



CONNECTICUT WING / CIVIL AIR PATROL

399th DANBURY COMPOSITE SQUADRON NEWS

YANKEE HATTERS

APRIL 2014

Cadets Learn About the Air Force Academy

Major Peter Milano
Public Affairs Officer/CT042



Air Force Reserve Officer, Lt. Colonel Dale Greenwood, attended the March 18 meeting to speak with cadets about applying to and the benefits of attending the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA).

Lt. Col. Greenwood has served as an Admissions Liaison Officer to the Air Force Academy for 30 years. His duties include providing information and assistance to prospective Air Force Academy candidates and making them aware of the outstanding educational and professional benefits afforded by an education at the Academy.

Candidates for admission are judged on academic achievement, demonstrated leadership, athletics, and character. To maximize their chances of success, Lt. Col. Greenwood said, “prospective candidates should maintain a GPA as high as possible, a 3.8 or better, show an ability to take charge and lead, be physically fit, and actively take part in community service.” Lt. Colonel Greenwood also encouraged high school juniors to attend the Academy’s Summer Seminar to get first-hand experience of life on campus and also to gain a fuller understanding of the challenges and rewards of cadet life.

To gain admission, candidates must pass a fitness test, undergo a thorough medical examination, and secure a nomination, which usually comes from the member of Congress in the candidate’s home district. About 12,000 applicants apply each year, out of which 1,000 on average are accepted.

Benefits cadets to the Academy receive are a monthly stipend, paid tuition, and room and board

from the U.S. Government. In exchange, cadets incur a commitment to serve as officers in the Air Force for a number of years after graduation. Graduates of the Academy’s four-year program receive a Bachelor of Science degree, and are commissioned as second lieutenants in the United States Air Force.



Lt. Colonel Dale Greenwood, AF Reserve (r), speaks with cadets about the U.S. Air Force Academy (Photo: Major Peter Milano)

The Air Force Academy was established on April 1, 1954 as a military academy for officer candidates for the U.S. Air Force. It is the youngest academy out of the five U.S. service academies. The campus is located in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

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Local Flying Knowledge

Captain Johnny Burke
Stan/Eval Officer/CT042



As I write this, I'm out in Las Vegas taking part in the *Green Flag Operation*.

The winds kicked up yesterday and I was advised that winds of 30 knots or more at KDAG (Daggett, CA) would scrub the mission. We operate out of KVGT (North Las Vegas), but we refuel at KDAG. The 30 knot limit applies, regardless of the direction of the wind and alignment with the runway.

Over time, the pilots flying this operation noticed that if KDAG was reporting 30 knots or greater, the surrounding mountains produced a swirling effect that could create even higher wind gusts on different parts of the airport.

After one experience, with 30 knot winds right down the runway, they found they needed crewmembers to hold the wings down while taxiing on the ramp in a crosswind. Since it did not seem prudent to have crewmembers holding down the wings while taxiing on the ramp, they decided to scrub the mission any time the winds were 30 knots or more at KDAG.

Sometimes local knowledge is very important, so if you're flying in an unfamiliar area, ask a lot of questions.

Civil Air Patrol National Headquarters

What: 2014 National Conference
"Preparing for Tomorrow's Challenges"

Where: Tropicana Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV

When: August 14-16, 2014

Registration will open April 2014 on
www.capmembers.com

Be sure to watch for special early bird rates!

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Command Council and Opening Reception Thursday, August 14
- General Assembly and Learning Labs Friday, August 15
- CAP National Awards Program, Learning Labs, Cadet Day and Banquet, Saturday, August 16

Plus, two days (August 12-13) are set aside for additional professional development opportunities at the preconference workshops.

Workshops will include the Public Affairs Officer Academy, Cessna G-1000 Ground School, CISM, Aircrew Survival training, GIIEP course and more.



Chaplain's Story Published

As a caregiver for someone suffering with Alzheimer's, Captain Jim Solomon (399th Chaplain), has a unique perspective on the challenges faced by patients with the disease and those who support them.

