

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION



ALTIITUDES

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF CIVIL AIR PATROL'S ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION HEADQUARTERS

RMR HOSTS IACE CAPADES

Fall 2018



FIRST GRADUATING CLASS AT UNIVERSITY OF ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION



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Civil Air Patrol is the civilian auxiliary of the United States Air Force. *Altitudes* is the official publication of the Rocky Mountain Region of the Civil Air Patrol.

It is published two times a year with content supplied by the Rocky Mountain Region Public Affairs Staff.

Altitudes is published by a private firm which is not associated with the Department of the Air Force or the Civil Air Patrol Corporation. The appearance of advertisements for products and services, as well as supplements and inserts found in this magazine, does not constitute endorsement by the United States Air Force or the Civil Air Patrol Corporation.

Rocky Mountain Region Commander

Col. Thomas Kettell, CAP

Director of Public Affairs and Editor-in-Chief

Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP

Content is supplied by Rocky Mountain Region staff and articles reprinted from the Colorado, Idaho, Utah, Montana and Wyoming Wings' magazines. Pre-approved article submissions are welcome. Please send requests for article submissions to Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, Editor-in-Chief, *Altitudes* at mdaniels@cap.gov. Once an article is approved send it in Microsoft Word format and attach photos (in jpeg format) to your email making certain to include photo caption information at the end of the article.

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ON THE COVER:

IACE cadets arrive in RMR's Montana Wing, (Center left) Pacific and Rocky Mountain Regions' National Honor Guard Academy cadets at URMR at USAFA, (Center right) Region Cadet Leadership School cadets at URMR at USAFA, (Bottom) 2018 University of Rocky Mountain Region Graduates and Staff. URMR includes, Region Staff College, Chaplain Corps Region Staff College, Region Cadet Leadership School and the joint Pacific / Rocky Mountain Region Honor Guard Academy at Dining Out Graduation.

Photos by Ch. Lt. Col. John Reutemann

Commander's Comments

Col. Thomas Kettell, CAP

Commander, Rocky Mountain Region

As we close the books on a busy fiscal year, I continue to be humbled by the dedication to service and the accomplishments of our Rocky Mountain Region Airmen. The year came with the execution of new ideas in Professional Development and Cadet Programs that have set a new benchmark in excellence, not only in our Region, but nationally.



Here are just a few of the highlights from the past year:

- Emergency Services:
 - o 137 Sorties
 - o 16 Finds
 - o 2 Saves
- In November 2017, 135 members of RMR crossed the Canadian border and participated in the HART Ceremony with the Royal Canadian Air Cadets at Vimy Ridge Armory, Lethbridge, Alberta. HART, Honoring Allies and Remembering Together, is an annual event where we come together with our Canadian counterparts to honor the fallen for our countries. In attendance this year were both Canadian Memorial Cross families and American Gold Star families, those who lost a loved one in combat while serving.
- In early April, the Region Cadet Competition (RCC) had nine teams participate with representation from every Wing in the Region. This year's RCC had the largest participation in recent memory. Coincidentally, every Wing took home a trophy in at least one event. In the end, it was two teams from the Colorado Wing (Vance Brand Cadet Squadron and Valkyrie Cadet Squadron) who represented RMR at the National Cadet Competition in Dayton, Ohio.
- In late April, Rocky Mountain Region hosted the Spring Board of Governors meeting in conjunction with the Colorado Wing/Rocky Mountain Region Conference. 327 members attended the conference. A special thanks goes out to the hard work of the joint

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Rocky Mountain *CyberPatriot Highs*

Congratulations to the Colorado Wing's CSCS Wolfpack CyberPatriot Team who took 3rd Place in the All Service Division of the 2018 National CyberPatriot Finals. Last year the CSCS Wolfpack team won their second national championship in the All Service Division and have made an unprecedented eight trips to the CyberPatriot National Finals.



Congratulations to Maj. Bill Blatchley, coach of the Colorado Springs Cadet Squadron Wolfpack CyberPatriot team, who was named the Air Force Association's CyberPatriot 2018 National Coach of the Year! Out of over 5500 coaches in CyberPatriot X, Maj. Bill Blatchley was selected as the 2018 Coach of the Year! Besides this national award from the AFA, Maj. Blatchley was also selected as CAP's 2018 National AEO of the Year! Largely due to his coaching prowess, the CSCS CyberPatriot team was a national finalist team for an unprecedented 8 years during which time they twice became All Service Division National Champions!





MISSING CESSNA 210 AIRCRAFT & PILOT FOUND BY HIKERS ON MOSQUITO PASS

Preface by Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP Mission PIO

On July 13 near mid-afternoon, the Park County Sheriff's Office announced that hikers located the wreckage of a Cessna 210 on top of Mosquito Pass that the Civil Air Patrol's Colorado Wing had been looking for since early April. The pilot was found deceased at the scene of the crash and was identified by the Park County Coroner as Quentin Aschoff, 67.

On April 2nd, the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) assigned the Colorado Wing with a search mission for a missing aircraft after family members reported the plane overdue. The pilot did not file a flight plan and the plane did not have an operating transponder but radar was able to track the plane until just east of Grant, CO. Civil Air Patrol aircrews flew 24 sorties with 10 aircraft covering a search area from the last radar contact to the Utah border. As a result of high winds, poor visibility due to recent snow and inclement weather, the AFRCC suspended the search on April 11th. The search concentrated around the ridges north and northwest of South Park, the routes between Kenosha Pass and I-70 at Silverton and Copper Mountain. Family members had shared that Aschoff intended to follow I-70 but, according to radar, after reaching Loveland Pass, diverted east and then began following Hwy 285. Cell phone signals ceased about 30 minutes after the last radar contact and there was no ELT signal to attempt to locate.

Denver's NBC station, 9News KUSA had aired stories about the search back in April. Then in July when the hikers notified 9News they found the missing aircraft wreckage, journalist Marshall Zelinger interviewed Jon Cook and his father-in-law, Pat Wester, and aired a story about their discovery. Afterward, Jon wrote an article about the experience and submitted it to RMR Altitudes for CAP members to understand how fate brought him to find the wreckage and the pilot for whom they had been searching.

Into the Valley with N68640 and Quentin Aschoff

Article and Photos by Jon Cook

No one and nothing can prepare you to find what you've never seen before. A Friday morning of hooky from business with a Jeep trail through Mosquito Pass created an indelible mark on my memory.

