



# ILLINOIS WINGMAN

*Information from Illinois Wing members, for Illinois Wing members*

## New vice commander, chief of staff for Illinois Wing



Major Michael Larson (CAP Photo)



Lt. Colonel Thomas Poteete (CAP Photo)

Chief of Staff Major Michael C. Larson became Illinois Wing's vice commander March 13.

Former vice commander Lt Col Thomas DeMaeyer stepped down for personal reasons. Lt Col Michael Poteete is the new Chief of Staff.

Civil Air Patrol  
Illinois Wing  
**ILLINOIS WINGMAN**

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**IN THIS EDITION**  
CAP IN THE NEWS  
GROUP 2 COMPLETES ES TRAINING  
CADET DRILL COMPETITION  
GREY FLAG THIS SUMMER  
TORNADOES TOUCH DOWN IN MIDWEST  
**AND MUCH MORE**



# From Magnus Composite Squadron



- 1.) C/A1C Brent and Brandon Rodrigo
- 2.) Lt Fossier (SM of the Year)
- 3.) C/Amn Brotski (Curry)
- 4.) Evangelyn Lee (Curry)
- 5.) Seth Lee (Curry)
- 6.) C/1st Lt William Emmons (Cadet of Year)
- 7.) SM Rodrigo (Yeager Award)

*Congratulations*  
March 2023



# From Compton Composite Squadron

## Compton Composite Squadron Implements Cadet of the Quarter Award and Cord

Recently the Compton Composite Squadron had its first ever Cadet of the Quarter award, issuing the Cadet of the Quarter chord. After the Illinois Wing approved the use of the cadet of the quarter cord, the Compton Composite Squadron presented it to C/SrA Kozyerinsky. The Compton Composite Squadron is proud to be implementing the Cadet of the Quarter award, as they feel it is important to reward character strengths and growth as often as possible. C/SrA Kozyerinsky is the first recipient of this award in the Compton Composite Squadron, and has shown great dedication, enthusiasm and growth in the Civil Air Patrol Cadet program.

## Evanston Fire Department Visits Compton Composite Squadron

Recently the Compton Composite Squadron had a visit from the Evanston Fire Department where Captain Roche of the Evanston Fire Department taught members of the squadron a variety of different fire safety skills, including how to extinguish a fire with a fire extinguisher.



Cadets and Senior Members had the chance to put these skills to use firsthand by extinguishing a contained live fire. Captain Roche also explained to members how to join a career in the Fire Department. It was an enlivening presentation that brought to light a variety of different safety techniques, as well as a career path in Emergency Services that many cadets found inspiring.

## Compton and Palwaukee Members Receive Tour of Chicago Police District

Compton and Palwaukee Composite Squadrons recently had a tour of the Chicago Police Department's 19th district, thanks to our very own Captain Long, who is a Lieutenant in the Chicago police department. Attendees of the tour got a first hand look at the inner workings of a Police Station and an idea of what day to day activities are like for a Chicago Police Officer. Captain Long and several of his colleagues led the tour, and cadets were able to see the inside of a police car and police station. They were also able to see a variety of security and monitoring equipment, and learn about how police use these tools to protect the public. Overall, cadets were impressed with the tour, and got a firsthand look of what life is like in another public safety focused career.



# Group 2 Completes Intensive Emergency Services Training Day

By 2nd Lt. Patrick Emmons, CAP | Magnus Composite Squadron Public Affairs

Illinois Wing, Group 2, Civil Air Patrol proudly announces the successful completion of an intensive emergency training day. The event involved over 40 Civil Air Patrol members participating in various exercises to enhance their emergency response capabilities.

The training day covered various emergency scenarios, including search and rescue, radio communications, disaster relief, and aerial reconnaissance. Participants were divided into specialized teams, each tasked with different objectives, training for or simulating a real-life response to a crisis. Instructors led the sessions, sharing their knowledge and expertise with the participants.

Lt Col Timothy Scott, Incident Commander for the training event, played a crucial role in overseeing the day's activities and ensuring the effectiveness of the exercises. His leadership was instrumental in the successful execution of the training. Lt Col Timothy Scott praised the hard work and dedication of all participants, stating, "The success of this emergency training day is a testament to the skill and commitment of our Group 2 members. They consistently demonstrate a strong desire to excel in their roles as Ground Team Members, Mission Scanners, Radio Operators, and Staff Assistants.

