



Civil Air Patrol, Illinois Wing Headquarters

Public Affairs Directorate

AUXILIARY OF THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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July 17, 2009

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Elk Grove Village youth earns CAP's highest cadet award

Caleb J. Werner became the 1,738th recipient of the prestigious Gen Carl A. Spaatz award and has achieved the rank of cadet colonel. To achieve the award he had to pass a rigorous day-long series of academic and fiscal fitness tests. The academic portion of the test focused on aerospace education and leadership skills.

Civil Air Patrol is the civilian volunteer auxiliary of the United States Air Force. The cadet program is open to young men and women between the ages of 12 – 18. Werner is a member of the Woodfield Composite Squadron that meets weekly at the Schaumburg Airport.

Werner will be a sophomore at the Illinois Institute of Technology where he majors in aeronautical engineering. In addition to his role as a CAP cadet, he is a member of the school's Air Force ROTC detachment. At the start of the fall semester he is contemplating joining the AFROTC's Arnold Air Society and the detachment's color guard squad. His career goal is to become an Air Force pilot.

As a cadet, Werner trained for a role in CAP's Emergency Services Mission that encompasses search and rescue, disaster relief and homeland security. As cadets progress through the ranks they are given hands-on opportunities to function in leadership roles to hone their management and communication skills. They also receive an intensive indoctrination to the aerospace industry. Werner participated in a number of cadet national and local cadet special activities.

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with 55,600 members nationwide. CAP performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 91 lives in fiscal year 2008. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and counter-drug missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to the nearly 22,000 young people currently participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP has been performing missions for America for more than 67 years. For more information on CAP, visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com.

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Cadet Colonel Caleb J. Werner