My father-in-law Pat and I met up with his college roommate Jay on Friday morning, July 13th, 2018, in the Breckenridge area. It's only now that I remember it was Friday the 13th. Of course, it was.

We saw the sign "Mosquito Pass closed for the season" appear behind the dust cloud of the oncoming Jeep. "It's still pretty early and they probably haven't taken the sign down yet, so why not give it a try?" A couple hours of gopher sighting, gold mine spotting, and panoramic views kept us occupied as we approached the stagecoach turnoff.

Pat's voice derailed my train of thought: "What's down there? Is that a helicopter?" Being the youngest (30-something) of our group, I curled forward from the cramped back seat. Pat pointed towards the



While hiking on Mosquite Pass in July, Jon Cook spotted something odd in the distance in the valley and hiked down to find the wreckage of a missing Cessna 210 that the Colorado Wing had unsuccessfully searched for back in early April.



Tail number N68640 of the late Quentin Aschoff's Cessna 210 that members of the Colorado Wing had been searching for since early April 2018 and found by hiker, Jon Cook on Friday July 13th on Mosquito Pass.

Cessna 210 wreckage found by Jon Cook while hiking on Mosquito Pass on Friday, July 13th.

Mosquito Pass where a missing Cessna 210 and pilot Quentin Aschoff were found by Jon Cook while hiking with his father-in-law on Friday, July 13th.

valley's edge at a white bundle tucked against the mountainside. Jay mentioned the binoculars case by my seat. Ten seconds later, I could make out a white fixed-wing plane with its tail folded back in a pile of debris.

We had no idea how long it was there. Months, years? I started getting this back-of-your-neck feeling: we need to check this out. The 'we' became just me as the older yielded to the younger. Jay parked atop the mountainside, and I started my descent.

A hundred yards down the mountainside, I realized my foolishness. They couldn't see me, and I couldn't see them or anything else that could possibly see me. I continued on for a solid mile down into the valley, across the creek bed, and past the stack of stones that looked like a tribute.

The debris pattern started a solid 100 feet outside the main wreckage. It was a four-seater Cessna with all the doors and seats blown out onto the mountainside. There's no way anyone walked away from this.

I didn't see Quentin's body during my first glance. The cockpit was completely torn back into a bundle of gear, luggage, and debris. A few steps around the back put me three feet from his face.

It was surreal and haunting, what I would imagine being curled up under a grizzly or getting 'that' diagnosis must feel like. That feeling when you know the breath of death is closer than a veil. Your perspective changes when you realize how close you are to someone's final moments.

The tail number read N68640 with faded orange and yellow stripes behind. I looked back up the mountainside: how did we miss this? How long has this been here? Who is this?

I snapped pictures of the wreckage, being careful not to disturb anything. The Sheriff's office would need proof so this man could be reunited with his family one last time.

I made my way back up the mountain where Pat and Jay listened in disbelief. We made our way to Lake County in Leadville and reported the crash to the Sheriff's office. It was only a week later when I learned the backstory on Quentin Aschoff's final flight and the constant searches done by the Colorado Civil Air Patrol and Quentin's family.

Finding Quentin and N68640 is an experience I'll never forget, but what's more important is what it means for his family and everyone involved in the search. They can finally get closure on the greatest question mark in their minds. It also means closure for the local search and rescue authorities, the Colorado Civil Air Patrol, and the journalists who first stitched their stories about the flight that went missing on April 2nd, 2018.

So many volunteers, staff, and community leaders connected to the crash can now start to know what happened. For the rest of us, it's a reminder to hold your loved ones closer tonight. Make that call. Say, "I love you." Look at their faces more than your screens. I hugged my wife and kids tighter that night, and I recommend you do the same for your family. ■

◀ *Commander's Comments from page 1*

conference planning team that made it a resounding success.

- In June, we introduced a new concept in Professional Development. The University of Rocky Mountain Region (URMR) was held at the United States Air Force Academy. The University was composed of four schools – Region Staff College (RSC), Region Cadet Leadership School (RCLS), Chaplain Corps Region Staff College (CCRSC), and the Joint RMR/PCR Honor Guard Academy (HGA). CCRSC was the first held in RMR in over a decade and HGA was the first ever hosted in the west. URMR had over 122 participants from 10 Wings.
- Also this year, RMR hosted and supported four National Cadet Special Activities (NCSA's) including the International Air Cadet Exchange (IACE). For the first time ever as a Region, Cadets from Belgium, Canada, China, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom came to RMR for a whirlwind tour that encompassed all five states and over 1,500 miles. I was so proud of the members who came out in force to support this program, took the time to meet our guests, and participated in the activities. Our Region and Wing Project Officers put together a first-class program that received outstanding feedback by the IACE organization.

Once again, this coming year has another robust calendar of events and challenges. There will be a strong emphasis on aircraft utilization. We have been given a great responsibility to perform our mission for our States and communities and we must strive for excellence. Utilizing our assets and honing our skills by training and preparation is vital to our success. In the coming months RMR will be looking at our resources and manpower and putting a plan together to increase our utilization and proficiency in our Emergency Services mission.

Some important upcoming dates: RCC is planned for 12-14 April 2019 at Camp Williams, Utah; URMR is scheduled for 16-22 June 2019 at the United States Air Force Academy and this year the University will be expanded to include an Advanced Honor Guard Academy and a Robotics NCSA. IACE will return to RMR next year with a new streamlined program and a wide variety of events. All members of RMR are encouraged to participate with us as we cruise through the five states of our beautiful region.

Finally, I would once again like to thank you for all you do for this great organization and the communities we serve. Your dedication to our mission makes a real difference in people's lives and your contributions have a lasting impact. This past year was a year of firsts for Rocky Mountain Region and we will build on that momentum to make this fiscal year even better. I look forward to serving with you. ■

RMR PAOs, PIOs and Unit Commanders

Be sure to meet your annual training requirement and CAPP201 PAO Track check-off by attending the UTWG PAO Academy Dec 8-9, 2018 in Salt Lake City at the Utah Wing Headquarters. Come learn the essentials of CAP public affairs, including how to write a news story or press release, photography, social media, interpersonal communication, crisis management, writing your squadron's public affairs plan, the equipment you need, information on the public affairs specialty track, becoming a public information officer and more! We'll have prizes throughout the day as well as a UTWG Public Affairs Academy polo shirt for attendees. This training is open to all CAP members. Lt. Col. Paul Cianciolo, CAP's National Marketing and Social Media Director will be joining us for the PAO Academy. If you want to learn about promoting CAP in your community, effective branding and get up to speed on the newest ideas out of NHQ, sign up now! For more info and to register contact 1st Lt. Sean Wardwell UTWG Director of Public Affairs at swardwell@cap.gov.



