-day is critical to experiencing rest and resilience — two key factors in our physical and psychological wellbeing. Take time to spend with family, or time for yourself to accomplish something on your personal to-do list."

With the change to Phase II COVID remobilization plan, Lt. Col. Stanley began planning the Staff Training Weekend (STW) for the 2022 encampment staff for October 30-31 on camp McCrady. The training program is designed to provide leadership training and familiarization to prepare and select event staff. Arrival will be Friday, 29 October, between 1700 and 2100. Departure will be Sunday, 31 October, not later than noon.

Over the weekend of October 29-31, Lt. Col. Stanley, Capt. Nason and Lt. Nason participated in the Staff Training Academy at Camp McCrady to prepare for the February 25-27 Cadet Training Weekend, and the Summer Encampment scheduled for 26 June-02 July 2022. Lt. Col. Stanley ran the event with Capt. Nason supporting as an instructor and TAC for half of the cadets.

Sumter Composite Squadron provided a Color Guard for the 246th USMC Birthday Ball held at the Fort Jackson NCO club on 6 November. The team consisted of C/CMSgt Anderson: Advisor; C/CMSgt Marshal-National Colors, Team Leader and Event Coordinator; C/TSgt Hendricks-Wing Colors, and C/SSgts Joseph Butters and George Butters as the riflemen. Captain Nason and 2nd Lt. Nason were present as the senior member advisors.

The team performed professionally and expertly, and were recognized for their professionalism. The guest of honor was retired Major General Grimsley, who is also the State of South Carolina Secretary for Veterans Affairs. Additionally, the participants included numerous colonels, sergeant majors, master sergeants and gunnery sergeant who praised the cadets on their performance. The color guard was invited back for next year's celebration.

The squadron marched in the Sumter Veteran's Day Parade on 11 November. While dealing with competing communication interferences as marching bands and a Kona Ice Truck playing Reggie, the squadron marched professionally, with C/CMSgt Hoppmann being recognized for leading the squadron for the march. Additionally, C/Amn Londo performed extremely well carrying the Squadron's Guide-on.

The squadron followed up a successful parade by supporting the 240th Anniversary of the Battle of Hobkirk's Hill in Kershaw County. The squadron supported the event by assisting the parking of spectators coming to the event. Then during the battle reenactment, the squadron supported the crowd control, then assisted in using their emergency services line searching skill in



collecting up the paper cartridges used by the reenactors.

It was the first time since the COVID restrictions, the squadron was allowed to spend the night and camp out on the site. They were able to observe the festivities of Guy Fawkes and the night firing of the cannons. The following morning they resumed their same duties as Saturday. The squadron was recognized for the excellent job they did for the event.

The squadron conducted the annual Wreaths Across America celebration on Saturday, December 18th at the Sumter Cemetery. Along with the eight ceremonial wreaths for the different services to include US Space Force, and the POW/MIA wreath, was an additional 600 wreaths that were laid and mounted on the cemetery fence. Along with the main fence in front of the cemetery, the cadets and senior members placed the extra wreaths on veteran grave stones, and in the walker Cemetery next to the Sumter Cemetery.

The squadron completed the year with a Christmas Party hosted by Lt. Col. Stanley and Lt. Stanley. Along with a sumptuous buffet of good food, the squadron participated in a "White Elephant" gift giving where each member received a gift, sometimes in an indirect method. In the end, all had a good time, great fellowship was enjoyed by all.

## APPENDIX II: Unit Staff - Data and Statistics

### Unit Organization Chart

#### Command Section:

Commander: Capt. Erick Nason

Advisor to the Commander: Lt. Col. G. Stanley / Maj R. Buniel / Maj L. Mays

Deputy Commander for Senior Members: (P) Capt. Erick Nason / (A) Maj L. Mays

Deputy Commander for Cadets: (P) Lt. L. Stanley

Health Services Officer: 1Lt Merry Hopkins / Lt Nason

Historian: Capt. Erick Nason

Squadron NCO: Vacant

Aerospace Education Officer: (P) Lt Col M. Monroe / SM Scott / (A) Lt. Col. G. Stanley / (A) Capt. F. Williams / C/Lt R. Schroeder

#### Cadet Programs:

Activities Officer: Capt A. Owen / (A) Capt. E. Nason / (A) Lt. L. Stanley / (NCO) C/CMSgt Marshall

Cadet Activities Officer: 1Lt L. Stanley / (A) Lt S. Barwick / (A) Lt. K. Stokes

Drug Demand Reduction Officer: (P) 1Lt M. Hopkins

Squadron Activities Officer: (P) 1Lt L. Stanley / (A) 2Lt K. Nason

Squadron Leadership Officer: (P) Lt Col. M. Monroe / (A) Lt. J. Bradshaw / (A) Lt. C. Gulley

Communications Officer: (P) Capt D. Anderson / (A) Maj J. Hill / (A) Lt. Col. G. Stanley / (A) Capt. E. Nason / C/Lt. M. Schroeder