Captain Solomon has written an inspirational story to comfort others going through similar experiences which will be published (April 2014) in *Chicken Soup for the Soul: Living with Alzheimer's & Other Dementias: 101 Stories of Caregiving, Coping, and Compassion*. "I'm humbled and honored that my story was chosen amongst thousands of submissions..." said Captain Solomon.

The book is scheduled to appear in bookstores on April 22, 2014 and is available for preorder now. Make sure to get your copy if you or someone you know can benefit from these insights.

CONGRATULATION FROM THE 399TH!



CADET AWARDS & PROMOTIONS



Senior Master Sergeant
Doolittle Achievement
Stephen Bruno



Master Sergeant
Lindberg Achievement
Joseph Taylor



Senior Airman
Mary Feik Achievement
Adam Woodbyrne



CONGRATULATIONS!

Wing Wide SAREX

May 10, 2014; Meriden

June 16, 2014; Tri-Wing SAREX

August 23, 2014; Hartford

NEW DATE

SAREX at Meriden - May 10

If you plan on attending the next SAREX please let your squadron emergency services officer or commanding officer know as soon as possible. Include the position you'd like to train in or the positions you are willing to train others.

Squadron officers should forward participant information via the spreadsheet sent to them from Lt. Colonel Mike Heath, Connecticut Wing Emergency Services Officer msheath@optonline.net

See page [11](#) for meeting date details, including uniform of the day!

EVENTS & TRAINING

Northeast Region Mission Aircrew School

April 26 - May 3

Joint Base-McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, NJ
Questions Contact Lt. Colonel Ron Volungus
rvolungus@ner.cap.gov
<http://www.ner.cap.gov/>

Commander's Cup Rocket Contest

May 17; Durham, CT

Corporate Learning Course

May 31 - June 1

Royal Charter Squadron HQ
See information flyer on page [10](#).
ctwg.cap.gov/professional-development

NEW DATE

399th U.S. Flag Collection

June 1; 10am to 3 pm
Stop & Shop, Ridgefield, CT

National Emergency Services Academy

Session 1: July 20 to 26/Session 2: July 27 to Aug 2
Camp Atterbury, Edinburg, IN
www.nesa.cap.gov

CTWG Basic Leadership Encampment

August 9-16; Niantic, CT
ctwg.cap.gov/2014-ctwg-encampment

2014 CAP National Conference

August 14 - 16
Las Vegas, NV

Cadet Ball

September 20 (tentative)
U.S. Coast Guard Academy

Northeast Region Aerospace Education Officers Course

October 16-18
Bradley Airport, Windsor Locks, CT

Combined Connecticut Wing, Northeast Region Conference

October 17 - 19
Bradley Airport, Windsor Locks, CT



CTWG Encampment Update

Major Jim Ridley
Chief of Staff/CTWG



The Encampment Command Staff is complete. Both senior and cadet command staff are in place as follows:

Seniors

- * Encampment Commander: Major James Ridley
- * Deputy CC for Support: 1st Lt. Carol Whelan
- * Commandant: Major Steve Valastro
- * Senior Flight Mentor: Major Sharon Brana

Cadets

- * Cadet Commander: C/Lt. Colonel Adam Hocutt
- * Cadet Deputy CC: C/Lt. Col. Mat McCandless
- * Cadet Executive Officer: C/1st Lt. Kevin Jenkins

Staff applications for cadets close out on April 6. Basics can continue to apply as can seniors. All staff applicants need to attend the leadership workshop and staff skills workshop being held at Connecticut Wing HQ in Middletown from 9am-5pm on the following dates:

Leadership Workshop: Saturday, April 26
Staff Skills Workshop: Saturday, June 7
Workshops cost \$15.00 for meals
and require CAPF 17.

For Squadron Pictures Visit

[Squadron Picasa Web Albums](#)

Or on Facebook

[399th Danbury Composite Squadron](#)

Did you miss an issue?

399th Danbury Composite Squadron News can now be accessed online. Issues date from July 2012 to present.

- [399th NEWS](#) -

U.S. Flag Disposal and Retirement

Captain Ralph Langham
Aerospace Education Officer/CT042

On June 1, 2014, the 399th Danbury Composite Squadron will be collecting American Flags no longer fit for service.