Promotion of the Century

*Article and Photo by 2nd Lt. LuWana DePorter
Wyoming Wing Cadet Encampment Public Affairs Officer*

How often do you get to be a part of a first time event? Well the Wyoming Wing Cadet Encampment and their guests were lucky enough to be witness to the first time ever Enlisted Senior Member promotion of the Civil Air Patrol Rocky Mountain Region!

This lucky recipient is none other than Senior Member Tech. Sgt. Salvatore Chiporo, the Wyoming Wing Director of Cadet Programs and the 2018 Wyoming Wing Encampment Commander.



Tech. Sgt. Chiporo joined the United States Air Force in 1991, became a C-5 Flight Engineer in 2003 and served until 2010. He joined the Civil Air Patrol's Cheyenne Composite Squadron on July 18, 2016 and was quickly promoted to the grade of Technical Sergeant on August 30, 2016. Tech. Sgt. Chiporo has served and is serving in the rolls of:

- Squadron Leadership Education Officer - July 25, 2016
- Squadron NCO - September 19, 2016
- Wyoming Wing Director of Cadet Programs - December 19, 2017
- Character Development Instructor - June 8, 2018
- Wyoming Wing Cadet Encampment Commander - July 2-12, 2018

The promotion ceremony was performed on August 12, 2018 held at Camp Guernsey, Wyoming at 1100. The Master of Ceremonies was Chief Master Sgt. Mike Moore-the Rocky Mountain Region Command NCO who administered the Oath of Promotion and Civil Air Patrol NCO Creed. Also on hand for this special occasion and to congratulate Tech. Sgt. Chiporo was the Wyoming Wing Commander, Col. Jeff Johnson.

Tech. Sgt. Salvatore Chiporo was promoted to Master Sergeant before friends and family who were overjoyed to witness such an occasion.

Congratulations to Master Sgt. Salvatore Chiporo!



COVER TO COVER

That Old Jacket:

The Story Behind The WWII Uniform in Grandfather's Closet

By Ron Bushaw
Published by American
Heroes Publishing

With Veterans Day just around the corner, a book like *That Old Jacket: The Story Behind the WWII Uniform in Grandfather's Closet* is the perfect read and gift for anyone who wants to learn about, remember and celebrate the various military units who gallantly served during the war. This big coffee table book is a military historical reference filled with uniforms, insignia, images, and detailed information on the leaders, campaigns, casualties, and brief combat history of every U.S. Army, Army Corps, Infantry Division, Airborne Division, Armored Division, Army Air Force Division, Marine Corps Division, and numerous specialty divisions that fought during World War II as well as a sprinkling of U.S. Navy and British Commonwealth units that also served.



The uniforms pictured are the actual war uniforms that the veterans wore home and then stored in their closets. Each uniform proudly displays a unit patch known as an SSI (Shoulder Sleeve Insignia) and is accompanied by an explanation of the meaning and origin of the insignia.

This collectible reference has been developed to guide those who are searching to understand where their immediate family members and ancestors served during the war. By following the narratives for each unit and relating them to the accompanying maps and images, they'll be well equipped to find the answers to many questions they hoped to learn. If you're a collector of militaria or the child, grandchild, or relative of a WWII veteran who put their uniform in the closet after the war, the images and documentation found within this book will help you come to know the history of and better appreciate "that old jacket."

"Ron Bushaw's *That Old Jacket: The Story Behind the WWII Uniform in Grandfather's Closet* treats us to the broadest review of America's ground and air war of World War II. It should be a must-have desk reference for the professional historian or collector of militaria and is a memory tickler for WWII veterans and their families."

Lonnie M. Davidson, Colonel, U.S. Army (Ret.)

That Old Jacket: The Story Behind the WWII Uniform in Grandfather's Closet is an 11" x 8 ½" landscape, 440 page, full color throughout sewn bound hardcover w/dust jacket and can be purchased at www.americanheroespublishing.com where the publisher is offering Civil Air Patrol members a 20% discount off the \$49.95 retail price.



First CAP Sponsored AUXCOMM Class Held in Colorado

By Lt. Col. Gene Munson, Asst. Wing Public Affairs Officer

Photograph courtesy of Maj. Eric Schwarm, Asst. Wing Director of Communications / Communications Training Officer, and Lt. Col. Gene Munson



Civil Air Patrol Incident Command System Training "AUXCOMM" 24 - 25 February 2018



On February 24 and 25, 2018, the first offering of a CAP sponsored AUXCOMM class was held at the South Metro Regional Fire Authority headquarters in Centennial, CO. Among other topics the class covered communications interoperability and planning. The class participants also discussed the need for professional education, relationship building, and dedication to coordination among groups involved.

The AUXCOMM class was offered thanks to a new agreement between CAP and Dept. of Homeland Security - Office of Emergency Communications. The ability to offer DHS - OEC courses within CAP enhances the availability of professional emergency communications training to CAP communicators.

The class was opened by Glen Klaich, State Wide Interoperability Coordinator for the State of Colorado. Mr. Klaich impressed the importance of communications interoperability to enhance communications effectiveness during multi-agency response to emergencies.