#### Emergency Services:

Disaster Preparedness Officer: (P) Maj J. Hill / (A) 1Lt. L. Stanley

Emergency Services Officer: (P) Capt. E. Nason / (A) Lt. S. Barwick / (A) Sm C. Gulley / (NCO) C/SSgt Barwick

Emergency Services Training Officer: (P) Capt. Erick Nason / (A) Lt Col. M. Monroe / (A) Lt K. Nason

Search & Rescue Officer: (P) Maj J. Hill / (A) Lt Col J. Bryan / (A) Capt Erick Nason

Finance Officer: (P) Capt. A. Owen / (A) Lt Col J. Bryan

#### Information Technology:

Information Technology Officer: (P) Capt D. Anderson / (A) Lt. Col. G. Stanley

Web Security Administrator: Lt Col G. Stanley

#### Logistics:

Logistics Officer: (P) Lt C. Brewington / (A) Maj L. Mays / (A) Lt. J. Hendricks

Maintenance Officer: Maj L. Mays

Supply Officer: (P) Lt C. Brewington / (A) Maj L. Mays

Transportation Officer: (P) Lt. C. Brewington / (A) Maj L. Mays / (A) Lt. J. Hendricks

#### Marketing & Public Affairs

Public Affairs Officer: (P) Lt K. Stokes / (A) Lt. Col. J. Bryan / (A) Lt Hendricks

Recruiting & Retention Officer: (P) Lt Col G. Stanley

#### Operations:

Alerting Officer: (P) Maj J. Hill / (A) Maj L. Mays

Homeland Security Officer: Vacant

Operations Officer: (P) Capt. F. Williams

Standardization and Evaluation: (P) Maj J. Hill

#### Personnel:

Administrative Officer: (P) 1Lt L. Stanley / (A) Lt S. Barwick

Personnel Officer: (P) 1Lt L. Stanley / (A) Lt. K. Nason

#### Professional Development:

Professional Development Officer: (P) Lt Col G. Stanley / (A) Lt. T. Schroeder

Testing Officer: (P) Lt Stanley / (A) Lt. Col. Monroe / (A) Capt A. Owen / (A) Capt. Nason

Safety Officer: (P) Lt. T. Schroeder / (A) Capt. E. Nason / (NCO) C/CMSgt C. Marshall

Chaplain: Vacant

Character Development Officer: (P) Lt Bradshaw / (A) Lt Col Stanley

IG Augmentee: Vacant

SC Wing CAC: (P) C/CMSgt C. Anderson

Senior Member Administrative Organization

A Flight Officer: Lt Col Johnathan Bryan

B Flight Officer: Vacant

C Flight Officer: Vacant

D Flight Officer: Vacant

#### Cadet Administrative Organization:

Cadet Commander: Lt. Stanley

Dep CC for Operations: Vacant

First Sergeant: C/CMSgt Hoppmann

A Flight Commander: C/CMSgt Marshal

A Flight Sergeant: C/SSgt J. Bradshaw

B Flight Commander: C/CMSgt Anderson

B Flight Sergeant: C/SMSgt Rutland

Unit Map



## APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics

### Logistics

Primary: Lt C. Brewington / (A) Maj L. Mays / (A) Lt. J. Hendricks

Maintenance Officer: Maj L. Mays

Supply Officer: (P) Lt C. Brewington / (A) Maj L. Mays

Transportation Officer: (P) Lt. C. Brewington / (A) Maj L. Mays / (A) Lt. J. Hendricks

Sumter Composite Squadron maintains one building at the Sumter County Airport. All of the squadron's communication gear was accounted for and serviceable. All unserviceable gear had been turned into Wing Headquarters. The squadron received a new Chevy Express Van that was used 30 times, for 1124 total hours and 3623 miles. The national goal was 40 times, 420 hours and 4200 miles. The squadron's supplies and equipment has been inventoried and accounted for.

### Communications

Communications Officer: (P) Capt D. Anderson / (A) Maj J. Hill / (A) Lt. Col. G. Stanley / (A) Capt. E. Nason / C/Lt. M. Schroeder / Cadet NCO C/TSgt Hendricks

Twenty-one members of the squadron are ICUT certified, with another 33 not certified, due in part most are missing the hands-on portion. Currently, the squadron does not have any mission radio operators certified, and has been coordinating for training through Wing.

### Professional Development

Professional Development Officer: (P) Lt Col G. Stanley / (A) Capt. Nason / (A) Lt. T. Schroeder

Testing Officer: (P) Lt. Col. Monroe / (A) Capt A. Owen / 1Lt L. Stanley

Of the squadron's senior members, five are Level I; five are Level II; eight are Level III, and one member is Level IV. Captain Nason and Lt. Col. Monroe are Volunteer University Instructors, and provide professional development training. The senior members participate in both the virtual and in-person Level I, II and when available, III and IV training.

### Administration

Administrative Officer: (P) 1Lt L. Stanley / (A) Lt S. Barwick

During 2021, twelve cadets earned Achievement 1; four earned Achievement 2; three earned Achievement 3; five earned Wright Brothers; five earned Achievement 4; one earned Achievement 5; one earned Achievement 6; two earned Achievement 7; three earned Achievement 8; one earned the Billy Mitchel Award, and one earned the Amelia Earhart Award.