Their preparedness is vital in ensuring effective and efficient response during emergencies, ultimately saving lives and protecting our communities."

Lt Col George G. Roy, Illinois Wing Group 2 Commander, expressed gratitude for the dedication shown by the participants. "Our members have demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the Civil Air Patrol's core missions, which include emergency services, aerospace education, and cadet programs. Their efforts ensure the safety and well-being of our communities during times of crisis."

In addition to hands-on activities, the training day featured informative sessions highlighting the importance of effective communication, teamwork, and leadership in emergencies. The sessions also emphasized the role of the Civil Air Patrol in supporting local, state, and federal agencies during disaster response.

The Illinois Wing, Group 2 Civil Air Patrol, remains dedicated to maintaining high readiness for emergencies.



# Lewis Composite Squadron moving forward to Regional Cadet Drill Competition

By Maj. Daniel Johnson, CAP | Lewis Composite Squadron, Asst. Deputy Commander for Cadets

A team from IL-329 Lewis Composite Squadron came in first place at the Illinois Wing Cadet Drill Competition at Camp Lincoln in Springfield, Illinois on March 11-12, 2023. The competition covered a wide range of areas, including indoor and outdoor posting of colors, drill, physical fitness tests, uniform inspections, and a team leadership project. The IL-329 team consisted of cadets with a wide range of experience, from the Cadet Commander to some relatively new members.

This event was a great learning experience for the team and the senior members of the squadron who attended. The focus is now on preparing for the Great Lakes Region competition scheduled for May 20-21 at the Grissom Air Reserve Base in Peru, Indiana. Team members have committed to attending additional training and preparation sessions nearly every week in advance of that event.

If you have any questions regarding the competition, please contact squadron commander Maj Maria Prekop via email at [mprekop@ilwg.cap.gov](mailto:mprekop@ilwg.cap.gov).



# Operation Gray Flag coming this summer

By Lt. Colonel Randy Mitchell, CAP | Group 1 Commander

Later on this summer, members of the Great Lakes Region will gather at Camp Attebury, IN to compete in the Great Lakes Region Search and Rescue Competition or "Operation Gray Flag" as it is now known. The competition tests aircrews, ground teams, sUAS, and communicators in their skills to conduct SAR operations. Each wing in the region can send teams to compete. This will be the third competition since 2019. This is when the competition was brought back after a long absence. The event was not held in 2020 due to COVID-19 and a change in command at the regional level resulted in another pause in 2022. It has been my privilege to participate in the two modern competitions as the Chief Judge/Ground Branch Director for the ground team portion of the competition.

Many years ago, this event was held annually in all regions and the winners of each region competition would meet at a National Competition to determine the best of the best in SAR for CAP. I first became involved in 1985 when our ground team at the Franklin County Composite Squadron (11212/GLR-IL-212) was asked to represent the wing in the competition to be held in Terre Haute, IN. Our ground team placed 3rd that year in the competition. We continued to represent ILWG for the next three years in the ground team portion of the competition. Lt Col Richard Cavanaugh was the project officer for the Illinois Wing and served as Mission Coordinator (Incident Commander) during these years.

The competitions were held at:

1985 - Terre Haute, IN

1986 - Rickenbacker ANGB, Columbus, OH

1987 - Ft. Knox, KY

1988 - Alpena ANGB, MI

In 1988, the Illinois Team won overall honors for the competition and the ground team placed 3rd again. Unfortunately, I would not be able to make that competition as I departed for service in the US Army before the competition. Teams from Illinois participated in competitions a few more times before the competition was ended.

The most important factor for success in this competition is the ability to work well together as a TEAM. A group of individuals, no matter how talented each is, will not succeed in this endeavor. Since the competition has been revived, at least here in Great Lakes Region, I hope that members across the wing will jump at the chance to prove themselves and their teams in a competitive environment.



# Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

By **Capt. Joanne Weber, CAP** | Illinois Wing Diversity Officer

As we move into the month of April, we should remember that April is National Deaf History Month. This is not a federally recognized holiday, but a time to recognize contributions of deaf individuals to our country and to raise awareness about the deaf community and their struggles in our society.

April has been designated as National Deaf History Month due to significant events that happened in April. The first being the first permanent public school for the deaf and hard-of-hearing was founded on April 15, 1817, in Connecticut and on April 8, 1864, America's only higher education institution for deaf and hard-of-hearing students Gallaudet University was founded.

