History of

MAINE WING

Civil Air Patrol
Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

1 January 2023 through 31 December 2023

Prepared By

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REGION COMMANDER APPROVAL

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Commander

CIVIL AIR PATROL
U.S. Air Force Auxiliary
Headquarters, Maine Wing
Augusta, Maine

23 April 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR NER/HO

FROM: MEWG/CC

SUBJECT: CY2023 Maine Wing History

This document presents the approved Maine Wing history for Calendar Year 2023.

// Signed //
BLAIN COTE, Colonel, CAP
Wing Commander

INTRODUCTION OF MAINE WING STAFF

Maine Wing Command Staff

Wing Commander	Blain Cote	Colonel
Vice Commander	Catherine Spaulding	Lieutenant Colonel
Chief of Staff	L Gregory Curtis	Lieutenant Colonel

Chapter I - OPERATIONS

Search and Rescue

Maine Wing (MEWG) was tasked on 3 missions for CY 23.

- On 16 January, 7 members supported the York County EMA with staffing for 3 days to provide shelter for asylum seekers.
- On 24 January to 28 January, 4 members and 1 van assisted the town of Bewick with manning a warming shelter during electrical outages from a winter storm.
- On 18 June, 2 members and one vehicle were tasked by AFRCC to locate an Emergency Locator transmission in the Oxford area. The beacon was located and silenced that day.

Disaster Response

MEWG had no disaster response support requirements for CY2023.

Homeland Security

No homeland security missions during FY2023.

Counterdrug Operations

No counterdrug operations missions during FY2023.

Chapter II - AEROSPACE EDUCATION

Internal Aerospace Education

Out of the 10 squadrons, 100% have AEO assigned. Ninety percent of the squadrons have an assistant AEOs to aid to the primary AEO. One hundred percent of the squadrons had a meeting and reviewed the upcoming activities that will be accomplished for the next fiscal year.

We have 100% of the primary AEO's enrolled in the AE Specialty Track. We had four squadrons enroll and complete the AEX program this year. Model Rocketry was a big hit for squadrons this year with 40% of the squadrons completing the program. The Maine wing hosted a Rocket Day in Pittsfield. We had 10 Cadets earn their Rocketry Badge. Some squadrons are still working toward completing Rocketry badges for the cadets carrying on to this year.

We had 70% of squadrons participate in STEM kits. Of the 10 assigned AEO's 50% have completed the Yeager Award with several other squadron members completing it as well. The one thing we need to work on for next year is AE Award nominations.

External Aerospace Education

Currently this year we have a total of 13 AEM members signed up under the Maine Wing. We have been working on getting information out to the members about TOP Flights. We had one squadron participate in the ACE program. We have had squadrons reach out to other community organizations about spreading information about our AE mission. Many squadrons have been working with the Scouts and other private high schools. A few squadrons participated in the High-Altitude Balloon challenge.

Chapter III - CADET PROGRAMS

Cadet Programs and Activities

April the Wing held a Squadron Competition. Four Squadrons attended and had a friendly competition of Drill, Ethical Dilemma Scenarios, Uniform Inspections, and Battleship Drill. For the first time, the Wing held an NCO Academy. The event was held on two separate days due to COVID restrictions not allowing overnights. Over 20 cadets were in attendance.

Due to COVID restrictions, Airman Clinic was going to be held virtually. Less than a month before the virtual event our Wing was moved to Phase 3 allowing overnight activities. The team quickly adjusted and we were able to hold an Airman Clinic in person. We went from 5 students signed up for virtual to 24 cadets in person.

June the Wing held a Cadet Ball after not holding one in many years. Over 80 people were in attendance including Region Commander Col Hume, Vice Commander North Col Carello, Maine Wing Commander Col Cote, and CAPUSAF Matthew Hunter. Awards from 2021 were handed out. Members ate dinner, danced, and socialized all evening.

Encampment was held at Bog Brook Training site in July. 25 cadets were on staff and 47 students graduated. Yearly the Wing volunteers at the International Sea Plane Fly-in. We had the largest turnout of cadets, with over 40 in attendance over the weekend. Cadets moved seaplanes, worked the recruitment booth, sold water, and directed the public.