Col. Celeste Gamache, CAP Colorado Wing Commander, identified her organization's willingness to engage and provide resource support for Colorado's emergencies. Col. Gamache also welcomed visiting CAP members from the Rocky Mountain Region, Utah, Idaho, Nebraska, and Wyoming. Although the most attendees were CAP members, some amateur radio operators who

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Service Before Self: Being the Cadet Commander of RCLC



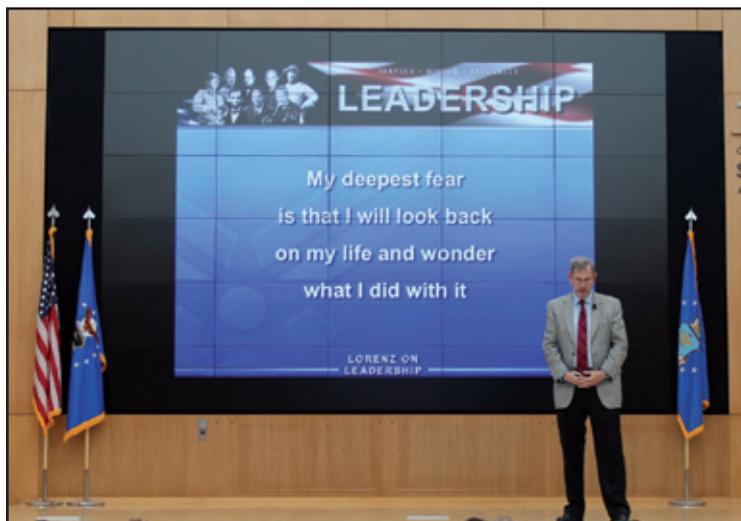
*Article by Cadet Lt. Col. Jett R L Hawk, CAP
Pocatello Composite Squadron*

I had the incredible opportunity to serve as the Cadet Commander of our Rocky Mountain Region's 2018 Cadet Leadership School at the US Air Force Academy. One of Col. Tom Kettell's directives for this activity was for it to be unique, set apart from all the other regions' CLSs. As the C/CC, I did my best to accomplish that goal; but because of my incredible staff and superiors, I believe we succeeded.

One of the unique characteristics about this year's RCLC was it was a sub-school, or college, of a bigger organization known as the University of Rocky Mountain Region. The other colleges were the Region Staff College the Chaplain Corps Region Staff College. My main tasks as the C/CC were to plan the schedule for the week, coordinate shared classes and events with the other colleges, and mentor and lead my people throughout the week. One of the most difficult tasks I had was RCLC had no permanent Senior Members assigned to it—including van drivers. Thankfully, members of the Chaplain Corps volunteered themselves to drive the cadets; I just had to coordinate with them to find out which ones were actually driving that day. Some of the greatest strengths of the school were recovering quickly from getting off schedule, bringing in a diverse faculty from across the Region to teach at this school, and incorporating a bone fide PT program that consisted of more than just volleyball. Before



RMR Commander, Col. Tom Kettell presented Cadet Lt. Col. Jett Hawk with a Meritorious Service Award for his great work as Commander of the Region Cadet Leadership School.



Gen. Lorenz speaking on leadership to all URMR Students and Staff at USAFA Polaris Hall. Photo by Capt. Erin Borland, CAP URMR Staff

my staff and I could even begin to focus on the RCLC curriculum, or the PT plan, or the academic projects, however, I had to ensure they understood the core principle of my leadership philosophy: as leaders, we are not here for ourselves; we are here for our people. To me, that principle is the bedrock of leadership; and, without it, one cannot truly be a leader.

Leaders do not accomplish the mission, the people do. Without the people, the goal does not succeed. Ergo, a unit's people are a mission-critical element of success: the mission is literally in jeopardy if the people are not taken care of. This is where I gather my personal belief of the bedrock of leader-

continued ►



◀ *Service Before Self*

ship: we as leaders are here for our people. If they are what accomplishes the mission, they are what I must care for to ensure mission success. I, as a leader, must find out what encourages, motivates, and inspires them. I must ensure their well-being. I must do what is best for them, even if that angers them or makes them dislike me. My people are my mission. Furthermore, without the care and concern and love for your people, I believe one cannot even be a true leader. He or she may be a fantastic boss and able to meet goals and quotas. But this person is no leader. The Bible states in 1 Cor 13:2: “And if I have prophetic powers, and understanding all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.” My purpose in including this passage is not to proselytize, but rather to give an example of how important love for others is. The biblical Apostle Paul states that even if he had the massive power to remove mountains from the earth, but did not love or care for others, he considered himself nothing—unimportant, useless, worthless. Too often, people define a person by what he does for himself rather than what he does for others. Frank Pierson said, “People will sit up and take notice of you if you will sit up and take notice of what makes them sit up and take notice.” To me, the true value of a person is how he treats those around him.

My greatest reward from being the Cadet Commander of RCLS was not being in command all week, not being admired by the students, nor the award I received. My true and honest reward was first, seeing the students enjoy themselves and enjoy the school. I never thought I would hear a cadet say the words “I had so much fun at RCLS!”, but it happened. Second, my reward was knowing RCLS had influenced the cadets for the better. One parent told me later her son was distinctly different when he returned: he had a greater understanding of leadership and looked at teamwork in a new way. As long as I know that my cadets will go home to their local squadrons and be assets to those squadrons, not problem, I feel I have accomplished my mission. After all, the people are the mission. ■

◀ *AUXCOMM Class from page 13*

volunteer as emergency communicators were also included. The amateur radio operators expressed interest in learning how the Incident Command System (ICS) works and how they interface within its process. They were also intrigued to learn more about CAP.

Notable guests were Kristin Freeman, RMR Director of Communications and Emit Hurdlebrink, Colorado Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Management AUXCOMM group.

Although an amateur radio license is not required to be a CAP communicator, it was a prerequisite to attend the AUXCOMM class. Several CAP members earned their amateur radio licenses so they could attend the class.

The DHS instructors were very knowledgeable and shared valuable insights about the different emergency practice scenarios used during the coursework. They also shared best practices for deployment preparedness, specific tools used in the discipline, and personal experiences from their work. Many of the participants also shared their experiences as issues provided a medium for discussion during table-top exercises.

During course discussions some of the best practices for increased interoperability included creating Memorandums of Understanding among agencies, building relationships, and using plain language for communications. Although the class was a blended environment OPSEC and FOUO needs were respected at all times. CAP members and amateur radio emergency communicators learned a lot about their different organizations and operating requirements.

All of attendees praised the class and also expressed interest in additional communications training. ■





Rocky Mountain Region Hosts 2018 International Air Cadet Exchange

By Lt. Col. Nathan G. Van Dam, CAP
RMR CAC Senior Advisor & HART Director



IACE cadets posed with flags for their first RMR group photo upon arrival in the Rocky Mountain Region at the airport in Montana.

From 20 to 30 July, the Rocky Mountain region hosted 19 cadets from five nations as part of the International Air Cadet Exchange. The Region took them on a grand tour of the five states in our

Region. Our guests hailed from the nations of Belgium, Canada, China, New Zealand, and of the United Kingdom. Beginning in Montana, the tour group wended their way through Montana, Idaho,

Wyoming, Utah, and ended their trip in Colorado. IACE is intended to be a social and cultural exchange experience, and our international guests enjoyed fellowship with local CAP members at many stops along their journey.

