



ALABAMA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL

NEWSLETTER

May 2008

**Col. Mike Oakman
Commander**

**Lt. Col. Dave Boswell
Vice-Commander**

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AL 126 Announces Promotions

Springville, Alabama – Cadet Justin Davis, Cleveland, Cadet Tanner Kirchner, Ashville, Cadet James Ray, Ashville, Cadet Nick Tipton, Oneonta, have been promoted to Cadet Tech Sergeant. Cadet Alen Turner, Argo, Cadet Randell Pierce, Gadsden, have been promoted to Cadet Staff Sergeant. Following completed Camp Curry and received promotion to Cadet Airman: Cadet Jacob Fowler, Argo, Cadet Joe Grego, Springville, Cadet Adam Little, Oneonta, Cadet Mark McCay, Remlap, Cadet Shayla McCay, Remlap, Cadet Michael Mulkey, Oneonta, Cadet David Thomason, Ashville, Cadet Alexander Young, and Springville, in Civil Air Patrol at Camp Curry meeting at the Springville National Guard Armory on 8 December 2007.

“These cadets have done an outstanding job and have put a lot of time and energy in

achieving this rank,” stated Lt Col. Frank W. Waid Squadron Commander.



Springville Cadets

2 Lt. Vanessa Davis, PAO

Aerospace Information

Alabama Wing CAP pilots provided flights for 14 teachers from the Boaz school near Albertville. The educators involved enjoyed the experience and stated they this would help them find new approaches to teaching old material. I am eager to make this opportunity available to other educators in the state. This is part of our external AE outreach. A good deal of what we, as a society, will be doing in the future will in some way be connected to Aerospace, and all of us, in the Alabama Wing, need to commit to promoting Aerospace Education not only through external CAP activities, such as the fly a teacher program, but at the same time we need to redouble our internal AE program efforts.

AE, first and foremost begins at the Squadron level, and forms a part of both Senior Member and Cadet development. We also need to be mindful that AE is one of the

three missions assigned by Congress to CAP.

I am asking each of the unit commanders to ensure that we have committed individuals manning the Squadron AE functions. I encourage external AE officers to develop a relationship with community organizations and local school districts. This kind of outreach will help us get the word out about AE while at the same time providing valuable community services.

Internal AE Officers, on the other hand, need to encourage Senior Members to continue their AE development, and if they have not already done so to complete the Yeager Test.

On the Cadet side we need to ensure that we continue to have a solid program in place that allows for O-Rides, and includes an educational program that includes model rocketry and modules based on the Journey of Flight and Aerospace Dimensions. Well rounded cadets grow into well rounded citizens.



On April 19th we flew 14 teachers from the Zion and New Brockton Schools. Angie St. John from National joined us at the Enterprise airport.

St. John wrote, “The teachers that flew with Steve Leonard were thrilled that he found their houses, school, and even a husband and son fishing! :) They got great pictures. We also very much appreciate the plane they flew in from Birmingham to help for the day.”

Maj. Silvano Wueschner, DAE

Professional Development Weekend

The Alabama Wing completed a Professional Development Weekend March 7-9, 2008. Volunteers who wanted to complete Squadron Leadership School (SLS), Corporate Learning Course (CLC), the Unit Commander’s Course (UCC) or Training Cadet Leaders (TLC) spent the weekend participating in a learning experience. Completion of these courses allows members to advance in rank and assume greater responsibilities within the wings and their squadrons. Attendees included CAP volunteers from Massachusetts, Tennessee, Florida and Mississippi.

