History of

MAINE WING

Civil Air Patrol
Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

1 January 2024 through 31 December 2024

Prepared By

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REGION COMMANDER APPROVAL

James Ridley, Col, CAP
Commander

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

4 May 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR NER/HO

FROM: MEWG/CC

SUBJECT: CY2024 Maine Wing History

This document presents the approved Maine Wing history for Calendar Year 2024.

// Signed //
Mark Hyland, Colonel, CAP
Wing Commander

INTRODUCTION OF MAINE WING STAFF

Maine Wing Command Staff

Wing Commander	Mark Hyland	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 2 missions for CY 24.

- On 21 March, AFRCC tasked the MEWG with mission number 24-M-0069A to assist in the search for a 64 YOF in Hancock County. Two MEWG members assigned to support Maine Warden Services. Subject was found and find awarded to mission.
- On 13 September, AFRCC tasked the MEWG with mission number 24-M-0344 to locate an unreliable beacon / unknown beacon in the Winterport, ME area. Two MEWG members assigned to search for a possible ELT south of Bangor International Airport. Proceeded to Winterport and the Penobscot River and did not detect a signal along the route driven.

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. Model Rocketry continues to be 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.

External Aerospace Education

This year we have a total of 38 AEMs 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. Nearly all squadrons had cadets and senior members participated in the NASA observations of the Solar Eclipse in April. This even will be remembered by the participants all of their lives.

Chapter III - CADET PROGRAMS

Cadet Programs and Activities

-Nearly all squadrons had cadets and senior members participated in the NASA sponsored Solar Eclipse Observation on 8 April.

-Airman Academy was held in Bangor 18-21 April, very successful.

-Maine Wing Encampment was cancelled due to new Maine Statues concerning overnight camp public health and safety requirements. Money was refunded to those that had prepaid and many of the Maine Wing cadets were able to be accommodated at neighbor Northeast Region Wing Encampments.

-Civil Air Patrol Day at the Portland Sea Dogs was a great night. We sold 103 tickets and had a large member turnout. The Portland Squadron Color Guard team presented the Colors. Cadet Mierzwa from the 033 Squadron sang the National Anthem.

-Thirty cadets and senior members assisted with the towing and marshalling of float planes and amphibian airplanes at the Greenville Fly In on 7 and 8 September. The organizers stated it probably would have been very difficult to manage the movement of the aircraft without CAP support.

-The Quality Cadet Unit Award was given to the 4 Squadrons that qualified 033, 036, 058, and 077.

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 was removed from service and is being taken by CAP Hq for sale to outside entities.

TrainExes were performed each month around the State of Maine.

January TrainEx was cancelled at Brunswick due to weather and flight operations occurred later in the month for crews to practice photo reconnaissance by photo'ing the ice accumulation on the 3 major Maine rivers.

The February TrainEx was held in Brunswick with 43 members working on Airborne Photography, UDF, GTM communications and MSA tasks. Aircrews were tasked with identifying River ice conditions. We flew 12 sorties and had 8 ground sorties.

The March TrainEx was hosted by the Waterville squadron last Saturday. AAR was distributed by Lts. Scholten and Goldman with highlights and recommendations.

The May TrainEx in Bar Harbor was canceled due to lack of ground teams, weather and other scheduled CAP activities. However, TSgt. Maxwell Lister traveled to the BXM squadron and conducted Ground team training for approximately 16 trainees. Aircrews were encouraged to fly the targets listed in the mission files 24-T-5177 when available.

The June TrainEx hosted by the Augusta Squadron was attended by 42 members. Sergeant Bright, Lt. Sedgwick and Captain Kuby conducted classes on GTM, MSA, and Scanner tasks. Major Goldman and Lt. Merrill were able to fly one abbreviated AP sortie.

The July TrainEx was conducted at Sanford. Thirty-three members from five squadrons worked on tasks for GTMs, MS, MO, MSA, AOBD and MP tasks. 1Lt Martin Lessem from MAWG drove up to provide sUAS training and to give 1Lt Williams a Form 5U checkout. This will allow MEWG to give our sUAS trainees Check outs. Air sorties were delayed due to weather conditions, but we were able to conduct 3 training sorties and 5 ground sorties. Other sorties were flown prior to the end of this month.

MEWG August TrainEx was hosted by ME033 in Presque Isle Sunday. Over 20 members conducted ground and air sorties in the PQI area looking for simulated downed aircraft, FOD, lost persons and AP of solar panel farm infrastructure. Lt. Vespignani even provided radio support from his home in Windham. Three aircraft made the journey from Sanford, Lewiston and Bangor and a Ground team duo from Baldwin overnighted Saturday at the PQI mission base.

September TrainEx in Greenville, ME on Moosehead Lake features assisting with tugging and marshalling seaplanes. Approximately 30 seniors and cadets.

November TrainEx in Augusta with 22 members focusing on communication and coordinating aircraft and base radio frequencies.