Our guests' tour began in Kalispell, MT. They were greeted at the airport with a water arch provided by the airport fire department. The national parks played a high-profile role in this exchange. They first saw Glacier National Park in Montana by air and received a tour of Lone Pine State Park. The next day, they



RMR Commander, Col. Tom Kettell with the Chinese IACE contingent at Glacier National Park while touring Montana during the first RMR wing visit after arriving in the region.



All of the visiting IACE cadets at one of the first 2018 RMR IACE Capades pose for a group photo on snow in July at Glacier National Park in Montana.

explored Glacier National Park on the ground. The day was topped off with very American meal at Golden Corral Buffet. The IACE cadets received a tour of Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming, by Lt. Col. Al Nash, the RMR Chief of Staff, who was a park ranger there in a past life.

In Idaho, the cadets experienced a potato bar and received potato hats from the Idaho Wing. They also enjoyed the All-American root beer float. In Utah, the cadets visited the Hill AFB museum, saw Temple Square, and shopped at a mall. They were then treated to a minor league baseball game. They also got to see a little of the old west as they visited a “cowboy action shoot” where the cadets got to shoot a revolver, a lever-action rifle, and a shotgun, all in a Western-themed range with plenty of certified instructors. The final stop in Utah was a visit to Arches National Park. The parks were very popular with the group, and showcased the epic natural beauty of our region.

Colorado Wing displayed some outstanding team-

work in preparing for and executing our part of the exchange, organizing several special events for our guests. After Arches, the cadets came to Grand Junction and had a pot luck dinner with members from Thunder Mountain Composite Squadron and the Montrose Composite Squadron. The next day, the group visited the Colorado National Monument and made the trip to the front range. They toured the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum and got to fly the heavies at the United Airlines flight training center. The next day, they went rafting on the Arkansas River and had a farewell banquet as it was there last night in the Region. The final morning, they toured the Cadet area at the Air Force Academy. All four groups did an outstanding job hosting, feeding, and entertaining our guests, who were very happy with their experience and were all smiles when I saw them off at the airport.

For more information and photos, please visit the tour Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/2018RMRIACE/>. ■



Gunfighter Skies Air Show at Mountain Home AFB

*Article and Photos by Col. Dave Guzman, CAP,
Capt. Joseph Jamison, CAP, 1st Lt. Ken McConnell, CAP*

Once again, the Idaho Wing was asked to help at a major air show, this one at Mountain Home AFB, Mtn. Home, ID home of the 366th Fighter Wing. Because of the sheer size of the AFB and all the components in play Idaho Wing invited participation from other wings. Nevada Wing sent cadets and seniors to assist and in all there were more than 68 cadets and 20 senior members.

CAP Cadets provided crowd control along the flight line as well as entry and exit posts for the public. They manned an entry point where ID bracelets for children were issued in case they became lost. Cadets and seniors manned STEM booths showing stem projects and recruitment. They also helped at the most popular static display for everyone, the CAP Aircraft. There was a steady stream of adults and children wanting to see our aircraft as well as getting to sit inside and hear about how the Cessna's are used in SAR and O-rides.

Over 200 people toured the CAP Aircraft during the Air Show and it became a major "hot spot" for visitors.

Facilitating our duties was a planning and logistics challenge. A tent city at the AFB softball field with adjoining park was set up as were RV's from Nevada and Idaho for senior members. Comms trailers from Twin Falls and Boise were set in place at the flight line and the tent city to provide adequate radio coverage. Showers at the gym had to be scheduled by rotation as did meals and duty assignments. An ORM was prepared along with protocols for work shifts, meals, showers and cadet activities. Helping on the senior side to keep track of scheduling was 2nd Lt. Heidi Nice, who spent a great deal of time tracking everything on paper. 2nd Lt. Ken Lane manned the comms trailer on the flight line along with a few outstanding seniors from Nevada. Boise Vice Commander 1st Lt. Ken McConnell played a fantastic role at the aircraft, as well as a great photographer. Many of these photos are from Ken.



The Air Force Heavy Lifter C-17 was on hand to give the audience the pleasure and surprise of just how maneuverable and efficient their aircraft could be.



Raptor Team members and CAP cadets L to R, Cadet 2nd Lt. Zachery Ravlin, Cadet Maj. Caleb Bryant, Cadet Capt. Andy Johnson.

Running the show was Cadet Maj. Caleb Bryant and his Vice Commander Cadet Capt. Andy Johnson both of Boise Squadron. Cadets arrived on Friday, May 30, 2018 to establish the tent city and prepare for the weekend event for June 1st and 2nd, 2018. Medical needs, water and shower shifts were the order of the day as the heat in Mountain Home in June I is quite severe. The 366 Fighter Wing provided access to the base gym for showers and exercise as well as the base DF AC all close by the tent city. The cadet staff did an outstanding job in a stressful environment.

The cadets and CAP members were well received by Mountain Home AFB personnel



and spectators who attended the show. CAP provided needed coverage to help with crowd control and checkpoints. The 366th facilitated photo ops for promotions of Boise Cadet Officers with the F-22 Raptor Demonstration team. In front of the Air Show Crowd the Air Force honored our cadets and in fact members of the Raptor team were former and current CAP cadets and seniors.



RAPTOR Demonstration team with Idaho Wing CAP Cadets.

The Air Force Thunderbirds were a big crowd pleaser as always with their precise maneuvers and spectacular demonstration.

The Air Force had special recruitment stations set up for folks to test their skills. Our own 1st Lt. William Burdge (now a captain) gave his best shot at beating the scores needed to be a Parajumper.

There was something for everyone. The Cadets worked hard and played hard and enjoyed themselves.

Set up and Tear down went fast and efficiently following the “encampment” at the softball field as we packed trucks, trailers and vans in preparation to depart for home. Packs, sleeping bags, tents and assorted gear were separated out for departure to different parts of Idaho and Nevada. Friendships were made, connections among wings and squadrons. Lessons were learned, leadership was improved upon and we were able to be of service to our fellow airmen that fly, fight and win.

As we said goodbye to Mountain Home AFB we also paid our last respects to a well-loved, respected Hang Glider Pilot Dan Buchanan who encountered a severe gust of wind during his hang glider show and crashed killing him instantly. He died doing what he loved to do and though it was a tragic event for all the show did cancel for the rest of the day and resumed the next day in honor of Dan. Dan’s family insisted that Dan would want the “show to go on”. We salute you Dan Buchanan.