Those completing SLS:

Lt. Col. Jonathan Bywater	AL055
Lt. Col Austin Landry	AL132
Maj. LouAnn Maffei-Iwuc	MA022
Maj. James Moore	AL005
Capt. Jerry W. Ford	AL041
Capt. Martin Haigh	AL032
Capt. Ladde Mayer	AL132
Capt. Binford Nash	MS100
Capt. Teresa Petelos	AL087
1 st Lt. Julian Bishop	AL024
1 st Lt. James A. Brantley	TN148
1 st Lt. Tyran Colvin	AL005
2 nd Lt. Mike Carr	AL024
2 nd Lt. Jonathan Lartigue	AL113
2 nd Lt. Arnold Massey	AL055
2 nd Lt Brandon Parker	AL055
2 nd Lt. Brady Rogers	AL055
2 nd Lt. Andrew Strack	TN160

SrMbr Ronald Allen	AL126
SrMbr David Birchfield	AL024
SrMbr Jonathan Calvanelli	AL113
SrMbr Anthony Phillips	AL119
SrMbr. William Proctor	AL132
SrMbr Early Washam	AL029

Those completing CLC:

Capt John L. Jerman	AL138
Capt. James Pons	FL423
Capt. Donald Ritchie	FL423
1 st Lt. John Hawkins	AL001
1 st Lt. Thomas Lyon	AL005
2 nd Lt. Nelson Gonzalez	AL029

Those completing UCC:

Lt. Col. Richard Dean	FL425
Capt. William Compton	AL127
Capt. George P. Owen	AL029
2 nd Lt. Timothy Gardiner	FL425

Those completing TLC:

Lt Col. Michael Guthrie	AL119
Lt. Col. John Hall	AL119
Lt. Col Brad Lynn	AL001
Capt. Gary Ernest	AL117
2 nd Lt. Cynthia Bennett	AL118
SrMbr Carol Bazenet	TN160
SrMbr David Draper	TN160
SrMbr Mark McKay	AL126
SrMbr Rebecca McCay	AL126
SrMbr Myrna Vaught	AL087



Squadron Leadership Students

Mobile Squadron Attends South Alabama Search and Rescue Seminar

Eighteen officer and cadet members of the Mobile Composite Squadron, Alabama Wing, Civil Air Patrol attended and participated in a meeting on March 10, 2008, of the South Alabama Rescue Search and Recovery (SARSAR) Seminar. SARSAR is sponsored by the Mobile County Health Department and is comprised of both volunteer and full-time organizations involved in search, rescue and recovery. Members of groups joining the CAP members included: the U.S. Coast Guard, Alabama Marine Police, Alabama State Troopers Aviation Section, Mobile County Sheriff's Department, the Mobile County Sheriff's Flotilla, North Baldwin Search and Rescue, and other organizations. SARSAR's purpose is to provide education and fellowship to members of these various organizations, and to build working relationships in order to serve the residents of South Alabama.

Topics in the evening's agenda included an overview of recent operations conducted by the Mobile County Sheriff's Office and Flotilla in recovering the bodies of four small children who were allegedly thrown off a bridge by their father near Dauphin Island, AL. Representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard Aviation Center-Mobile described their service's search and rescue techniques. The varied agencies were given an opportunity to ask questions and present reports on their involvement in search and rescue operations.

Two members of Mobile Squadron were participants in the meeting. Chaplain (Major) David Smelser gave the invocation before the meal, while Major Jim Moore described CAP flight operations in a topic entitled: Daylight Search Techniques. Chaplain Smelser is a retired Air Force Chaplain and local Baptist minister. Major Moore is an Army veteran and is a civilian employee of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. For many participants, this was the first time they learned about CAP flight operations as well as being introduced to the CAP Chaplain Service. CAP members, in turn, were able to understand the roles and missions of local rescue organizations.

Chaplain (Major) David Smelser and 2 Lt. Emmett Farnell.

Pell City Squadron Hosts SAREX



A missing helicopter which might have crashed, a sinking boat in Lake Guntersville, emergency locator transmitters (ELTs) and an elderly man who wandered away from his truck while picking berries in the nearby woods, these were all simulated missions for the Alabama Wing Search and Rescue

Exercise held Saturday, March 1, 2008, at the Pell City Airport.



The Pell City Squadron hosted the wing wide event and more than 90 volunteer Civil Air Patrol members signed in for air and ground sorties. Thirty-seven air sorties were flown in support of the practice mission. Eight ground sorties were briefed and completed. Air crews flew more than 30 hours to find the Emergency Locator Transmitters (ELT) and to guide ground crews to sites where the victims could be found.

