



Civil Air Patrol, Illinois Wing Headquarters

Public Affairs Directorate

AUXILIARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CAP exhibit at Taste of Chicago

Here are some of the incredible statistics from Illinois Wing's four-day exhibit at the 2009 Taste of Chicago held along the city's lakefront:

- Over 2,300 rubber band launched rockets were made by children attending the event
- 17,000 feet of pipe foam insulation was used in forming the rocket bodies
- 2,100 square feet of sheet foam
- 2 pounds of #32 rubber bands
- 950 feet of tie wraps

Project officer, Lt. Col. Connie Kelly stated, "We expected to make a hundred [rockets] or so a day, but for a while we were making that many in an hour. It was hard not to find a kid not carrying a rocket while we were there."

This astounding success took place in only four days. Children and their parents were given CAP recruiting brochures. A number of teachers stopped by and wanted information on how they could make the model rockets in their classrooms.

Lt Col Kelly managed the intense workload with only several cadet and senior member helpers. She said, "I am very grateful for the help I received, especially from CSSgt. Robert Wlosek (IL 067) who showed up for all four days."

While watching her two sons make their rockets, one mother said, "Thank you for bringing such wonderful role models [cadets] for my two boys."

Event organizers asked if they could provide additional tables to help with the crowd of children and parents. They also indicated that CAP is more than welcome to return next year.

The Taste of Chicago is a part of the city's Fourth of July celebration, and every year draws a crowd of several million people. The event offers music, carnival rides and food booths manned by Chicago's top restaurants.

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Photographs:
127.JPG – CAP display at Taste
143.JPG – Cadets help build rockets
Photo credit:
Lt. Col Connie Kelly, CAP