In October, the Wing held a Rocket Day. Cadets had the option to work on the Titan or Saturn phase of the Rocketry Badge. After a day of building and launching rockets, 10 Cadets earned the Rocketry Badge.

November was the Wing's first Cadet Competition in many years. Five Squadrons attended and the top squadrons are headed to Region Competition in Spring 2023.

The Cadet Advisory Council held monthly meetings. During this time, they received approval for 5 proposals.

Three Squadrons earned the Quality Cadet Unit Award ME-035 Bangor, ME-056 Waterville and ME-077 Auburn Lewiston.

Drug Demand Reduction Program

No identified activity.

APPENDIX I: Core Mission Data and Statistics

Operations

Maine Wing maintains five aircraft:

N740CP - KAUG, Mission Ready C-182 G1000.

N983CP - KBGR, Mission Ready C-172.

N585CP - KSFM, Mission Ready C-182 G1000.

N681CP - KPWM, Mission Ready C-172 G100.

N9869C – KLEW, Mission Ready C-182RG.
(Assigned temporarily while the New Hampshire Wing uses N50MB C-206.)

TrainExes were performed each month around the State of Maine.

Aerospace Education

See Aerospace Education information in Chapter II above.

Cadet Programs

See Cadet Programs information in Chapter III above.

APPENDIX II: Unit Staff - Data and Statistics

Maine Wing Organization Chart

Maine Wing Command and Staff Listing

Wing Commander	Blaine Cote	Colonel
Vice Wing Commander	Catherine Spaulding	Lieutenant Colonel
Chief of Staff	L Gregory Curtis	Lieutenant Colonel
Command NCO	Vacant	
Logistics	Shelby Bright	First Lieutenant
Communications	James Jordan	Colonel
Education & Training	Catherine Spaulding	Lieutenant Colonel
Administration	Catherine Spaulding	Lieutenant Colonel
Personnel	Catherine Spaulding	Lieutenant Colonel
Recruiting & Retention	Rhonda O'Shea	Captain
Public Affairs	Jeffery Pierce	Captain
Information Technology	Michael Mitchell	Major
Financial Management	Catherine Spaulding	Lieutenant Colonel
Health Services	Andrew Goldman	Major
Inspector General	Joshua Borges	Captain
Safety	Dean Goodman	Major
Government Relations	Robert Asselin	Lieutenant Colonel
Legal	Michael Povich	Major
Cadet Programs	Laura Decato	First Lieutenant
Aerospace Education	Shelby Bright	Technical Sergeant
Operations	Roger Plant	Lieutenant Colonel
Emergency Services	Jason Scholten	Frist Lieutenant

Vacant Staff Positions – Historian, Plans & Programs, Chaplain

APPENDIX III: Wing Staff - Data and Statistics

Emergency Services

Wing Ops Qualifications Dashboard

Wing Strength: 179 Seniors / 175 Cadets

Aircrew			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
SAR/DR Mission Pilot	12	+2	+1
Transport Mission Pilot	16	+1	+4
Mission Observer	19	+1	-1
Airborne Photographer	11	-0	+2
Mission Scanner	32	+3	+4

Mission Base Staff			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
Communications Unit Leader	3	-0	-1
Mission Radio Operator	13	-0	-
Mission Staff Assistant	20	-0	+4
Flight Line Supervisor	0	+0	-1
Flight Line Marshaller	3	+0	+3

Ground Teams			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
Ground Team Leader	6	+0	+1
Ground Team Member 1	9	+0	+4
Ground Team Member 2	15	+0	+4
Ground Team Member 3	21	+0	+3
Urban Direction Finding	14	+0	+2

sUAS / Other Quals			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
sUAS Mission Pilot	0	-	-
sUAS Technician	0	-	-
DAARTO	0	-	-
DAARTU	3	+0	+3

Current: 12/27/23

TrainExes were held on a monthly basis, normally on the second Saturday of a month even if weather did not allow aircraft support on the day of the TrainEx. Maine Wing volunteered to host the Inland SAR Planning Course, taught by the Air Force Rescue Center, in June 2023.

Logistics

In Logistics for CY2023

First Lieutenant Bright took over as the new Director of Logistics on the first of the year.