“The ground teams were able to coordinate with the aircraft and find the helicopter,” and “The victims looked real.” Realistic moulage had been applied to the simulated victims so ground teams could practice the skills learned in the Alabama Wing’s Field Training Exercises (FTX).

Three ELT Missions during Professional Development Weekend

The Alabama Wing of the Civil Air Patrol responded to three active emergency locator transmitter (ELT) signals detected across Alabama during a busy weekend

characterized by cold and inclement weather across much of the state.

After receiving tasking from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) to search for and turn off the signals, the Wing activated two aircrews and two ground teams between Friday and Saturday. The first signal was detected at approximately 9:00 a.m. CST Friday following an aircraft incident in Monrovia, Ala., near the Tennessee state line. The transmitter was silenced by airport staff and airport fire rescue personnel. No ground or airborne teams were deployed.

A second signal was detected at 10:11 a.m. CST Friday near Mobile, Ala. A ground team from the Mobile Composite Squadron and an aircrew from the Baldwin County Squadron, comprising 10 total personnel, were deployed. The transmitter was silenced prior to being located by search personnel.

A third signal was detected at 7:05 a.m. CST Saturday in central Alabama, initially located near Montgomery, Ala., and later north of Columbus, Ga. A ground team, aircrew and incident staff of 15 personnel was deployed at 8:30 a.m. CST by the Auburn Composite Squadron, which was assisting at a flyin and air show at the Auburn-Opelika Municipal Airport in Auburn, Ala.

A total of three air sorties were flown to assist Ground teams, which located the transmitter aboard a U.S. Navy aircraft participating in the air show. Although the transmitter was silenced, ground direction finding equipment continued to detect a signal from the transmitter, which was determined to be faulty.

2Lt. Jonathan Lartigue, PAO



Picture of Alabama Cadets at Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville AL. The SR 71 is in the background.

Protection of Radio Frequency Information

It has come to my attention that a Wing Directive is needed to inform everyone that the radio frequency assignments provided us by the USAF are considered sensitive information and require protection from unauthorized release. IAW AFI 33-118 *Radio Frequency (RF) Spectrum Management*, "The continued protection of this information is essential to national security because it pertains to communications security and reveals vulnerabilities and capabilities". In addition, 18 USC 793 carries penalties for unauthorized disclosure of defense-related information.

For these reasons begin immediately implementing procedures to protect our frequency assignments. Wing staff and

Squadron Commanders must review all plans, supplements, and other documents which may contain lists of CAP frequency assignments. Such documents must be removed from public access, such as on the Web, documents in aircraft and may not be released to outside agencies without coordination of HQ CAP/NTC and CAP-USAF.

In addition, all documents containing frequencies will be marked "UNCLASSIFIED // FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY" (FOUO) at the top and bottom of each page. And, the following statement should be clearly displayed on the front page of any document containing FOUO information:

UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Frequency information contained in this document is designated by the Department of Defense (DOD) as For Official Use Only (FOUO) and may not be released to anyone without the prior permission of the NTC and CAP-USAF.

There is a suspense date of 30 April 2008 for this to be accomplished.

Mike Oakman, Col, CAP
Alabama Wing Commander

CAPT. JOHNNY WARD, JR. RECOGNIZED BY SCAA

Our Squadron Maintenance Officer, Capt. Johnny Ward Jr. led a rescue at the Shelby County Airport after an aircraft ran off the end of Runway 16. His actions were recognized by the Shelby County Aviation Association at a meeting April 28, 2008.



On Sunday, April 6, 2008, Capt. Johnny Ward, Jr., who is a full time firefighter and paramedic, was working at the Shelby County Airport, when a Grumman Cheetah lost engine power during touch and goes on runway 16, landed, ran off the end of the runway and nosed over. Since the canopy slides open, the pilot and the CFI accompanying him were trapped.

Capt. Ward immediately responded, tore open the canopy, and assisted the occupants from the aircraft. He then secured the aircraft while SM Rick Kilgore, CAP Flight 132, and a trained first aider, aided the pilot who had cut his forehead.