Collection will take place between 10am and 3pm at the Super Stop & Shop located on Route 35 in Ridgefield, CT.

These flags will be turned over to the New Fairfield Veteran's Association to be formally retired in a ceremony hosted by the Sherman Veterans Association held on Flag Day, June 26, 2014, at Candlewood Lake.

Use the flyer on page [9](#) to post notice of the event.

Senior and Cadet Required Training

Civil Air Patrol requires that all members complete minimum required training in the following areas:

Introduction to Safety

(Mandatory for Seniors and Cadets)

Equal Opportunity

(Mandatory for Seniors and optional for Cadets)

Operational Security

(Mandatory for all members)

Cadet Protection Program Training

(Mandatory for Seniors & Cadets 18 years or older)

Monthly Safety currency

(Mandatory for Seniors and Cadets)

Aircraft Ground Handling

(Mandatory for all members who fly or are involved with flight operations)

Please make sure you have completed all required training.



Heads UP! for April 2014

Bob Kelly, EPA Meteorologist



Even if Civil Air Patrol could get a very fast jet aircraft, it would be hard to see all the sunrises and sunsets around the world in one night. But for one night, after midnight on April 15, we can see on the Moon sunlight tinted red and blue by passing through the dust, clouds and ozone of Earth's atmosphere at the moment of sunrise or sunset, as seen from the Moon. That's a lunar eclipse, where the Earth blocks out the Sun and puts the Moon in the Earth's shadow.

Unlike a solar eclipse, if you can see the Moon during the time of the eclipse, you'll get to see the eclipse, at the same time. Only your clock time will be different, depending on your time zone. Thus, the partial eclipse begins in the eastern daylight time zone at 1:58am and in the pacific daylight time zone at 10:58pm on the 14th. If you get up at 2am, watch the stars around the Moon become more visible as the Moon darkens.

There is quite a collection of objects near the Moon in the sky that night, with Mars very noticeable nearby, Spica right next to the Moon and two asteroids, Ceres and Vesta, visible in binoculars nearby.

At maximum eclipse, at 3:46am, watch for the variation in light across the Moon as the southern part of the Moon is close to the edge of the earth's shadow and will look brighter than the northern part of the Moon. The partial eclipse is over by 5:33am, and the sky begins to lighten with the Sun coming up at 6:16am in our area.

If you don't want to get up 'in the middle of the night', you can get up about 4am and see the second half of the eclipse, when the line of sunrises and sunsets will move across the Moon from 4:25am to 5:33am. The eclipsed Moon may be low enough in the southwestern sky to be seen from indoors through a window. This 'picture window' eclipse allows viewing from the comfort of home.

Meanwhile, watch this month as the winter constellations, with all their bright stars, appear to rush for the exits, leaving our evening skies for the sea-

son. To take their places, Leo the lion and the Big Dipper head for the overhead this month.

This month is your best chance to view details on Mars. Crank the telescope's power up as high as the shimmering atmosphere of the Earth will allow. The best nights are when the jet stream is not over your observing site. We pass closest to Mars on the 14th, and Mars is the closest planet to Earth this month, but still not the largest in apparent size.

Jupiter spends most of the evening higher in the sky than Mars, thanks to its location in the northern latitudes of the constellations. It's 90 degrees away from the Sun in the sky, so when the shadows of its moons are on the planet, the moons are mostly off to one side, giving the view the appearance of depth.

Among the things you can't see this month is the annular solar eclipse, with the annular portion visible in a small area of a remote part of Antarctica on the 27th. It'll be a partial eclipse in Australia, if you are going 'down under' this month.

Mercury is too close to the Sun to see easily this month, passing in back of the Sun, from Earth's point of view, on the 26th. Neptune might be glimpsable near Venus on the 12th, but you'll need a telescope and good skies, at least.

Venus sits patently waiting, low in the southeast, well to the right of where the Sun will rise. It's half full (not the same as half-empty) at the start of the month. The phase is easiest to see in a telescope when the sky starts to brighten up.

Saturn, the ringed wonder is still highest in the sky in the wee hours of the morning. It'll be more conveniently located in the evening sky in May, when it reaches opposition.