MEWG completed the annual inspection from the Air Force and passed that with no problems. The wing has purchased 10 Direction finders and antennas for each of the Squadrons.

MEWG inventory was completed on 1 November 2023.

Aircraft

The FY23 MEWG Utilization Report indicates that 573.2 powered flight hours were recorded for all aircraft for all mission types. That total includes all required minor and major maintenance as well as unexpected minor problem calls, many of which could be done locally. The FY23 report lists 5 aircraft, but in the meantime the MEWG and NHWG have swapped N50MB and N9869C. N50MB is still with the NHWG, N9869C is still in MEWG, so MEWG currently has five aircraft.

MEWG has CAPNHQ approved maintenance facilities in every aircraft location in the

state. This is particularly convenient for minor issues like oil changes, tire repairs, minor electrical issues, etc. The two CAPNHQ approved central maintenance facilities are located in Fitchburg, MA and Sanford, ME. Those two facilities are utilized for annual inspections, engine changeovers and other major requirements.

Vehicles

Total miles driven for all Maine Wing vehicles was 38,805 miles for the CY2023. Maintenance has been completed and uploading the reports.

Communications

Ready Op was completed with equipment located on five of the repeater stations in the state. Communications inventory was completed on 1 November 2023.

Education & Training

Maine Wing did not host education and training courses but members were encouraged to participate in NER's courses when offered. Worked with individual members and squadrons to assist them in advancing in their professional development levels, specialty tracks and promotion requirements.

Administration

The Wing Administrator retired on short notice in 2023 and no new Wing Administrator was found resulting in the Director of Administration and Personnel stepping to cover the position while a new Wing Administrator was sourced by CAP National Headquarters. Director of Administration maintained Wing personnel files and made sure that Wing supplements were current, approved and posted to the NHQ website.

Personnel

There were several personnel changes at the Wing level. CISM Officer maintains currency and has made squadron presentations on the CISM program and how members can access it. Fielded several calls but not as many as last year.

Recruiting & Retention

Maine Wing is launching our Commander's Cup Competition! To win the bragging rights to be the first Squadron to win the Commander's Cup, you must recruit more new members from November 1, 2023 through May 1, 2024 than any other Squadron. The rules are simple: 1. Contest will run from November 1, 2023 through May 1, 2024 2. New Recruits of any type will be counted 3. Recruits must be NEW - CAP JOIN date of November 1, 2023 through May 1, 2024 4. AWARDS to be determined - but will involve bragging rights, a trophy cup, and Squadron fun party.

Maine Wing Units' Membership Totals Over the Calendar Year:

ME-000 – Inactive Members – 9 Senior Members, 3 Cadets, 12 Total

ME-001 – Wing Members – 6 Senior Members

ME-021 – Composite Flight – Brunswick – 10 Senior Members, 29 Cadets, 39 Total

ME-033 – Composite Squadron – Presque Isle – 10 Senior Members, 21 Cadets, 31 Total

ME-035 – Composite Squadron – Bangor – 25 Senior Members, 19 Cadets, 44 Total

ME-036 – Composite Squadron – Augusta – 13 Senior Members, 9 Cadets, 22 Total

ME-038 – Composite Squadron – Bar Harbor – 10 Senior Members, 4 Cadets, 14 Total

ME-056 – Composite Squadron – Waterville – 5 Senior Members, 17 Cadets, 22 Total

ME-058 – Composite Squadron – Portland – 22Senior Members, 31 Cadets, 53 Total

ME-075 – Composite Squadron – Machias – 7 Senior Members, 10 Cadets, 17 Total

ME-077 – Composite Squadron – Lewiston/Auburn– 24 Senior Members, 16 Cadets, 40 Total

ME-078 – Sanford Comp. Squadron – Sanford – 12 Senior Members, 16Cadets, 28 Total

ME-999 ME State Legislative SQDN – 26 Members

Plans & Programs

No specific Plans & Programs directorate activity during FY2022.

Public Affairs

As of mid-February 2023, Maine Wing has raise $4,400 through the sponsorship group program with Wreaths Across America. Presque Isle Composite Squadron, SM Kelly Mierzwa, stepped up to be the squadron's fundraising and public affairs officer and kicked off the effort. 428 Wreaths sponsored x $5/wreath = $2140 total fundraising; they came within $495 of all the other participating squadrons combined!