The Shelby County Aviation Association awarded a plaque to Capt. Ward in recognition of his efforts. Here Rick

Kilgore, the same CAP member who assisted, presents the award to Johnny Ward, Jr.

1st Lt. Mike Ridge, PAO

2008 Summer Encampment



The 2008 Alabama-Mississippi Wing Summer Encampment is just around the corner. Basic applications are being accepted right now! Don't miss out on this great opportunity. For more details, please visit www.almencampment.com and stay tuned for a very special edition of the *Cadet Programs Quarterly* newsletter.

Please join the Cadet Programs Staff in congratulating the Alabama Wing Color Guard (Autauga-Elmore Squadron) for their great showing at the Southeast Region Cadet Competition held over the weekend at Patrick AFB, FL. The team put forth a great effort in every event, and placed second in Outdoor Standard Drill, which is the heart of the competition. Stay tuned for a very special edition of *Cadet Programs Quarterly* chronicling the teams' trip to compete. Now is the time to start building your teams for next years competition!

Here are the competition results:

Drill Team Overall

1. Tennessee
2. Puerto Rico

(The categorized Drill Team results are not available at this time)

Color Guard Overall

- 1. Florida
- 2. Puerto Rico

Mile Run

- 1. Puerto Rico
- 2. Florida

Panel Quiz

- 1. Florida
- 2. Georgia

Written Exam

- 1. Florida
- 2. Georgia

Inspection

- 1. Puerto Rico
- 2. Florida

Indoor Practical

- 1. Florida
- 2. Puerto Rico

Outdoor Standard Drill

- 1. Florida
- 2. ALABAMA**

Outdoor Practical

- 1. Florida
- 2. Puerto Rico



CAP aircraft at Bessemer Squadron

Did you know

That in 2007 The ALABAMA WING OF THE CIVIL AIR PATROL had over 968 volunteers who supplied CLOSE TO or OVER 179,564 hours of service. That is equivalent to over 86.3 fulltime employees!

This information is being presented to honor our volunteers during

**National Volunteer Week
April 27 to May 3, 2008**

CONGRATULATIONS!

Mike Oakman. Col., CAP
USAF Auxiliary
Alabama Wing Commander

Thanks for all you do for your Country, CAP & the ALWG.

Editor's note: A volunteer hour is worth \$19.51 nationwide/ \$16.33 in Alabama

**Our worth as CAP
volunteers is
\$2,932,280.12.**

[http://www.independentsector.org/
programs/research/volunteer_time.
html](http://www.independentsector.org/programs/research/volunteer_time.html)

Mobile Squadron at Kessler AFB for a Practice Weather Mission

The Mobile Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol visited the 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron at Kessler AFB, Ms on Thursday, 17 April 2008.



l to r: 2Lt Emmett Farnell, Officers Jason Landry and David Mosow, Cadets Michael Jolly, William Sheppard, Michael Bentley, Stephen Smith, and Shana Smith; and, 1Lt Tyran Colvin.

After ground briefing by 53rd Crew members we boarded a 1999 model C130 J Hercules aircraft which flew us on a practice Weather mission in which we flew over the water (close to shore). Joining us on the practice mission were nine University of South Alabama AFROTC Cadets and another Civil Air Patrol Squadron from Meridian Mississippi.

The flight lasted approximately an hour and a half in which we flew from Kessler to Dauphin Island, over Mobile Bay and back up the coast to the Mississippi River south of New Orleans, and then back to Kessler.



Aircraft crew member showing Cadets the drop sonde.

After the flight the Mobile Squadron cadets attended Honor Guard training camp to prepare them for Honor Guard Service. The cadets were subjected to a rigorous four hours of non-stop training complete with an Air Force drill sergeant who subjected them to a surprise uniform inspection. The next day, we were honored guests at a drill team competition on base prior to departure.

2nd Lt. Emmett Farnell, PAO, Mobile Composite Squadron

Redstone Color Guard Opens City Council Meeting



Color Guard members from left to right are C/A1C Nellie Soto, C/CMSgt Andrew Hall, C/TSgt Isaac Wilson, and C/A1C Cassandra Richardson

The Cadet Color Guard from the Redstone Composite Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol participated in the opening ceremonies of the Madison City Council meeting on April 28, 2008. The cadets presented the colors for the pledge of allegiance. Lt Col John Hall, Deputy Commander for Cadets in the Redstone Squadron, led the pledge.

FLIGHT SAFETY

SUBJECT: WEIGHT AND BALANCE

There have been several general aviation accidents or incidents around the nation due to aircraft being out of normal weight and balance limits. One of the most infamous was an airliner crash where the Beech 1900 commuter had an accident right after take off may be attributed to improper balance. If

we think this does not apply to us in the CAP, we need to think again!

All of our C-172's with the 180 HP mod have a normal gross weight of aprox. 2500 Lbs. I have given hundreds of F-5 check rides where I ask the PIC to compute a "typical mission weight" of full fuel and three people aboard, PIC, SIC and Observer. You may be surprised, but most of our planes can only take three "normal" (i.e., 170 Lb pilots) plus full fuel. Of course, I know you might say we are all "normal pilots"... (The Flight Doc might disagree).

If we just assume we can fill every seat in the plane (like the Beech 1900) and add gas, we may in fact be way over gross!!! Not only too heavy, but perhaps too far aft in CG, and that can be deadly. So the moral is...take a few moments to review the POH of your plane, look up the Weight and Balance section and play with the numbers and do some sample flights. You may be surprised to find that the other day, when you saw 4 adults get out of that CAP C-172 that arrived at mission base, they were way out of limits and escaped death narrowly. !

GROUND SAFETY

SUBJECT: USE OF SPOTTERS WHEN BACKING

I am sure no one has ever backed into an obstacle while driving...really. The CAP vehicle statistics are full of cases where a CAP vehicle ran into another while parking, or while moving around the parking lot, or the flight line.

The obvious way to prevent this is to have a spotter work with us, so that they will alert us if we are too close to a vehicle while

parking (or too close to a tree, stump, airplane, take your pick

Remember, we can get injured just as easily on the ground as on the air! Be safe!

Lt Col. Harold Coghlan

Fundraiser Link: Shop on the web—Percentage of purchase to squadron funds.

<http://cap.fundlinkllc.com/>

2008 CIVIL AIR PATROL PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER ACADEMY featuring [CNN's Miles O'Brien](#)

Keynote Speaker: CNN's Miles O'Brien will provide an inside view on how to secure national media coverage. In addition to [CAP's search for Steve Fossett](#), other notable crash investigations O'Brien has covered during his career include the accident that took the life of John F. Kennedy Jr. O'Brien is CNN's chief technology and environment correspondent, reporting extensively on NASA and space exploration as well as civil aviation issues. He contributed to CNN's Peabody-award winning coverage of Hurricane Katrina and its aftermath with live reports from the U.S. Gulf Coast. He also has anchored various newscasts for CNN and Headline News, including Live From and, most recently, American Morning.

Course Description: Sessions will focus on the theme, "Public Affairs Essentials: Think

Nationally, Act Locally," in providing attendees with training specifically designed to meet the needs of today's PAOs. Areas of emphasis will include media relations, Web site development, community relations, newsletters, planning and much more. The sessions will be complemented by networking opportunities and the presentation of [CAP Balsem awards](#) for professional excellence in a variety of categories.

Times: 8 a.m.-6:30 p.m. daily

Dates: Aug. 5-6

Where: [Gaylord Palms Resort](#), Kissimmee, Fla. (near [Orlando](#))

Register for the Public Affairs Academy through the CAP.GOV website. I have made plans to go for the academy. Please consider joining me.

Other PA Announcements

The next deadline for the newsletter will be **July 25, 2008**—with the goal of having the newsletter on the web by May 7th. All articles and pictures can be sent by email or snail mail.

Commanders, please send your appointments (CAPR 2a) for Squadron PAOs to me. You may leave them in the mailbox at wing headquarters, email an electronic copy, or snail mail them to me at 1919 McDowling Drive, Huntsville, AL 35803.

From National Headquarters

Civil Air Patrol NHQ is in the process of planning an exciting conference for you this summer at the Gaylord Palms Hotel in Kissimmee, FL. The current conference

information is below. We will update our website periodically as information becomes available.

Discounted conference and banquet registration are available until 1 June 2008. Register online for the conference before 23 July 2008 for a chance to win a laptop!

Pre-conference Training: We are again offering all-day training courses prior to the actual start of the conference. There are 10 this year, including a Cessna G-1000 course, PAO academy and an IG training class. Please see our website for complete course information. There is a fee associated with each course. The training courses are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, 5-6 August. Again, these are scheduled before the actual conference begins.

Cape Canaveral tour: We have a member in Florida who works at Cape Canaveral. He has offered to conduct a tour of the Cape. This will be on Wednesday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. This will be limited by the number of seats on the bus - approximately 54. Tour fee is \$15 and covers the cost of the transportation.

Disney Tickets: We have a special deal with Disney for tickets at a reduced cost. They have specials for people attending conferences in the Orlando area. You can get discounted tickets for all day and after 2:00 pm or after 4:00 pm. Again, our website has a link to this Disney ticket information.

You can register for all the above activities on our website.

National Board & Annual Conference Schedule:

Tuesday, 5 August

Pre-conference Training Classes

Wednesday, 6 August

Pre-conference Training Classes
Conference Registration Open
Exhibit Hall set up

Thursday, 7 August

National Board Business Meeting
Exhibit Hall Open
Annual Conference Opening
Reception (In Exhibit Hall)

Friday, 8 August

Annual Conference General
Assembly
Conference Learning Labs

Saturday, 9 August

CAP Recognition Ceremony
Learning Labs
Annual CAP Banquet

Visit us at <http://www.cap.gov/2008AC> to register for the conference and hotel or to purchase Disney tickets.

To receive the CAP hotel discount, please make your room reservations by 4 July 2008.

PLEASE NOTE: The conference registration form must be completed for each individual attendee regardless of the event attending.

We look forward to seeing you all in August!

Redstone Cadets now meet at Aviation Challenge

Saturday morning 15 March 2008, the Redstone Composite Squadron conducted their Official Open House of their Cadet Program that was recently relocated to Aviation Challenge at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center (USSRC) in Huntsville, Alabama. Open House activities included displays of model aircraft, a simulation of a real WWII mission flown by a B-25 and the Color Guard presenting colors. Lt Col John Hall presented an excellent overview of the CAP Cadet Program to a capacity crowd at the new home in conjunction with Squadron Commander, Capt Mark Adams providing closing remarks.



Lt Col Guthrie shows model to prospective cadets.

Prior to moving the Redstone Cadet program to Aviation Challenge, our home was located next to Redstone Arsenal airfield in what was lovingly referred to as the CAP Shack. With Cadet Program growth, the Redstone Squadron outgrew the facility, which helped to determine the necessity to find a new home.

The USSRC and CAP felt that relocating the Redstone CAP Cadet program to Aviation

Challenge was a win-win for both organizations. Each year the USSRC hosts a large number of visiting students that are immersed in the fields of math, science and technology while participating in teamwork which gives them self confidence and communication skills. Campers have a choice of Aviation Challenge or Space Camp.

Space Camp uses space to excite and educate youth in the fields of math, science and technology. Teamwork, self-confidence and communication are achieved through state-of-the-art simulations, missions, rocket building and robotics. Campers are exposed to everything they need to know about Space Shuttle Systems and life aboard the Orbiter and Space Station. Campers try out space food, learn to sleep in space and even how to go to the bathroom in space! Astronaut training will continue on the Multi-Axis trainer that spins them all around, just like the Mercury Astronauts. Campers also take a turn on the 5-Degrees of Freedom Chair (it's like a chair floating on air) training just like the Gemini astronauts.

Next, they will train like Apollo astronauts did for their trip to the moon by taking a walk in the 1/6th Gravity Chair! And finally, Campers strap on our own version of a jet pack — an MMU, that's NASA talk for a Manned Maneuvering Unit — and maneuver around on a cushion of air. Campers will take time off from a busy training schedule for water activities, but not too much, because it's off to rocket construction to build and launch their own one-stage model rocket.



Aviation Challenge is an alternative to the [U.S. Space Camp](#) in that it is more closely related to [fighter aircraft](#) than it is to space. The camp is a military based one that teaches many basic flying skills with in-depth simulators. The Flight Simulators include two-person tandem cockpit seating with traditional pull down glass canopies when flying. They also have a challenging [SEAL OPS](#) and an Escape & Evasion mission. The more advanced Campers have scored missions with Theater Ops military style briefings where trainees are meticulously inspected before being allowed to enter briefing rooms. They also have a much more intense SEAL OP. Teams must coordinate their individual missions to complete their overall Operation. Captured trainees are taken to a mock POW Camp and put through Interrogation Resistance. There are numerous activities that are done in the camp such as [rafting](#), [g force](#) simulators, wilderness [survival skills](#) and flight equipment lectures.

When the Campers leave the USSRC, they may not have an outlet for what they have experienced. Since the USSRC and CAP programs are such a good fit, it was decided that as Campers return home from the USSRC, they can be directed to the CAP website <http://cap.findlocation.com/>. Using this web-site, Campers can locate the nearest CAP unit to build upon what they learned while at the USSRC or Aviation Challenge.

Local CAP Cadet programs are designed to provide youth, from sixth grade through age 21, with a safe, encouraging environment in which to learn, mature and explore opportunities to help them reach their potential as adults. Cadets participate in a structured program through group and individual activities that include aerospace education, physical training, leadership and moral and ethical values. The program encompasses 16 achievement levels that include study in these four areas. Upon completion of each achievement, the cadet earns increased cadet rank, decorations, awards, eligibility for national and international special activities, and an opportunity for flight and academic scholarships.

The Redstone Cadet Open House was well attended and quite a few of the visitors stayed after the program to ask about becoming members. The last part of the Open House activities included a tour of the Aviation Challenge facilities, which included a look at the flight simulators. After Open House was concluded, Aviation Challenge Program Manager Ruth Olive treated CAP members to a free pass to the Space and Rocket Center for the day. Walking around this incredible museum was astounding and to think that the Redstone Cadets will have the opportunity to meet at Aviation Challenge is, to say the least, a privilege not afforded to many other Cadet Programs in CAP.

1 Lt. Kim Miller, PAO, Redstone Squadron

Flagship Experiment 2008

Redstone Arsenal, Ala.—The Alabama Wing, Civil Air Patrol, participated in Flagship Experiment at Redstone Arsenal from April 7--10, 2008. Flagship Experiment was an exercise designed to test various communication and visualization platforms to assist civil powers and the military in a simulated natural disaster.

A 75 foot long balloon, equipped with various sensors, communication links and a camera, was tethered to a mobile land vehicle and allowed to float to 1000 feet. The balloon could be used, in an emergency, such as a major earthquake, to provide pictures and communication links to those agencies responding to the disaster.



The Alabama Wing flew multiple Satellite Digital Imaging System (SDIS) sorties, providing reconnaissance, photographic missions transferring the images to the Alabama Department of Homeland Security for Virtual Alabama and other Flagship Experiment participants. For the purposes of the exercise, Civil Air Patrol was considered a tactical airborne first responder. Civil Air Patrol volunteers from across the state provided air, communication and ground base support for Flagship Experiment.



Hosted by the US Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC), the Alabama Wing, Civil Air Patrol joined Huntsville City Police, the Alabama Criminal Justice Center, Redstone Arsenal Fire Department, the 232nd Air Guard Combat Communication Squadron, and the 203rd Military Police Battalion. Looking at future operations during a natural disaster, such as a major earthquake, this experiment provided the opportunity for these organizations to work together in a very informative simulation.

Memorial Day 2008



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

John McCrae (1872-1918)