As members of such a diverse organization as Civil Air Patrol, it is important that we take advantage of the months of recognition to try and learn a little bit about the persons the month recognizes.

## Illinois Wing suffers loss of hangared aircraft

By **Capt. H. Michael Miley, CAP** | Chicago Senior Squadron Public Affairs

The severe storms of March 31 created the largest tornado outbreak in years. With more than 20 likely touchdowns in Illinois, there was widespread damage and, sadly, several fatalities statewide.

One of the tornadoes crossed directly over Crawford County Airport (KRSV) in southeastern Robinson, Illinois. Unfortunately, one Illinois Wing aircraft, a Cessna 172, was at Sky's the Limit at KRSV for its 100-hour inspection. On March 31 at about 9:45 pm, the National Operations Center contacted Capt. Don Johnson, CAP to inform him that an Emergency Locator Transmitter (ELT) for the aircraft had been activated at KRSV. The Fixed Base Operator's (FBO) owner of Sky's the Limit was on the way to the airport due to a report of a fire and spoke with Lt. Col. George Roy, CAP indicating there wasn't a building left standing, and all the aircraft there were destroyed. Sadly, the same tornado led to several fatalities in Robinson, Illinois and Sullivan, Indiana.

Illinois Wing Director of Operations Maj. Rod Rakic, CAP said "We're so very glad that there was no loss of life, but it is difficult to face the loss of an airframe. We're taking steps now to ensure it doesn't affect our readiness as an organization."

We are volunteers serving our neighbors, and we train for specifically this scenario, so we need to be ready to act. As Lt. Col. Larry Hebda, CAP noted before the storms, the Illinois Emergency Management Agency activated the State Emergency Operation Center with the possibility of Illinois Wing being called to assist FEMA with geospatial damage assessments and ground support.

# From the Wing Commander

## *Congratulations*

**Major Michael Larson**  
new Wing Vice Commander

**Lt Col Michael Poteete**  
new Wing Chief of Staff

**Lt Col George Roy**  
new Group 2 Commander

**Major Michael Vannier**  
new Thunder Composite Squadron  
Commander

## *Thank you*

**Lt Col Thomas DeMaeyer**  
*for your service as  
Wing Vice Commander*



# From the Wing Command NCO

NCOs who use social media are welcome to "Like," "Subscribe," "Follow," and "Share" National Command Chief CMSgt Todd Parsons' social media pages and the Civil Air Patrol NCO Corps' social media pages.



Civil Air Patrol  
Command Chief

CAP\_Command\_Chief



@CAPNCOCorps

Civil Air Patrol  
NCO Corps





# Illinois Wing Emergency Services Training Officer

The next phase of virtual training is created, recorded, posted and ready for a live audience. This round of training is for UDF, Ground Team Member Levels 1,2,3 and Ground Team Leader. All of these courses will be open to those members who are qualified to start training on it.

- UDF - General Emergency Services
- GTM3 - General Emergency Services
- GTM2 - Qualified GTM3
- GTM1 - Qualified GTM2
- GTL - Qualified GTM 3 and 18 Years Old

For training purposes, anyone will be eligible to sign up for any of these courses to make the training open for all. Except Ground Team Leader, those signing up will need to meet the requirements listed above; Qualified Ground Team Member 3, and 18 Years Old.

These courses will be instructed using Google Classroom, so all materials will be located there, including recorded videos, quizzes, and supporting documents. This will be treated just like someone is sitting in a classroom, but they will be able to complete the tasks on their own time.

If all tasks are completed and quizzes passed, then sign offs for those particular tasks will be marked as completed for the member. Then they will be able to begin training with their hands-on work and two required missions to become fully qualified at their local unit/group missions.

If you are interested in participating please register at this link: [Illinois Wing Virtual ES Training Sign Up](#)

Please contact me with any questions.

## **Lt Col Kirk Thirtyacre**

Illinois Wing Emergency Services Training Officer  
Civil Air Patrol, U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

(M) 309.530.5475



# Illinois Wing Communications

By **Lt Col Jim Bartel, CAP** | IWCS Director

The Illinois Wing Communications School has run continuously since 2000. It is run concurrently with Summer Encampment each year. It is open to both Senior and Cadet members. The school provides its students with the complete MRO skill set, so those leaving at the end of the week, as long as the prerequisites are completed, will have their MRO rating.

Students are given ample time on the radio during the week as the school also provides the communications needs for the Summer Encampment. In addition to time on the radio, students will learn how to set up radio equipment and antennas. There will be course material on radio propagation, safety, and RF exposure limits.