### Personnel

Personnel Officer: (P) 1Lt K. Nason / (A) Lt. L. Stanley

Manages and records information on 54 members, 28 cadets and 26 senior members for the squadron. The administrative section works with personnel and recruiting for the new perspective members once they have submitted their applications to join. Eight members were awarded their professional development levels/awards, membership awards, and Yeager awards.

## APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics (Continued)

### Recruiting and Retention

Primary: Lt Col G. Stanley

In comparison with 2020, the squadron lost two, gained seven new senior members and retained twenty-eight for a 67.86% retention rate. The number of cadets dropped by two, but saw eighteen renew their membership for a retention rate of 56.25%. This is still considered an accomplishment during a period of COVID restrictions prevented meetings, training and the summer encampment.

### Plans and Programs

Alerting Officer: (P) Maj J. Hill / (A) Maj L. Mays

Homeland Security Officer: Vacant

Operations Officer: (P) Capt. F. Williams

Standardization and Evaluation: (P) Maj J. Hill

Captain Nason as the squadron commander published his goals for 2021, and began working with the cadet leadership and staff on the weekly meeting events. The squadron worked on their model rocketry program, AEX program, Quality Cadet Unit Award, and established an annual training plan. In coordination with the squadron staff, Captain Nason set the squadron goals for 2021, and a planning plan highlighting the achievements for the year.

### Public Affairs

Public Affairs Officer: (P) Lt K. Stokes / (A) Lt. Col. J. Bryan / 2Lt. Hendrick

Sumter Composite Squadron has three members who are the public information team. The squadron has a social media / Facebook site where they highlight unit activities and accomplishment. The squadron works with Camden Media who publishes the Shaw Newspaper, and with the local Sumter Item. The squadron works with the Wing's public affairs officer in collaboration

### Information Technology

Information Technology Officer: (P) Capt D. Anderson / (A) 2Lt. Col. G. Stanley

Web Security Administrator: Lt Col G. Stanley

Sumter composite squadron does not have an information technology officer or a Cyberpatriot team. It is one of the goals to recruit and develop a information technology team for the squadron.

## APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics (Continued)

### Financial Statement

Finance Officer: (P) Capt. A. Owen / (A) Lt Col J. Bryan

At the beginning of 2021, the squadron had \$1,335.93 in the account. For the year, the squadron paid for its internet service, cadet supplies, model rocketry supplies and deposited donations. In all, the squadron paid out \$260.11, received \$383.43 for an end of year balance of \$1212.61.

### Chaplain

Chaplain: 2Lt Bradshaw

Character Development Officer: (P) 2Lt Bradshaw / (A) Lt. Col. Stanley

The squadron does not have a chaplain assigned as of 2021. A senior member is currently going through the process of being certified to become the squadron

### Historian

Primary: Captain Nason

The squadron historian serves as the Wing's historian, gathering historical data for both the squadron and the Wing. Captain Nason as the historian provided professional development of other squadron historians in order to have more historians across the Wing. Captain Nason also writes for the Wing's Palmetto Flyer, with the History Corner. As the historian, supported local events show casing CAP history.

### Health Services

Health Services Officer: 1Lt Merry Hopkins

Drug Demand Reduction Officer: (P) 1Lt M. Hopkins / (A) 1Lt. K. Nason

As part of the squadron's physical fitness weekly meeting, healthy cadet is included as part of the meeting. Programs for physical and mental health activities, drug awareness and resistance, dealing with peer pressure, and in conjunction with character development, suicide awareness.

## APPENDIX III: Unit Data & Statistics (Continued)

### Inspector General

Assistant IG: Vacant

The squadron completed its compliance Sub-Unit Inspection (SUI) on July 21, 2021. The overall assessment of the inspection was effective. The report stated the Sumter Composite Squadron continues to grow and develop cadets and senior members. Since their previous SUI, the squadron has grown by 17%. The unit regularly keeps cadets and seniors involved with AE and ES activities. The Professional Development program is also well-developed with new seniors being mentored through specialty tracks. One area of improvement recommended is for Safety Officer to continue to progress in the specialty track. Only one discrepancy was found in personnel concerning the finance committee had not been updated, that was quickly rectified.

### Safety

Primary: Captain Nason

The squadron conducts safety training during the first meeting of the month. February is the traditional month that the mandatory national safety training is conducted. During any in-person event or meeting, a safety briefing is provided. The squadron had both senior members designated as safety officers, and a senior cadet NCO as the Safety NCO. Of twenty-eight cadets, three have ORM basic (10.71%); two ORM intermediate (7.14%) and one ORM advance (3.57%). Of the twenty-six senior members, thirteen have ORM basic (50.00%); ten have ORM immediate (38.48%); and seven have ORM advance (26.92%).

### Government Relations

Position Vacant

The squadron does not have any direct liaison with the government. Captain Nason did participate in legislation day where members of South Carolina Wing met with South Carolina representatives in the Senate and Congress virtually.