All in All, we have fond memories of the Air Show, especially the time spent with the Raptor team, such a great group of ambassadors for the Air Force. We also send a special thank you to the Security Forces on Mtn. Home AFB, they fed us lunch and worked along side us as we supported their mission to serve the public and keep them safe.

Until next time.

Sunny Skies and Fair Flying. ■



Photo opportunities such as these only come about when CAP shows the Air Force how willing and able we are to be of service. Left to right: Boise Squadron Commander Capt. Joseph Jamison, Boise Squadron DCC 1st Lt. Ryan Navin, (Raptor Demo Team Member Lt. Col. Greg Anders, Valhalla pilot), Boise Squadron Vice Commander 1st Lt. Ken McConnell.



Dan was an avid air show performer and knew the dangers of his act.



‘ALL IN!’ – A Week At Region Staff College

By 1st Lt. Sean Wardwell
UTWG Director of Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS – Standing at the front of Polaris Hall at the US Air Force Academy, Chief Master Sergeant Bob Vasquez (retired) asked a simple, but important question to the assembled cadet and senior students of the University of Rocky Mountain Region (URMR).

“Are you in?” he asked.

As expected, the audience answered in the affirmative. However, that wasn’t good enough for the Chief.

“ARE YOU IN?”

As we were soon informed, the only appropriate answer to this question is “all in!” It means giving everything you have – for your fellow Airmen, for the mission and for your country. Indeed, “all in” is the perfect metaphor for attending Region Staff College (RSC), held from June 24-29. It is, essentially, a seven-day crash course in how to lead, listen, motivate, innovate and not go insane in the process while juggling these things. The only thing more impressive than the amount of knowledge one is supposed to absorb is how well the whole course is managed and how effectively said information is imparted.

RSC is required for Level IV of the Senior Member Development Program with the corresponding Garber Award. Prerequisites for attending are to be at least Level 2 and already completed Squadron Leadership School and the Corporate Learning Course.

“The value of attending URMR and RSC cannot be stressed enough! Students get not only top-notch, professional leadership training from USAF greats like Gen. Stephen Lorenz (Former commander of Air Education and Training Command), but the school represents an unparalleled opportunity to network not only within the region, but across the country,” said Capt. Erin Borland, who directed the RSC course. “You meet people at RSC that you’ll likely chat with and bounce ideas off of for the rest of your CAP career. Add in behind the scenes tours of the USAFA and the National



Col. Tom Kettell, RMR Commander and URMR Chancellor lecturing at the Region Staff College on CAP’s Core Values.

Museum of WWII Aviation, and the URMR formal Dining In and graduation, you get an action-packed week that is worth every penny!”

Borland also pointed out that this was a new take on not only RSC, but the entire regional approach to professional development and cadet leadership as well.

“The 2018 RSC brought a new approach to senior member education in the guise of URMR and a reimagining of an outdated model for the school,” said Borland. “URMR brought together cadets, senior members and chaplains allowing for combined classes and learning experiences.”

She continued, “This new model was an overwhelming success, and students from across all of URMR positively responded to being able to learn from and interact with the other colleges in a way that is unique to Rocky Mountain Region.”

In a tightly coordinated week, students learned and received feedback from the RMR wing commanders, the region commander, region staff and retired noncommissioned and senior officers, such as Chief Vasquez and Gen. Lorenz.

Of particular importance were the lectures on upholding CAP’s core values of Integrity, Volunteer Service, Excellence, and Respect.

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RMR COWG Civil Air Patrol Member Maj. Joseph Burkhead Earns Bronze Medal at ARDF World Championships

SOKCHO, South Korea – September 8, 2018 – Civil Air Patrol’s Maj. Joseph Burkhead earned a bronze medal at the 19th World Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championship in Sokcho, South Korea held Sept. 2-8, 2018, hosted by the Korea Amateur Radio League (KARL). Over 20 countries participated, including the USA.

ARDF, also known as Radio Orienteering, is a multi-skill sport that involves running and navigating using only a map and compass while using a radio receiver and antenna to locate multiple transmitters hidden in a forest. The sport has applications to search & rescue, wildlife tracking, and airborne/seaborne navigation. Direction Finding, or “DF-ing,” is a critical lifesaving skill for CAP search & rescue aircrew, ground teams, and urban direction finding (UDF) teams to possess in order to promptly track down and locate emergency beacons on aircraft or hikers in distress. CAP typically saves about 100 lives a year and many of those rescue missions involve some kind of DF work by CAP teams.

Maj. Joe Burkhead was selected by the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) to ARDF Team USA to compete at the World ARDF Championship as a result of his silver medal results at the 2018 U.S. ARDF National Championships in June, 2018 held in Truckee, Calif.

At the World Championship, Maj. Joe Burkhead and his teammate, Kenneth Harker, were awarded Bronze team medals for their combined results in the 80 meter (3.5 MHz) Classic race on September 5th. The 80m

continued ►



Kenneth Harker (left) and Joseph Burkhead (right) awarded Bronze medal in 80m (3.5 MHz) Classic. Credit: KARL



Team USA’s Kenneth Harker and Joseph Burkhead on the podium for Bronze medal at the 19th World ARDF Championships. Credit: KARL

◀ ARDF World Championships

Classic involved steep terrain, intricate navigation challenges, and dense vegetation. Team USA finished in third place behind ARDF powerhouse programs Ukraine and Russia, but ahead of another typically dominant Czech Republic team. Ken and Joe located all five transmitters hidden in the forest within the 2 hr 20 min time limit. Ken finished with a strong 90-minute time. Joe located all five transmitters and



Joe Burkhead crossing the finish in the Sprint race. Credit: Lee Nam Kyu

crossed the finish with only about two minutes to spare; just enough to finish ahead of the Czechs who missed one transmitter.