Even if you don't have a telescope, use your binoculars for the sight of the Moon encroaching on the Hyades 'V' group of stars in the horns of Taurus the Bull on the evening of April 3rd. The stars will disappear as they pass behind the dark limb of the Moon, an awesome sight, with one of the brighter stars disappearing around 10:15pm

(Continued on page 6)



(Continued from page 5)

EDT from our area. Get out ahead of time to see the Moon 'sneaking up' on the star.

Look for Venus and the Moon posing together on the mornings of the 25th and 26th. The Moon also appears startlingly close to Saturn on the 17th.

The International Space Station is visible in the dawn sky through the 4th and in dusk from the 4th through the 25th. By April, three new crew members will have arrived via the Russian Soyuz capsule, bringing the station population back up to six. Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) astronaut Koichi Wakata is the station commander, the first Japanese astronaut to command the international outpost.

For more sky news visit Bob's blog

bkellysky.wordpress.com

399th Staff

Commander	Major James Vigar
Advisor to Commander	Lt. Col. Peter Sanderson
Chaplain	Capt. James Solomon
Administration	Major Peter Milano
Aerospace Education	Capt. Ralph Langham
Communications	2d Lt. Jeffrey Jenkins
Deputy Commander	Capt. Joseph Bisnov
Deputy Cmdr. Cadets	Capt. Greg Sweeney
Drug Demand Reduction	2d Lt. Andrew Luckey
Emergency Services	Major James Vigar
Finance	Capt. Joseph Bisnov
Logistics	Major James Vigar
Maintenance	Capt. Brian Singer
Operations	Capt. John Freeman
Professional Development	Maj. Glen Dains
Public Affairs/Newsletter	Major Peter Milano
Recruiting/Retention	1 st Lt. MaryEllen Trohalis
Safety	Lt. Col. Peter Sanderson
Search & Rescue	Major James Vigar
Supply Officer	2d Lt. Gabriel Florio
Standardization/Evaluation	Capt Johnny Burke
Transportation	2d Lt. Jeffrey Jenkins

SPACE **2014** **11 Must-See Skywatching Events** www.SPACE.com

MARCH 20
A Bright Star Winks Out
An exceedingly rare celestial event is predicted for early this morning when an asteroid will briefly hide one of the brightest stars in the sky.

APRIL 14-15
An 'M&M' Night
During the overnight hours, it will be a night first for Mars and later for the full moon. Mars will come to within 57.4 million miles (92.4 million km) of our planet, making its closest approach to Earth since January 2008.

APRIL 28-29
A 'Ring of Fire' Eclipse that Nobody Will See?
It is quite possible that only penguins will witness the annular (ring) phase of this eclipse, as it will occur within the uninhabited region of Wilkes Land in Antarctica.
Credit: Jay Pasachoff

APRIL 10
Biggest Full Moon of 2014
Credit: David Paleino

MAY 24
A Possible Outburst of Bright Meteors
In the predawn hours of Saturday, May 24, our planet is expected to sweep through a great number of dusty trails left behind in space by a small comet known as P/209 LINEAR.

AUG. 10
On Aug. 10, the moon turns full at 2:09 p.m. EDT, and just nine minutes earlier it will arrive at its closest point to the Earth in 2014 at a distance of 221,765 miles (356,896 km), making this a so-called "supermoon."
Credit: NASA/Bill Ingalls

AUG. 18
A Brilliant Double Planet
An hour before sunrise, low in the east-northeast sky, the two brightest planets, Venus and Jupiter, will be strikingly close together.

AUG. 12
The Perseid Meteor Shower
Credit: William Berry

OCT. 19
Near Collision of a Comet with Mars
All eyes will be on the Red Planet in October as Comet C/2013 A1, discovered by Robert H. McNaught at Australia's Siding Spring Observatory, will pass extremely close to Mars.
Credit: Kim Poor

OCT. 8
Another Total Lunar Eclipse!
Across central and eastern North America, the moon will set while still completely immersed in Earth's shadow.

DEC. 13
The Geminid Meteor Shower
The Geminids, regarded by many observers as the best of the annual meteor showers, have the misfortune of occurring during the time of a last-quarter moon, which will pretty much squelch all but the brightest meteors.