December TrainEx from squadron home bases focused on airborne photography identifying snow coverage on solar farms throughout the state. Seven aircrew and 2 aircraft were signed into the mission.

sUAS Training

Capt. Martin Lessem, MAWG DOU, came to the Maine TrainEx in July 2024 to certify Capt Don Williams, MEWG DOU, as a Check Pilot. He also supported Capt. Williams, who trained seniors and cadets members on the safe operation of the Skydio 2 drone. Lt Col. Darren Cioffi, NYWG DOU and Capt. Joe Cruz, NYWG Assist DOU, have shared with MEWG all of their training materials and curriculums. These materials are the basis for the training program MEWG started this spring.

Mountain Pilot training

Col Bill Moran from NH Wing is assisting us by training and qualifying our Check Pilots in Mountain Flying so we can offer a seminar and training to our ME Wing pilots.

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	Mark Hyland	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	Major
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: 180 Seniors / 174 Cadets

Aircrew			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
SAR/DR Mission Pilot	11	+1	0
Transport Mission Pilot	17	+2	+5
Mission Observer	16	-0	-4
Airborne Photographer	12	+1	+3
Mission Scanner	24	+2	-4

Mission Base Staff			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
Communications Unit Leader	3	-0	-1
Mission Radio Operator	14	+0	+1
Mission Staff Assistant	27	+0	+11
Flight Line Supervisor	0	+0	-1
Flight Line Marshaller	4	+0	+4

Ground Teams			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
Ground Team Leader	5	-1	+0
Ground Team Member 1	9	-0	+4
Ground Team Member 2	14	-1	+3
Ground Team Member 3	20	-1	+2
Urban Direction Finding	13	-0	+1

sUAS / Other Quals			
Qualification	**Qualified**	**Month**	**YTD**
sUAS Mission Pilot	1	+1	+1
sUAS Technician	0	-	-
DAARTO	0	-	-
DAARTU	3	+0	+3

Current: 1/20/25

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 CY2024

MEWG inventory was completed on 1 November 2024.

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 2131 miles for the CY2024. 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 2024.

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

A new Wing Administrator has been assigned to the Maine Wing which has relieved the Director of Administration for handling invoicing for the Maine Wing. 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 – 5 Senior Members

ME-021 – Composite Flight – Brunswick – 10 Senior Members, 30 Cadets, 40 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 – 7 +2 Senior Members, 15 **-2** Cadets, 22 Total

ME-058 – Composite Squadron – Portland – 23 **+1**Senior Members, 30 **-1** Cadets, 53 Total

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

ME-077 – Composite Squadron – Auburn/Lewiston – 25 Senior Members, 16 Cadets, 41 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

Maine Wing's 2024 Airman Academy participants had an outstanding experience thanks to the Maine National Guard - military orientation flights in a Black Hawk helicopter!
https://www.facebook.com/MEWGCAP/posts/pfbid02x8Uh6HvEgYYrLKyZo2dTzG6Qh45GVcZfVDvXHTUK2m4S4G2tqH5y29XXFNQVocZRl

We had the first of what will be a busy summer with cadet milestones, the Brunswick Maine Squadron, formed in 2022 had their first cadet receive the Amelia Earhart Award:
https://www.facebook.com/MEWGCAP/posts/pfbid02q7zsjCSB8cVa5QXJRAJLFEASnhNQdDoV6JB38rJ4xextdj8g7FSC2JDjQsokWJ3rl

Information Technology

MEWG Website upgraded to 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

A successful Operation Pulse planning with the Maine Chapter of the American Red Cross was started in the Fall of 2024 with a projected date for the event in March 2025. Operation Pulse is a coordinated effort by CAP units to help with the stocking of blood and plasma for emergency and other hospital operations.

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

Five squadrons received Subordinate Unit Inspections (SUI) during 2043. The closed SUIs for 2024: ME-033, ME-036, ME-038, ME-075, and ME-077.

Safety

Wing Safety conducted a training session on the improvements to the CAP Safety Information System (CAPSIS). 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 Hyland, Maine Wing Commander, in the Governor's Office in Augusta.

MEWG CC Special Note: Wreaths Across America to Arlington National Cemetery

Maine Wing Participates in the Wreaths Across America program and has been working with the program since the beginning.

County Composite Squadron, the poorest most rural area of Maine was able to get 1,100 wreaths sponsored getting the squadron $5,500 from the $5 back program

In 2024, 7 cadets and 2 senior members were on the Escort to Arlington, cadets wrote an essay and were interviewed to earn a spot on this weeklong patriotic journey to Arlington National cemetery. The cadets provide color guard services for various programs at monuments, schools

and VFW Halls. They also got to participate in a Military order of the World Wars Massing of the flags at the Wreaths Across America kick off dinner as well as the Wreath Laying Event at Arlington National cemetery.