Students will also become proficient in the set-up and use of both the Portable Deployable repeater(PDR) in its ground use and airborne operation, and the Rapid Deployment Package(RDP). The RDP is a portable High Frequency (HF) radio for communication over distances longer than our standard VHF radios can be used. Students will also have the opportunity to send and receive formal message traffic over the National Training Net that occurs daily every weekday.

Prerequisites:

- Seniors must have completed Level 1
- Cadets must have completed a prior basic encampment
- Seniors and cadets need to complete The Introductory Communications User Training (ICUT). Both the AXIS portion and the in-person evaluation
- Completion of the FEMA IS-100 and IS-700 courses that are located on-line
- Completion of the 117 test, part 3
- Need to have an open MRO SQTR with your commander's approval

Please see your squadron training officer or Squadron Commander for information about the on-line courses.

Further information can be found on the Summer Encampment website along with the application process.



# Bulletin Board

EARTH DAY  
APRIL 22, 2023



*Submit announcements  
for the newsletter to*  
**PA@ilwg.cap.gov**

- Information for Cadets
- Orientation Flights
- Training Opportunities
- Office Hours
- Volunteers Needed
- Fundraising Help Needed
- Recruiting Help Needed
- Encampments
- Conferences
- Open Houses
- And Other Info to Share!

# Office Hours

## Public Affairs Office Hours

**2nd Thursday  
of each month  
1900-2000 hours  
Central**

**Email [pa@ilwg.cap.gov](mailto:pa@ilwg.cap.gov)  
for link to Google Meet**

**All PAOs & Cadet PAOs,  
PAOs from other wings,  
and all interested are  
welcome**

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY OFFICE HOURS

**3rd Wednesday  
of each month  
1915-2000 hours**

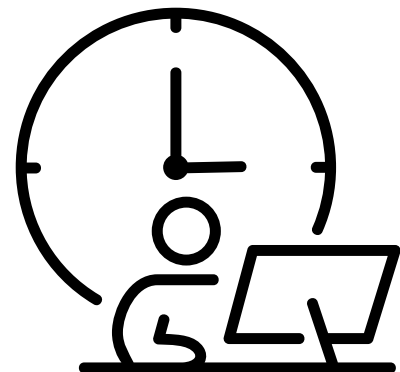
Google Meet



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*Add your  
office hours  
here*

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# Training & Education Opportunities

## Rocky Mountain Region offers Level 5 Course at USAF Academy in June

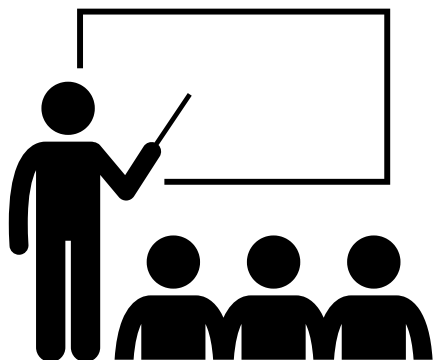
University of Rocky Mountain Region is offering an in-person (and perhaps a dual ViR) Level 5 Course at the USAF Academy in Colorado Springs, CO on 19-23 June 2023. There will be lodging and food at the academy. Registration is required by 15 May 2023. Any CAP senior member who has completed level 4 may attend.

For info [K Powers@cap.gov](mailto:K Powers@cap.gov)