OCT. 23
A Partial Eclipse of the Sun
The moon's penumbral shadow will fall over much of North America as well as extreme eastern Siberia, producing a partial solar eclipse.

Chart courtesy of space.com



72 Hour Pack Contents

Major Peter Milano

Public Affairs Officer/CT-042

Source: CAP Knowledgebase

Last month we covered items to include in a typical 24 hour pack. This month we take a look at the typical gear included in a 72 hour pack (also known as base gear) which is designed for longer duration activities. Remember content can vary based on weather and other conditions.

The 72 hour pack is designed to help you live in the field for more than one day. It includes your sleeping bag, tent, and other long term comfort items. The 72-hour pack is not subject to uniformity - color and size does not matter. The major constraint is how much you can carry. Even if the mission is only expected to last one day, you should always bring your base gear. You never know how long a mission will last, or whether you will go straight to another mission from the current one.

For your equipment to be effective, you must ensure it is clean and serviceable. Occasionally you will have to replace items such as medicine, batteries or food because it has passed its expiration date.

You must be able to carry all your equipment at once, in case you must “hike in” to a mission base.

Normally, this means leaving room in your base gear pack to stow all of your field gear.

Ensure your gear is properly secured -- nothing should be flapping loose where it could snag in the brush or bang against your body when moving.

The gear list is the minimum required equipment. Items required of trainees are marked with a “T.” You may carry additional equipment subject to team leader approval and your ability to secure and carry it –remember, you may have to walk a long way carrying it all.



72 hour pack

A backpack (preferably with frame) (T) containing:

- 1) Tent (optional, if you are sharing a tent with someone else who is carrying it) (T)
- 2) Spare rank and CAP cutouts (for cadets)
- 3) 5 meals (T)
- 4) 2 Leaf Bags, large
- 5) Bag, waterproof (T), containing:
 - a) Spare uniform,
 - b) Underwear and socks, 3 changes (T)
- 6) Sleeping pad, foam or inflatable.
- 7) Spare boot laces.
- 8) Kit, sewing, with spare buttons.
- 9) Shoe Shine Kit
- 10) Toilet Kit, that should contain:
 - a) Toothbrush and paste (T)
 - b) Shaving Kit (if you shave) (T)
 - c) Deodorant (T)
 - d) Washcloth and soap (T)
 - e) Towel (T)
- 11) Sleeping Bag or Bedroll (appropriate to climate) (T)



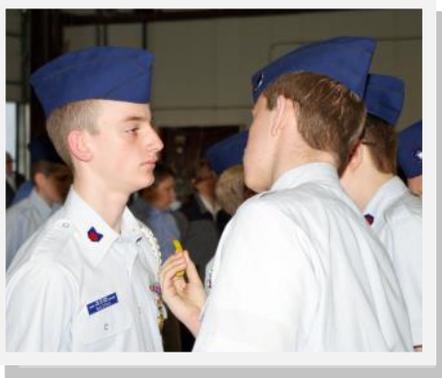
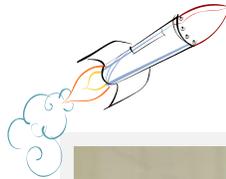
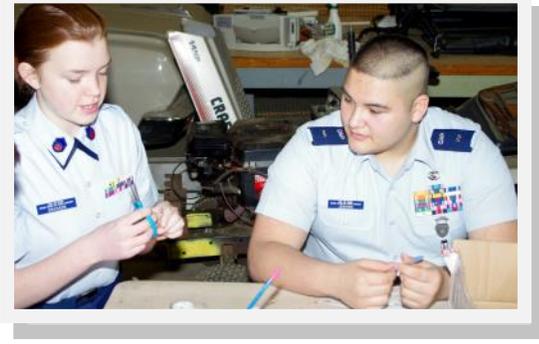
Optional Items

- 1) Rainwear, durable
- 2) Webbing, nylon, 1” wide, 20’ long.
- 3) Handheld FM Transceiver (highly recommended for Ground Team Leaders)
- 4) Water Purification Tablets
- 5) Eye Protection (highly recommended)
- 6) Entrenching Tool (highly recommended for base gear)



Cadets built miniature model rockets at the March 18 meeting as part of their Aerospace Education requirements.