MEWG's Live Action TrainEx in June was featured by local broadcast and print media, as well as CAP NHQ's Twitter, CAP News, and PROPS https://www.cap.news/maine-members-train-for-missing person-missions/https:/myemail.constantcontact.com/PROPS--CAP-Cadets-Welcome-Summer

Orientation Flights with Major General Phelka: CAP Coverage, also included in PROPS and CAP Social Media: https://www.cap.news/commander-at-the-controls-maine-cadets-fly-with-phelka/

Congressional Gold Medal: News Center Maine: Mainer's family presented with Congressional Gold Medal newscentermaine.com https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cve03UfpxdY

Portland Press Herald: https://www.pressherald.com/2023/09/11/portland-man-who-flew-in-air-patrols-along-maine-coast honored-80-years-after-world-war-ii

MEWG In The News: MEWG was featured on News Center Maine on Civil Air Patrol Day: https://tinyurl.com/5fa64b86

Wreaths Across America: Great work from all of the participating units! The County met their wreath sponsorship goal with 700 wreaths sponsored and we received some excellent photos to share on social media with our external audiences. Capt Pierce is on the road returning from the

escort to Arlington today - information about WAA 2024 will follow ASAP, this is a year round opportunity for your units and you can sign up at any time to participate.

MEWG Cadet Competition: https://www.sunjournal.com/?p=10871373&uuid=94440dff-7fbd4254-9775-0683849a8a05&lid=6430

Information Technology

Updating MEWG Website to meet new CAP standards for Wing web sites.

Financial Management

Finance committee met quarterly as required and reviewed all financial reports. Members of the finance committee took turns doing the Internal Financial reviews and the WA uploaded them in a timely manner. All bank statements were reconciled, approved and uploaded. Monthly financial reports were sent to the squadrons for review.

Health Services

Maine Wing finished Phase III for COVID Response in May 2023.

Different health services concerns were identified during the remainder of the year by the Health Services Officer to keep members appraised of shortages in the National blood supply, juvenile arthritis awareness, ultraviolet light awareness, blood borne pathogens, Breast Cancer Awareness, and Bullying Prevention Awareness.

Inspector General

Four squadrons received Subordinate Unit Inspections (SUI) during 2023. The closed SUIs for 2023: ME-035 ME-077 ME-058 ME-021.

Safety

Safety worked closely with the Health Services Officer to keep members appraised of the COVID protocols and phases as the COVID protocols ended in early 2023. All squadrons completed their Safety Day by the end of March.

Government Relations

Maine Wing was able to maintain a Legislative Squadron with Maine Representatives and Maine Senators. Twenty-three Senators and Representatives have joined the Maine Legislative Squadron. All four of the Federal elected representatives are members now of the CAP Congressional Legislative Squadron.

Gov. Janet Mills proclaimed 1 December 2024 as Civil Air Patrol Day in the State of Maine. The official proclamation certificate was delivered to Col Cote, Maine Wing Commander, in the Governor's Office in Augusta.

MEWG CC Special Note: Lewiston, ME Active Shooter

During the active shooter incident in Lewiston, ME on 25 October 2023, all MEWG

Cadet activities were put on hold during the event and for the active man-hunt. Auburn Squadron was ordered to do a complete call-down of all members being very close to the active shooter incident. Their scheduled Thursday night meeting was held via virtual meeting (only good outcome of COVID) while the shelter-in-place order was still active.

By Friday morning all members of the Auburn Squadron (ME-077) were accounted for and safe. NER CC and CAP-USAF were kept in-formed and briefed. ME-077 CC, 1st Lt Laura Decato should be recognized for her calmness, and quick actions to assure MEWG Command that everyone was being contacted and briefed continuously.

The suspect was found deceased on Friday afternoon and all shelter-in place orders were lifted and MEWG was put back on OPS Normal. Thanks to all the support from all NER Wing CC's that offered support and words of encouragement via texts and phone calls during this whole ordeal. Thanks to NER CC for their continuous support.