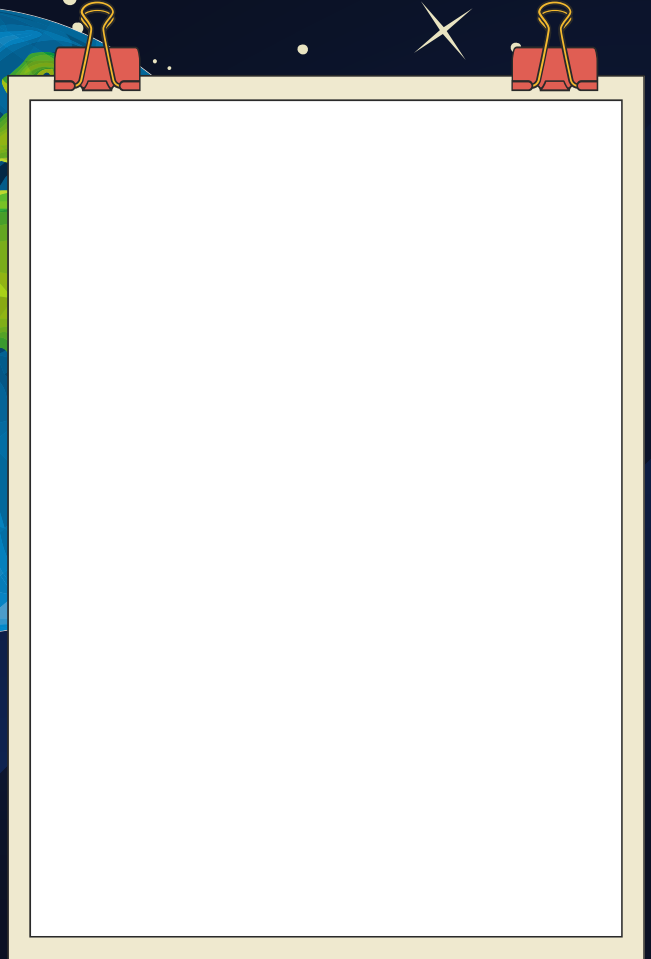
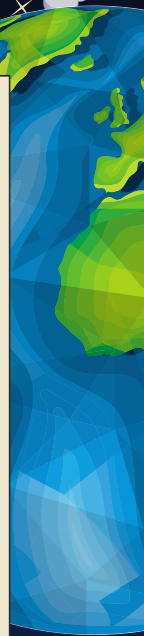
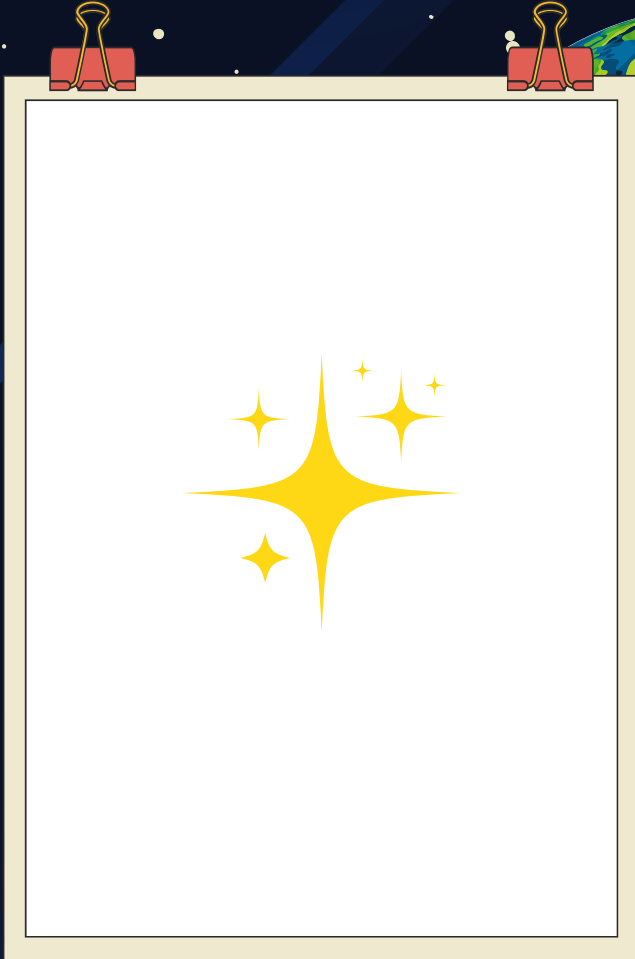
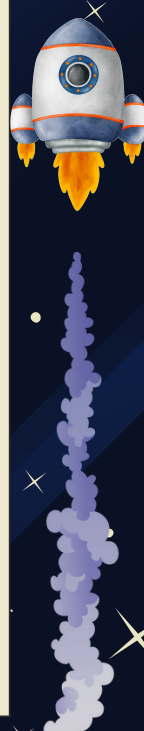
The National Commander's  
Reading List



More Books From  
Air University



# Information for Cadets



# CAP in the News

## When Pan-Pan Becomes Mayday

from FAA Safety Briefing

<https://medium.com/faa/when-pan-pan-becomes-mayday-39067fe1315f>



**BREAKING  
NEWS**

Share a share-worthy story  
about Civil Air Patrol in the  
news. Send the link to  
[PA@ilwg.cap.gov](mailto:PA@ilwg.cap.gov)