Cadet Airman Carly Brill won the competition for launch accuracy and was awarded an historical model Apollo Rocket kit.



Cadet Master Sergeant Joseph Waldron received recognition for best uniform during cadet inspection.



(Photos: Major Peter Milano)



U.S. Flag Disposal and Retirement

The United States Flag Code states: "The Flag, when it is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem of display, should be destroyed in a dignified way, preferable by burning."

The 399th Danbury Composite Squadron, Civil Air Patrol, will collect American Flags no longer fit for service

Bring your worn and tattered flags so they can be formally retired in an approved ceremony on Flag Day

Date: June 1, 2014 Time: 10am to 3pm

Location: Stop & Shop, 125 Danbury Road, Ridgefield, CT



For Additional Information: pao@399cap.org

Or on Facebook

399th Danbury Composite Squadron





Welcome to the Spring 2014 Eastern Group Corporate Learning Course

Civil Air Patrol

Purpose of the School

After completing the Squadron Leadership School and learning about squadron operations, senior members should attend the Corporate Learning Course (CLC). The term "corporate" in the title of this course refers to CAP's status as a nonprofit humanitarian corporation chartered by the United States Congress in 1946. Accordingly, wing-level operations carry out the major duties and responsibilities of the corporation for each state, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The CLC is designed to explain how a wing operates in each of CAP's major mission elements and how mission support functions support these mission elements. Armed with this knowledge, senior members can learn how they and their respective organizations can best support the wing and fulfill the corporate role of CAP.



Students listen to a presentation delivered by an instructor at a past CLC.

IMPORTANT FACTS:

- Dates: 31 May– 1 Jun 2014
- Location: Royal Charter Squadron, State Police Hanger, Maxim Rd., Brainard Airport, Hartford
- Required for completion of Level III of the CAP SM Professional Development Program
- Every Senior Member needs an SLS and CLC to advance in the CAP senior member program
- Classes taught by experienced CAP officers, command and staff

Requirements:

- Be a CAP Senior Member in Good Standing
- Completion of Level 1
- It is mandatory that students have already completed a Squadron Leadership School

*The CLC is open to all seniors
in the CTWG and surrounding wings.*



Required:
CAPF 17 NLT 21 May 2014

For further information contact:

Maj Heather Murphy
CLC Director
hlmurphy@cox.net

What courses are being taught?

- CAP Core Values in Action
- CAP/USAF Relationship
- Introduction to Teamwork
- Management Principles
- Planning and Decision Making
- Best Practices
- Mentoring
- Resources at Work
- The Heart of a Volunteer

Cost
\$25pp
Checks made out
to CTWG



APRIL 2014 CALENDAR

4/01	Squadron Meeting	BDUs	399th HQ	6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
4/08	Squadron Meeting	PTs	399th HQ	6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
4/15	Squadron Meeting	Blues	399th HQ	6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
4/22	Squadron Meeting	BDUs	399th HQ	6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
4/29	Squadron Meeting	BDUs	399th HQ	6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

399th Contact Information

Headquarters
Civil Air Patrol
399th Danbury Composite Squadron
21 Miry Brook Road
Danbury, CT 06810



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/399DanburyCAP>

Website: <http://399cap.org/> **E-mail:** pao@399cap.org

Submission Guidelines

Send submissions via email to pao@399cap.org in MS Word format
(limit to approximately 325 words).

Photos should be sent as attachments, in JPG or TIF format.

Include photo credits, cutline information, and an electronic copy of the associated story.
Published twelve times per year.

Deadline for the May 2014 issue is 30 April

Civil Air Patrol, the official auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, is a nonprofit organization with 61,000 members nationwide, operating a fleet of 550 aircraft. CAP, in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and is credited by the AFRCC with saving an average of 80 lives annually. Its unpaid professionals also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to more than 26,000 young people currently participating in the CAP cadet programs. CAP received the World Peace Prize in 2011 and has been performing missions for America for 72 years. CAP also participates in Wreaths Across America, an initiative to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans.

Visit www.gocivilairpatrol.com or www.capvolunteernow.com for more information.