Team USA as a whole had their most successful World ARDF Championship in history. In addition to Ken and Joe's bronze medal, Vadim Afonkin earned a gold medal in the 80m Classic, and four other Team USA competitors earned bronze medals throughout the week. Maj. Burkhead spent many years conducting and instructing search & rescue DF-ing in CAP and has competed in the sport of orienteering (land navigation racing) for over a decade. He raced for the Armed Forces USA orienteering team at the 2013 World Military Orienteering Championships (WMOC) in Eksjo, Sweden. Maj. Burkhead has served almost 25 years in CAP including his time as a CAP cadet where he first learned DF skills. He has commanded three CAP squadrons and served in various CAP pilot, aircrew, ground team, UDF and ARCHER



Joe Burkhead crossing the finish of the 2m (144 MHx) Classic race. Credit: KARL

Operator capacities in Michigan, Utah, Texas, California, Ohio and Colorado Wings. He currently serves in CAP in Group 4 of the Colorado Wing and is an active officer in the Air Force Reserve.

For more information about ARDF and/or orienteering sport, Maj. Burkhead can be contacted at joseph@uncharted.net. ■

Related links:

- 19th World ARDF Championship: <http://www.ardf2018.kr/index>
- Radio Direction Finding: <http://www.homingin.com>
- Orienteering in the USA: <http://www.orienteeringusa.org>

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“Culture will defeat strategy every single time. The culture is set by the leader,” said RMR Commander Col. Tom Kettell, who gave several leadership seminars. “A culture of conscience is impossible unless all personnel understand, accept, internalize and are free to follow the core values.”

He continued, “People must be allowed and encouraged to engage in an extended dialog about exploring the role of the core values at all levels.”

Students were also treated to a guided tour of the National Museum of WWII Aviation, lunch inside a converted KC-97 Stratofreighter and had a behind the scenes look at the Air Force Academy.

Even students who attended from outside RMR were impressed with the new organization.

“During the course of the week, I learned a lot from my instructors as well as my classmates at Rocky Mountain Region Staff College — knowledge and skills that I can apply both in CAP and in my professional career as a university administrator and educator,” said Maj. Kenny Loui of CAWG. “All in all, I had an amazing time at RSC. I’m delighted to be an honorary member of RMR and hope to see all my RSC classmates again in the near future!” ■



Three Days in Colorado Springs

Region Conference brings five Wings together

*Story and Photos by Cadet 2nd Lt. Faith Christiansen, CAP
Wing Cadet PAO*

From April 27 to 29, members of Civil Air Patrol's Rocky Mountain Region attended the Regional Conference in Colorado Springs, CO. Members from Utah, Colorado, Montana, Idaho and Wyoming Wings attended the conference, including CAP National Commander, Maj. Gen. Mark E. Smith.

The event started Friday night with a meet and greet social and, after the commander's welcome, cadets and seniors went to several scheduled sessions. Classes ranging from Cyber Security to Mentoring Future CAP Leaders were made available to all attendees.

The Region Cadet Advisory Council was able to discuss proposals towards improving the cadet program. During those meetings, several proposals were discussed and will be presented to members of region staff.

Later that day everyone attended a formal dinner where several awards and speeches were given, including one by Maj. Gen. Smith accounting his experience flying through a storm as lightning surrounded the plane, lighting up the sky around him.

Two cadets, Tasha R. McKelvey and Hannah Christian, were awarded the Spaatz



RMR Commander Col. Tom Kettell, CAP National Commander Maj. Gen. Mark Smith and Utah Wing Commander Col. Mike Fernandez before the banquet.

award. Maj. Cynthia S. Smith was awarded Senior Member of the Year and Cadet Lt. Col. Jacob A. Olsen was awarded Cadet of the Year. Several other awards were given to members of Colorado Wing.

After dinner, members of the region set out to the dance floor. All members from cadets to seniors danced the night away with music and laughter before heading back home the next morning.



Maj. Gen. Smith presents the Spaatz Award to Cadet Col. Tasha McKelvey.



Rocky Mountain Region Conference Challenge Coin presented to all attendees at the 2018 RMR/COWG Conference in Colorado Springs, CO.



Civil Air Patrol's COO, John Salvador speaking at Conference.





PROFILE: CAP-USAF RMLR Reserve Forces Director, Lt. Col. Maria Orlikoski, USAFR



Lt. Col. Maria Orlikoski, CAP-
USAF RMLR Reserve Forces
Director

*By Lt. Col. Mike Daniels, CAP
RMR Director of Public Affairs*

Lt. Col. Maria Orlikoski grew up on the family’s rural cattle ranch bordering the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in SW Oklahoma. She was inspired to join the Air Force in Jr. High School after listening to her uncle’s adventures as an AF Reservist traveling to Panama, Turkey and various U.S. cities. She also wanted to follow in the footsteps of her grandfather who was a WWII B-17 pilot and POW to help make a difference in the lives of others. To that end her father encouraged her to pursue her dreams by attending college and completing the A.F.R.O.T.C. Program at the University of Oklahoma.

Earning a Bachelor in Business degree in Management Information Systems, Lt. Col. Orlikoski’s active duty career started at Keesler AFB, Mississippi for Basic Communications Officer School (BCOT) where she met Lt. Alan Orlikoski. After BCOT, she was assigned to the 54th Combat Communication Squadron, Robins AFB. Lt. Col. Orlikoski volunteered to deploy as the 332nd Operations Group Executive Officer, Al Jaber AB, Kuwait to support Operation Southern Watch which was followed by a joint spouse assignment to the National Capital Region specifically at the Air Force Pentagon Communications Agency. On September 11, 2001, after witnessing the Pentagon plane crash attack, Lt. Col. Orlikoski worked with the Air Force Computer Emergency Response Teams (AFCERT) and Office of Special Investigations (OSI) to monitor suspicious activity and secure Headquarters Air Force command and control networks.

Her active duty career ended in August 2003 and began anew as the 1st ever AF Reserve cyber officer at the National Reconnaissance Office. In February 2006, the Orlikoski family moved to Buckley AFB, Aurora Colorado. There she worked in a complex, joint environment holding various challenging and rewarding positions within cyber, space, intelligence and contracting career fields. In 2008, she completed a Masters of Business Administration degree from the University of Phoenix.

Nutrition and dietetics became her passion after her son and daughter were diagnosed with Autism and ADHD in 2011 & 2015 respectively. Lt. Col. Orlikoski began an undergraduate nutrition and dietetics program at Metropolitan State University in Denver in 2013. She discovered the CAP Reserve Assistance Program (CAPRAP) when looking to improve balance between AF Reserve, school and family life in 2015. Lt. Col. Orlikoski transitioned into her current assignment in the CAP-USAF Rocky Mountain Liaison Region (RMLR) and serves as the Reserve Forces Director overseeing administration of the CAPRAP in RMLR. Upon receiving a Bachelor of Science from Metro State, the Orlikoski family moved to San Antonio, Texas so Lt. Col. Orlikoski could begin a 12-month dietetic internship at the University of the Incarnate Word so as to then take the final exam to become a Registered Dietitian.

Lt. Col. Orlikoski had no knowledge of CAP prior to her research. She was blown away at the leadership and aerospace training and education required to perform the CAP missions and progress through the cadet and senior ranks...on a completely voluntary basis. By her second year, she was so impressed with CAP that she enrolled her son into the program. His maturity, social confidence and focus went through the roof! Lt. Col. Orlikoski credits CAP senior members’ individual attention and cadet peer mentoring with providing her son the confidence to advocate for himself and overcome public speaking anxiety.

She added, “I love overseeing RMLR CAP encampments and attending Ops Evals. The level of dedication and generosity observed in various Ops Evals and encampments is truly remarkable. Middle School students in CAP who are learning about leadership skills, applying teamwork concepts and critical thinking activities have such a significant advantage over their peers. CAP cadets are our future leaders. I am so proud and full of hope for the future knowing that these young people have been given the skills to lead, be respectful and accountable at such a young age.”



Citizens Serving Communities
Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs & Emergency Services

Have you ever wanted to serve your country, but weren't sure how?

In Civil Air Patrol, a humanitarian and educational nonprofit organization, you CAN serve the United States as a civilian volunteer of the Air Force's auxiliary. Join more than 54,000 members who expand and share their expertise with CAP in a wide variety of fields.



Cadet Programs

Youth 12 to 18 years old can develop leadership and technical skills, learn about aviation and enjoy training in search and rescue, model rocketry, physical fitness, sports, advanced technologies and much more.



Officer Program

Adult members are part of a team of volunteers from all walks of life. And, regardless of your background, you can choose to train in any CAP position. Opportunities are available in writing, flying, radio operations, teaching, emergency services, finance, law, and much, much more.



Civil Air Patrol...Citizens Serving Communities
United States Air Force Auxiliary

For more information go to www.gocivilairpatrol.com

CAPabilities and Aircraft

INTRODUCTION

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is the Air Force Auxiliary and a national community service organization made up of professionally trained civilian volunteers. CAP has a modern, well-equipped fleet of aircraft, vehicles and equipment that is exercised and utilized daily. CAP is a locally-available talent and asset pool for federal, state and local government entities.

CAP'S BENEFITS

◆ Professionally trained National Incident Management System (NIMS) qualified personnel ◆ Rapid response ◆ Low cost ◆ Located in all 50 states plus Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia

CAP'S CUSTOMERS

◆ DoD ◆ FEMA ◆ USCG ◆ CBP ◆ USFS ◆ USGS ◆ EPA ◆ DEA ◆ BLM ◆ NOAA ◆ NWS ◆ NGA ◆ plus hundreds of state and local agencies

CAP ASSETS/RESOURCES AVAILABLE

◆ 31,000 trained volunteers ◆ 550 aircraft and over 900 vehicles owned by CAP
 ◆ Over 10,000 VHF-FM and HF interoperable radios ◆ Fixed digital nationwide radio network with over 500 repeaters ◆ 133 tactical (portable) repeaters
 ◆ 900 ground teams ◆ Over 500 chaplains

CAP MISSION TYPES

◆ Search and Rescue ◆ Disaster Response ◆ Drug Interdiction ◆ Law Enforcement Support ◆ Homeland Security ◆ Environmental Monitoring and Response
 ◆ Air Intercept and Radar Evaluation Targets ◆ Low-Level Route Surveys
 ◆ Fire Spotting ◆ Traffic Monitoring ◆ Ground and Aerial Digital Imaging & Reconnaissance ◆ Hyperspectral Imaging ◆ Endangered Species Tracking
 ◆ Air and Ground Communications Support

CAP MISSION DETAILS

◆ Airborne reconnaissance of border and coastal areas, ports and harbors, and critical infrastructure as "presence" missions; impact and damage assessment and recovery support for disaster areas
 ◆ Damage assessment and disaster recovery with trained ground teams able to augment civil and military authorities
 ◆ Aerial transportation of personnel, equipment, blood, tissue, organs and various customer-supplied sensor packages (subject to FAA reimbursement rules)
 ◆ Communications support, nationwide VHF-FM and HF capability to include fixed site and tactical (ground and air) repeaters
 ◆ CAP has ICS/NIMS trained emergency services personnel available to serve at all levels in the Incident Command System mission organization
 ◆ Chaplain and critical incident stress management support



Gippsland GA-8 (16)



Cessna 182 (285)

Can operate with 2500' runway
 VHF AM and FM radio
 100 aircraft have satellite phones



Cessna 206 (22)



Cessna 172 (195)

Cruise speed 110-135 kts

Range 520-730 NM





Rocky Mountain *Highlights*

RMR FARES WELL AT NATIONAL CADET COMPETITION

The RMR Cadet Competition top teams competed valiantly at the National Cadet Competition. The COWG Vance Brand Cadet Squadron took first in TLP and 7th overall. The COWG Valkyrie Cadet Squadron team took 11th overall and both teams had a chance to visit with CAP National Commander, Maj. Gen. Mark Smith and former Colorado Wing Commander and now CAP National Vice Commander, Brig. Gen. Ed Phelka. RMR is very proud of both teams and look forward to next year's NCC.



LT. COL. MARK YOUNG PRESENTED WITH CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE AWARD

Colorado U.S. Rep. Scott Tipton presented a Congressional Tribute Award to Lt. Col. Mark Young, Commander of the National Radar Analysis Team of the Civil Air Patrol, for a lifetime of exemplary service to the state of Colorado, 35 years of lifesaving efforts and great courage. The award becomes a permanent part of the congressional record of the United States of America. There are some truly amazing and dedicated "American heroes" in the Rocky Mountain Region.



WYOMING WING TWIN BROTHER CADETS WIN SERVICE ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS!



Congratulations to Cadet Capt. Christian Moody and his twin brother, Cadet 2nd Lt. Haiden Moody of the Capt. Michael S. Walker Memorial Composite Squadron, Wheatland, WY, who have both received appointments to U.S. Service Academies and will be members of the class of 2022. Cadet Capt. Christian Moody received an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and Cadet 2nd Lt. Haiden Moody received an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy.