



# Flight Line

The Official Quarterly Newsletter of  
**New Mexico Wing**



Vol. 10, No. 3 – July, 2020

## NEW MEXICO WING STAFF

**New Mexico Wing Commander**  
Col. Annette R. Peters, CAP

**Vice Commander**  
Lt. Col. Dean M. Klassy, Sr., CAP

**Group Commanders:**  
**Northern:** Lt. Col. Andrew F. Selph, CAP  
NM-006, NM-016, NM-018, NM-068, NM-085

**Central:** Lt. Col. Michael E. Eckert, CAP  
NM-012, NM-030, NM-033, NM-055, NM-077, NM-083

**Southern:** Lt. Col. Dennis M. Hunter, CAP  
NM-024, NM-060, NM-073, NM-082, NM-084

**Group 800:** Lt. Col. William R. Fitzpatrick, CAP  
NM-811, NM-816, NM-818, NM-819, NM-820, NM-822,  
NM-823

**Chief of Staff**  
Lt. Col. John H. Gravel, CAP

**Command NCO**  
CMSgt Charles Grosvenor, CAP

**Public Affairs Officer and Newsletter Editor**  
Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP

**Webmaster**  
Maj. Paul Kinzelman, CAP

**FLIGHT LINE** is published quarterly, on the first month of every quarter. Deadlines for submission are as follows:

1Q – 20 December  
2Q – 20 March  
3Q – 20 June  
4Q – 20 October

**Text** may be submitted in the body of an e-mail (preferred), or as a document attached to an e-mail

**Images** must be in JPG format, unretouched, un-cropped and at least 1200 by 900 pixels.

**Credits:** In all cases, please give full name, grade and unit assignment of:

1. The article's author;
2. Photographer, and
3. Anybody mentioned in the article.

Send submissions to the Editor at:

[jaytourtel@comcast.net](mailto:jaytourtel@comcast.net)

Message size limit: 15 MB

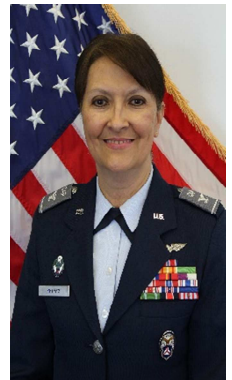
## New Mexico Wing Commander's Corner

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Hello, New Mexico Wing members! I hope that all of you are doing well and that those near and dear to you are also doing well. So far, 2020 has proven to be a very different and challenging year for all of us.

What truly amazes me is the resilience of our wing, and CAP as a whole. So many members of our wing have selflessly given so much of their time and energy to keep our wing functioning and stable through these challenging times. I couldn't be prouder of our office staff, as they keep our CAP office afloat as they work from home, and our wing staff continue to manage their responsibilities that come with their duty assignments, all while they too are dealing with how COVID-19 has changed our lives. Even though we have not been able to have our face-to-face meetings that we were so accustomed to, and the everyday comings and goings have changed to remaining at home as much as possible – except for limited errands – many of our CAP duties have transformed into doing business virtually.

Who would have thought a year ago as our wing was preparing for our Stan/Eval (standardization/evaluation) that we would be involved in a mission assisting the National Guard with disaster relief in our communities and state because of a dangerous virus? As far as I know, in the history of our wing, we have never been actively involved in a mission that went on for more than a couple of weeks, and yet here we are, four months into this mission that could potentially go on for the foreseeable future.

While observing how this COVID-19 mission has impacted our wing, it's allowed me to see how much our members truly desire to use their skills and be of service to others. Since I joined CAP in the fall of 2001, our wing has always been concerned that we did not have enough incident command-qualified staff such as Air Operations Branch Directors, Ground Branch Directors, Operations Section Chiefs, Planning Section Chiefs, Mission Radio



## Flight Line, New Mexico Wing – July, 2020

Operators, Incident Commanders and others to support a long-running mission, but thanks to the incredible members we have in this wing and as many of you have seen the need to have more people qualified, the number of incident command-qualified staff is increasing just about weekly. Because so many of our members so selflessly volunteer to help with this mission during these difficult times, this is why we're able to continue to support this mission. We have many people that have worked and continue to work tirelessly throughout these past four months. As I have sat in on the virtual Incident Management Team meetings every week, I am so pleased to see how our members from across our wing continue to work so well as a team. No one person can do or accomplish all of the work and responsibilities that goes into running a mission but each individual person adds so much to the team. **Together Each Accomplishes Much!!**

As for our squadrons, thank you for supporting our wing and for continuing to have virtual squadron meetings and supporting our cadets as they continue to progress through the cadet program, despite the restrictions we are under. I know how difficult it is to run a squadron virtually, and not be able to do things as we would when we were able to have face-to-face meetings. I wish that I could say that in a couple of weeks everything will be back to normal, but I can't do that. Our wing is following the rules and guidelines set forth by National Headquarters, as we work toward moving our wing from Phase Zero to Phase I. For the sake of the health and well-being of our members we need to be smart and move towards our wing's remobilization in a safe manner.

And finally, as I find myself reminiscing every now and then, I can't believe that it's been a year since I took command of our wing. It's been an incredible year and I look forward to the incredibly amazing things we as New Mexico Wing will accomplish in the future together as a team. I couldn't be prouder of each and every one of you, and I am proud to be your commander. 🇺🇸

**Col. Annette Peters, CAP**  
**New Mexico Wing Commander**

***“New Mexico Wing – Working Together as a Team, in All of Our Missions for Our Community, State and Nation”***

---

## How to Submit Articles for this Newsletter

### ***What should I write?***

- Any article of general interest to the Wing. The most common articles are about cadet and senior promotions, milestone awards, field trips and guest speakers. Typically, an article should have the following four qualities:
  - **Brevity.** Neither too short nor too long. One to one-and-a-half printed pages (approximately 750-1000 words) is ideal.
  - **Timeliness.** Anything that happened within the 90 days prior to publication.
  - **Newsworthiness.** Articles should be about what the members of the Wing are doing, when they are doing it, where they are doing it and how well they are doing it.
  - **Relevance.** Does the article have a direct bearing on CAP, the Wing, or its missions?
- Articles written by cadets, especially if they are assigned as the cadet PAO, are welcome.

### ***How do I submit articles and photos?***

***Have any ideas, suggestions or questions about articles?*** Feel free to contact the newsletter editor at [jaytourtel@comcast.net](mailto:jaytourtel@comcast.net). 🇺🇸



**Above:** New Mexico Wing Transportation Officer Capt. James McKelvey (left) receives a donation of personal protective equipment from National Ski Patrol member Larry Zentner (who is also New Mexico Wing's Search and Rescue Officer), at the ready room hangar of Albuquerque Senior Squadron II. (Photo: 2nd Lt. Kacie Rhodes, CAP)

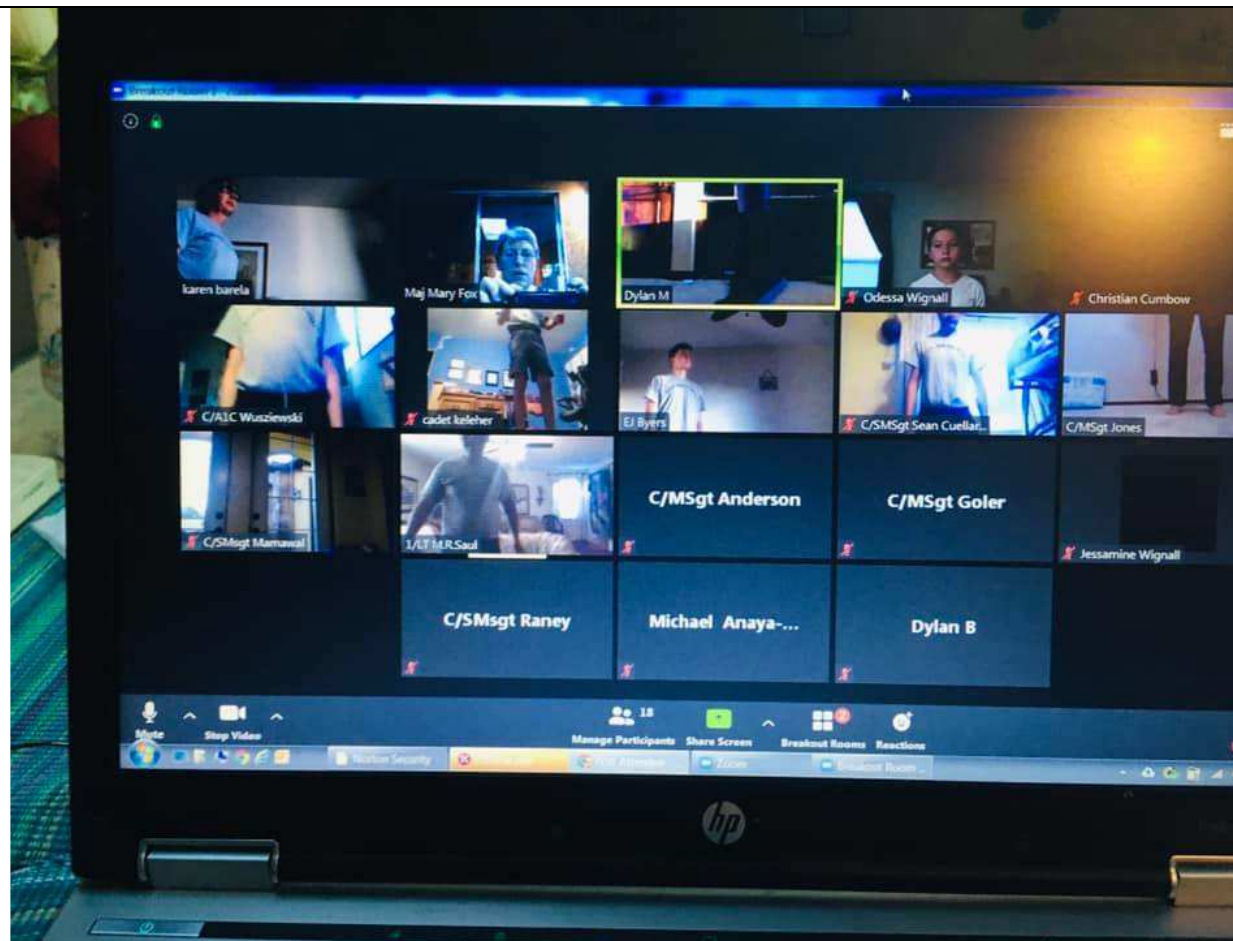
## **New Mexico Wing Receives Personal Protective Equipment from National Ski Patrol**

*By Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP  
New Mexico Wing Public Affairs Officer*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On April 17, 2020, Civil Air Patrol's New Mexico Wing received an unexpected donation of personal protective equipment (PPE) from the Sandia Peak National Ski Patrol (NSP), thanks to the coordination between the two community service-oriented organizations.

The donation, which consisted of 10 N-95-type masks and 100 pairs of medical-quality gloves, was put to use beginning on April 24, 2020, when New Mexico Wing emergency services personnel began ground and air operations in support of COVID-19 mitigation and assistance management. These sorties transported COVID-19 test kits from Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces, New Mexico, to the New Mexico State Laboratory Division in Albuquerque. New Mexico National Guard and the state Joint Task Force provide oversight management, and will continue to schedule a variety of operations for CAP's New Mexico Wing into May 2020.

Both CAP and the NSP support education outreach, development of youth leadership and skill sets, and, of course, emergency services. CAP has aerospace education in public, charter, and private educational campuses, while NSP provides outdoor emergency care, first aid, mountaineering and avalanche control curriculum. While CAP operates both on the ground and in the air, both organizations operate routinely in wilderness settings in all four seasons. According to Lt. Col. Larry Zentner, New Mexico Wing Search and Rescue Officer and National Ski Patrol member, "These are the things we do, so that others may live. We're in this together, and the donation of PPE is just one example of our two patrols working together." 🇺🇸



**Above:** Spirit “Squadron cadets participate in virtual PT. Screenshot photo: Maj. Mary A. Fox, CAP)

## Spirit Squadron Holds Virtual PT Meeting

*By 1st Lt. Michael R. Saul, CAP  
Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On May 14, 2020, Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron held its second successful Physical Training (PT) night, hosted by Capt. Karen Barela, the squadron’s PT Officer. The squadron has been using a virtual meeting platform for all its meetings since March 19, 2020, in accordance with National Headquarters’ directive suspending in-person meetings until such time as they are safe to resume.

The PT program was designed specifically for online training by Cadet Staff Sgt. Dylan Mamawal, who has trained as a competitive gymnast. A major lesson learned from this experience was to ask the cadets to turn their computer screens downward, so that the staff could see the cadets complete their exercises.

In addition to PT, the squadron has also held virtual meetings on Character Development, Emergency Services, Aerospace Education, Drug Demand Reduction and Drill and Ceremonies. The squadron has also held online promotion boards and even promoted their members online.

“COVID-19 may change how we live and play, but it cannot take us down as a squadron,” said Squadron Commander Maj. Mary Fox. She concluded, “We will meet this challenge.” 🇺🇸





**Above:** Ch. Tober blesses the van prior to starting its run to the Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces.  
*(Photos: Maj. Walter Dutton, CAP)*

## **New Mexico Wing Supports COVID-19 Operations**

*By Ch. (Maj.) John Tober, CAP  
New Mexico Wing Chaplain*

LAS CRUCES, N.M. – New Mexico Wing members of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP), acting as the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, are assisting the New Mexico National Guard in transporting COVID-19 test kits in New Mexico. Just after noon on April 24, 2020, a white 17-passenger CAP van pulled out of a hangar at Las Cruces International Airport, bound for Memorial Medical Center in Las Cruces. The van was driven by New Mexico Wing members SM Fredric Leston and Ch. (Maj.) John Tober, on a combined ground/air mission to transport COVID-19 test kits to the Scientific Laboratory Division of the New Mexico Department of Health in Albuquerque for analysis.



**Above:** Ch. (Maj. Tober and SM Frederic Leston prepare to pick up the COVID-19 test kits. **Below Right:** Before blessing the plane, crew and mission, Ch. Tober and SM Leston stand in front of the plane that will take the test kits to Albuquerque.

Before departing Las Cruces, New Mexico Wing Chaplain (Maj.) John Tober (rector of St. James' Episcopal Church in Las Cruces), wearing an N95 mask and gloves, said a blessing for the van, its occupants, and its mission. One hour later, the van with its cargo of test kits returned to Las Cruces International to rendezvous with one of CAP's fleet of Cessna 182 aircraft. After a hasty, yet careful, transfer of materials from van to plane, and a second blessing by Ch. Tober – this time for the aircraft and crew members, pilot Capt. William Benzinger and co-

pilot Lt. Col. Robert Macklin – the plane's engine roared to life, and moments later took to the air on its mission to Albuquerque, where another CAP ground team would take the test kits to the laboratory for processing.

These trips, called sorties (from the French *sortie* "depart"), inaugurated CAP's support of the New Mexico National Guard response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They represent one facet of CAP's three missions: aerospace education, cadet programs, and emergency services. Civil Air Patrol, the civilian auxiliary of the US Air Force, is a chartered non-profit organization, composed of volunteers who train and are tasked by the U.S. Air Force to respond to a variety of crises – from downed aircraft and search-and-rescue operations by ground teams and from the air, to disaster relief as carried out during Hurricanes Katrina and Harvey, to unique responses such as the current tasking. All CAP adult members undertake standardized and specialized training presented by and in support of various national and state agencies and non-profit organizations to support these unique missions.

Acting as a Total Force partner and official civilian auxiliary of the Air Force, Civil Air Patrol is aligned with First Air Force to rapidly respond to non-military threats domestically when tasked in a Defense Support of Civil Authorities capacity to save lives, relieve suffering, prevent property damage and provide humanitarian assistance. 🇺🇸







**Above:** The Glenwood Hills Fire, which occurred within a mile of Lt. Saul's home. (Photos: 1st Lt. Michael R. Saul, CAP)

## **Saul Saves Residents from Glenwood Hills Fire**

*By Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron Public Affairs*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On June 25, 2020, 1st Lt. Michael R. Saul of Albuquerque Heights "Spirit" Composite Squadron helped save the residents of his neighborhood from potential property damage from the Glenwood Hills Fire, located about a mile from his residence.

Saul had concluded his virtual squadron meeting and was preparing to retire for the night, when his mother asked him if there was a fire outside. Looking out his living room window, Saul was able to visually confirm that a fire was raging in the foothills near his home.

### Flight Line, New Mexico Wing – July, 2020

Acting on his mother's advice to warn the neighbors, Saul immediately went outside, going door to door to warn the neighbors of the impending fire. By then, the Albuquerque Fire Department had arrived, and the fire crew members advised the residents to wet their front and back yards with their garden hoses, and to spray the water in the direction of the fire.

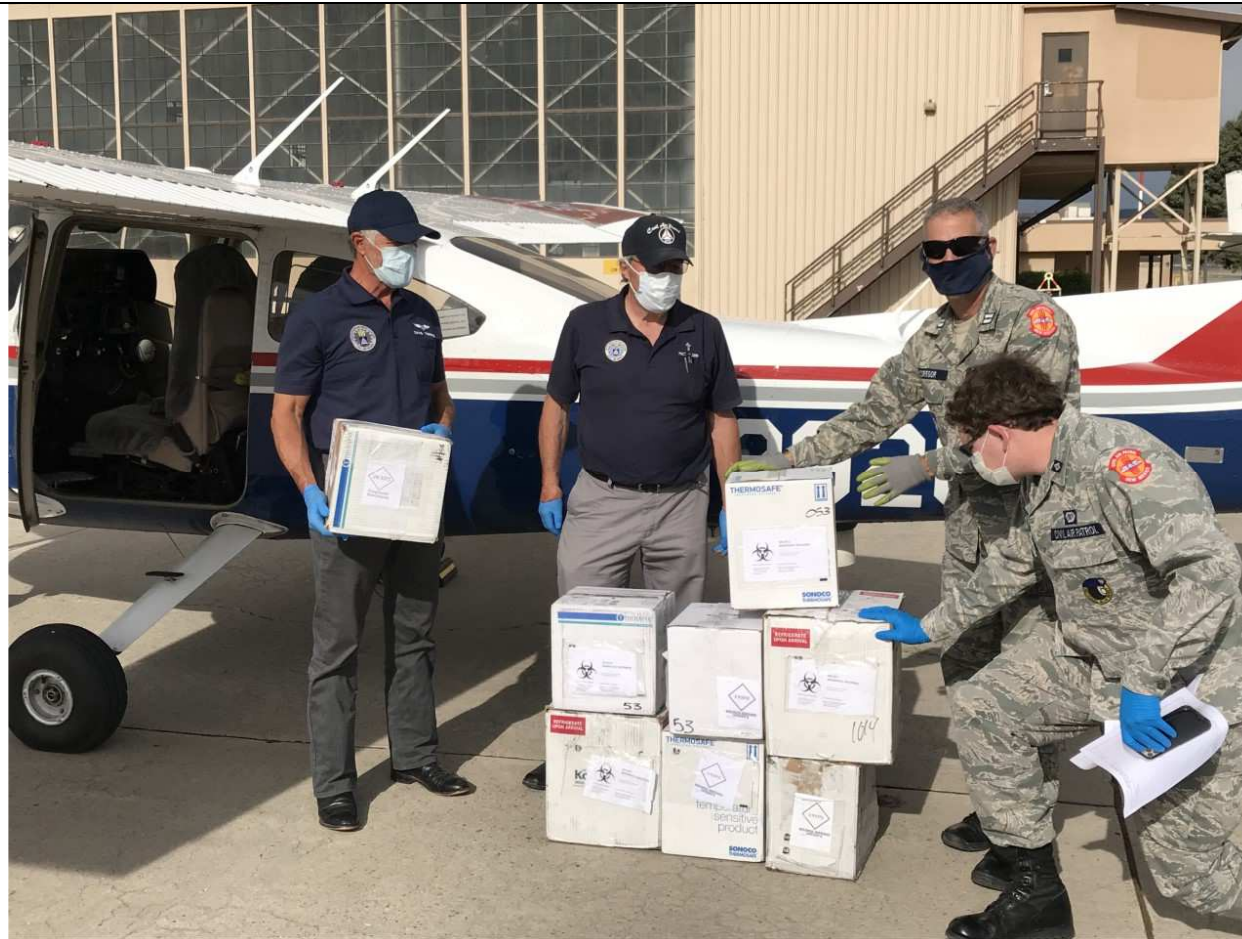
By 12:30 a.m., the fire had been contained by the Albuquerque Fire Department. Although the cause of the fire is still unknown, Lt. Saul was one of the key people who helped save his neighborhood from imminent destruction and possible harm. 🇪🇸

---

**Below:** Soot and ash mark the residue of the Glenwood Hills Fire the following day, taken from the point of view of Lt. Saul's home.







**Above (L-R):** Lt. Cols. David Torres and Loren Olsen, both from Taos Composite Squadron, transfer packages from Truth or Consequences and Las Cruces to Albuquerque ground team member Capt. Daniel McGregor of Eagle Cadet Squadron, for delivery to laboratories, while Cadet Lt. Col. Joshua Williamson of Thunderbird Composite Squadron steadies the load. The boxes contain 637 test kits, the largest number New Mexico Wing has carried in a single flight so far. (Photo: Lt. Col. Andrew Selph, CAP)

## Wing Volunteers Help New Mexico Meet COVID-19 Challenge

By Lt. Col. David G. Finley, CAP  
Socorro Composite Squadron

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – In an extensive and ongoing mission that is probably its largest since World War II, the New Mexico Wing of the Civil Air Patrol, acting as the official auxiliary of the United States Air Force, has been an important part of the state's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. As of late June, Wing members had flown nearly 6,700 COVID-19 test samples to laboratories in Albuquerque for processing, transported other medical supplies, and provided two work-years' worth of volunteer labor.

The Wing has provided flights and ground transportation to rapidly transport test samples to the Scientific Laboratory Division of the New Mexico Department of Health (NMDOH), and to the TriCore Reference Laboratories, both in Albuquerque, for processing. Funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Wing is assisting the New Mexico National Guard, which is supporting the New Mexico Department of Health.

## Flight Line, New Mexico Wing – July, 2020

Since the first flight on April 24, 2020, Wing members have flown samples from Farmington, Las Cruces, Deming, and Truth or Consequences. One flight carried personal protective equipment to Farmington's fire department, and others have taken 3,000 new test kits from the Department of Health to Las Cruces.

The samples have come from hospitals, nursing homes, detention facilities and the New Mexico Veterans Home. After the New Mexico Department of Health tested the entire staff of the Stampede meat plant in Santa Teresa in early May, CAP transported those samples for urgent processing.

Nearly 100 Wing members from across the state have participated in planning, supporting and conducting the COVID-19 response efforts. The mission has so far included 85 air sorties, more than 130 flight hours, and 45 ground sorties. The mission has been officially extended through August 7, 2020. *(Editor's note: Shortly before going to publication, the mission has now been officially extended to August 13, 2020.)*

"We have a very dedicated and professional team of volunteers who have done a great job of doing the many tasks required to maintain an effort like this," said Col. Annette Peters, New Mexico Wing Commander. "They are doing this with the added complication of adapting to all the precautions required to protect themselves and others from COVID-19."



to save lives, relieve suffering, prevent property damage and provide humanitarian assistance. 🇺🇸



**Above (L-R):** CAP Maj. Gregory Griffith and Flight Officer Casey Neal carry a package of COVID-19 test kits from the CAP aircraft to a vehicle for transport from Albuquerque International Sunport to the laboratory for processing. *(Photo: Capt. Bryan Neal, CAP.)* **Below (L-R):** Capt. James McKelvey, of the Eagle Cadet Squadron, Albuquerque, places a box of COVID-19 test samples in a plastic bag for additional safety as pilot Maj. Mark Peters, Los Alamos Composite Squadron, stands by. *(Photo: 1st Lt. Joanne Leamer Fisher, CAP.)*

"It has been an honor to help our fellow New Mexicans, and we welcome the opportunity to do so," said Lt. Col. John Grassham, the Wing's Director of Emergency Services. "All those who have participated in this mission should be proud of their efforts," he added.

The Wing's contribution to New Mexico's COVID-19 response has gained public recognition for CAP. Stories about the mission have appeared on TV stations in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, and El Paso, Texas, and in newspapers in Albuquerque, Las Cruces, Farmington and Socorro.

Acting as a Total Force Partner and official civilian auxiliary of the Air Force, Civil Air Patrol is aligned with First Air Force to rapidly respond to non-military threats domestically, when tasked in a Defense Support of Civil Authorities capacity





**Above (L-R):** New Mexico Wing Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel congratulates his son, SM Tyler J. Tourtel of Albuquerque Heights “Spirit Composite Squadron, on 10 years of service to CAP. (Photo: Courtesy of Ms. Aurora Tourtel)

## Tourtel Overcomes Autism to Mark 10 Years in CAP

*By New Mexico Wing Public Affairs*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – On June 25, 2020, SM Tyler J. Tourtel of Albuquerque Heights “Spirit” Composite Squadron was recognized for 10 years of service to Civil Air Patrol. Privately, his father, New Mexico Wing Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, congratulated him on his accomplishment.

The younger Tourtel joined CAP in June 2010. Diagnosed with autism in 2009, he was encouraged to join by both his father and his teachers, who believed that group socialization would help him overcome the social isolation that comes with his condition. Within a month of joining, his teachers remarked that he was more focused and on task than he had ever been. Over the years, he went from isolating himself from the other cadets to drilling with them. By 2017, he was appointed the squadron’s guidon bearer, and was in training to become cadet first sergeant.

What he lacked in learning ability, he made up for in persistence and enthusiasm. Trying for promotion to cadet staff sergeant, he took the Wright Brothers examination 10 times before passing it. “When his stepmother Aurora and I finally pinned on his stripes, I couldn’t have been prouder of him than if he had earned the Spaatz Award,” said the elder Tourtel, himself a Spaatz Award recipient. SM Tourtel aged out of the Cadet Program as a cadet technical sergeant, and transitioned into the senior program in November 2018.

Young Tourtel has been on leave from the squadron since September 2017, because of his work schedule. When asked how he felt about this milestone, he said, “It feels good.” 🍷





**Above:** The United States Air Force Academy's graduating Class of 2020 sits eight feet apart from each other, in observance of social distancing. (Photo: New York Times)

## Editorial

### Social Distancing: The New Normal

*By Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP  
New Mexico Wing Public Affairs Officer*

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – Of all the decisions made as a result of the COVID-19 Coronavirus pandemic, the most significant, and perhaps the most controversial, is social distancing – maintaining a distance of at least six feet from others to avoid catching or spreading the virus.

What hath social distancing wrought? We have brought upon ourselves a dilemma of Shakespearean proportions: whether it is nobler in the mind to reopen the country to restore the economy's health, or to wait things out until a vaccine can be developed.

No one is arguing for recontaminating the population, nor for an unending shutdown; but a solution must and will be found. While all human life is precious, Americans must also realize that to save the country, people must do everything they can to stem the continued presence of COVID-19 in our midst.

Even after the shutdown is lifted, shaking hands and hugging may be frowned upon for some time to come. Social distancing may become the new normal, but it can't last forever; human beings are social creatures who crave social contact. John Donne wrote that no man is an island – something that Americans must be ever mindful of – as we struggle to return to a semblance of what used to be. 🇺🇸

## Command NCO's Corner

### How to Get Your NCOs Promoted



ALBUQUERQUE, N.M – CAPR 35-5, *CAP Officer and Noncommissioned Officer Appointments and Promotions*, is the governing regulation. Paragraph 6.2.1 states that current or former military members holding the grade of E-4 (Air Force Senior Airman; Navy and Coast Guard Petty Officer 3rd Class; Army Corporal/Specialist or Marine Corps Corporal) will be appointed to the grade of staff sergeant, after completion of Level I of CAP's Professional Development Program". There is NO six-month time-in-grade requirement as a Senior Member before assignment to the grade of staff sergeant.

Currently, a CAPF 2 (Request for Promotion Action) and a document verifying the military grade (DD-214, Promotion Certificate, etc.) are all that is required to meet the validation requirements. Have the unit commander endorse the CAPF 2 and send the information to Ms. Susie Parker at National Headquarters (Immeforms@capnhq.gov), and your NCO will be assigned within a very short time.

Paragraph 6.3 is very specific about subsequent Duty Assignment promotions: there are no other types of promotions for NCOs, who cannot receive a promotion without added responsibility and increased commitment to CAP. Let me explain. All promotions within CAP – both Officer and NCO – require several things in common: Professional Development achievement, time-in-grade requirements and, as stated in paragraph 2.1.1.4, "Performing in an Exemplary manner meriting promotion to the grade recommended." This last part is designed to be validated by an appropriate Promotion Review Board (paragraph 1.10). For officers, duty assignments are not level-specific; however, Senior NCOs (Master Sergeant, Senior Master Sergeant and Chief Master Sergeant) must be appointed to specific duty assignments in order to qualify for a promotion and these duty assignments are at higher levels of command with higher levels of NCO grade. No appropriate duty assignment, no promotion. The following duty assignments are promotion-specific for NCOs: Command NCO, NCO Advisor, Group NCO, and Squadron NCO.

For promotion to Master Sergeant, candidate must be assigned as Squadron/Group NCO.

For promotion to Senior Master Sergeant, candidate must be assigned as Group, Wing or Region NCO Advisor.

For promotion to Chief Master Sergeant, candidate must be assigned as Wing/Region Command NCO.

Along those lines, please join me in welcoming Master Sgt. Jeffrey Barlow of the Rio Rancho Falcon Composite Squadron as the new NCO Advisor for New Mexico Wing. He assumed his new duties on March 12, 2020. He is a welcome addition to the staff.

Semper Vigilans,

Chief  

**CMSgt Charles Grosvenor, CAP  
New Mexico Wing Command NCO**

**"The New Mexico Wing NCO Program – A Personal Choice"**

## Safety Corner

### We're Not Out of the Woods Yet

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – For the past few months, we've all had a steady stream of news about the COVID-19 pandemic, accompanied by statistics, opinion, politics, policy, hope, fear, and speculation. Some of us endure; some are unfazed; some are tired of it. Some, as businesses partially reopen and bring people back to work, may think it's time for some relief and to begin relaxing their guard.



A few days ago, doing some necessary errands in town, my wife heard two people argue over face coverings. One said heatedly, "I don't have to use a mask—it's my choice." This is the perennial safety trap: People can engage in unsafe practices for a long time without experiencing bad results. Pretty soon they think, *Hey, nothing's happened—this is okay. I don't need a face covering.* But that's just rolling the dice—with one's own health, and worse, with the health of others.

So where are we now in New Mexico? As of this writing, the "curve" is flat. Per the national COVID ActNow criteria, we were just downgraded to medium risk status (from high) with an infection rate of just over one—the pandemic is growing slightly and not decreasing. That means there are still infected people in the community. Some experts think it may be that way for months to come. And if you've heard or read first-hand accounts from survivors, you know this disease is not something you want to experience. Yes, some cases are mild, but I, for one, don't want to gamble my life, throw my family into emotional or financial crisis, or put others at risk.

The New Mexico Wing will at some point resume in-person meetings and return to operations in a phased approach. A team of Wing staff has started the planning process. When we do start to resume, it will be a time to move cautiously, and it's likely most meetings will still be online in the first phase. When we start in-person activities, we may need to go "back to basics" from the safety standpoint, because we've been away from those activities for so long. Decision-making will be need to be guided by thoughtful risk assessment, both formally and in real time.

What does that mean? We all use risk assessment unconsciously, when crossing a street, making dietary decisions, or considering our children's activities. *What can happen in this situation; how likely is it; what are the consequences; and what will I do about it.* It's that simple, and when applied *consciously*, it can make a big difference in outcomes for you, your fellow CAP members, and your families.

A recent Facebook post had a worthwhile reminder: World War II lasted six years, the Great Depression, a decade. We've been in this crisis for a few months. We can handle it. We can do what we need to do for ourselves and for others. Don't let down your guard. 🇺🇸

**Maj. C. John Graham, CAP**  
**Director of Safety**

***New Mexico Wing Safety – "Think Before You Do"***



## Public Affairs Corner

### The Eggcorn Doesn't Fall Far from the Tree

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – In 1964, when the Beatles came to America, my parents bought me a copy of their first American album, *Meet the Beatles*. In their first song on Side One, "I Saw Her Standing There," I could have sworn that Paul McCartney sang the following lyrics:

*Well, my heart went boom,  
When I crossed that room,  
And I held her hand in Hawaii—iii!*

It wasn't until years later that I discovered the actual lyric was, "I held her hand in *mine*." Many people mishear song lyrics, such as Johnny Rivers' "Secret Agent Man," which has been misheard as "Secret Asian Man," and Creedence Clearwater Revival's "There's a Bad Moon on the Rise," which people mishear as "There's a Bathroom on the Right." These misheard words are known as *eggcorns*, which Merriam-Webster defines as "a word or phrase that sounds like and is mistakenly used in a seemingly logical or plausible way for another word or phrase either on its own or as part of a set expression."

The word *eggcorn* is itself an eggcorn, having been coined in 2003 by linguistics professor Geoffrey Pullium. He was on a website, discussing a woman who had misheard the word *acorn* as *eggcorn*. The members of the discussion group realized that this type of word substitution didn't have a name, so Pullium suggested the word *eggcorn*, and that's how the term was born.

A couple of issues back, I made a list of misheard words and phrases, although at the time I didn't know they were known as eggcorns. I thought it might be fun to revisit this list, with new entries since the last issue, with the eggcorn first, followed by the correct phrase.

*Abject lesson/object lesson.* An *object lesson* is a practical demonstration of a principle, which usually serves as a warning. *His three divorces were an object lesson on not rushing into marriage.* The word *abject*, on the other hand, refers to sinking to a very low or severe state: *A year after winning the lottery, he was living in abject poverty.*

*Biting my time/biding my time.* The word *bide* means "to wait for," so to *bide one's time* means to wait for something: *I am biding my time until my retirement.* On the other hand, *biting my time* makes no sense at all.

*Chomping at the bit/champing at the bit.* This phrase refers to a horse's habit of *champing*, or noisily chewing on, the *bit* – the piece of metal in the bridle used for controlling horses – when they are impatient or eager to do something. *He was champing at the bit to debate his opponent.* Interestingly, the word *chomp* started out as a variation of *champ* – the main difference being that chomped things are eaten, while champed things are not. So, for purposes of writing, *champing at the bit* is considered proper.

Let this article serve as an object lesson on how to write properly. Till next time. 🇺🇸



**Lt. Col. Jay T. Tourtel, CAP**  
**Public Affairs Officer**

**New Mexico Wing Public Affairs – "Telling the CAP Story"**

## **OPSEC WARNING! Be Careful What You Post!**

### **WHAT IS OPSEC?**

OPSEC (Operational Security) is the protection of sensitive information, that the loss or compromise thereof will pose a threat to Civil Air Patrol's operations or missions. All CAP members must complete OPSEC training and sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement to become emergency services qualified. If you have not done so, please speak to your commander.

### **HOW DO I PRACTICE OPSEC?**

- **Identify and Control Critical Information.** Critical Information is information which can potentially provide an adversary with knowledge of our intentions, capabilities or limitations. It can also cost us our technological edge, or jeopardize our people, resources and credibility. Critical Information should not be released to anyone without a valid "need to know."
- **Examples of Critical Information:** Documents or photos that include the following:
  - Deployments – Chaplain or other support of CAP
  - Technology – Capabilities of CAP equipment
  - Exercises – CAP participation in DoD exercises
  - Missions:
    - Planned intercept missions
    - Law Enforcement Support missions
    - Major event support like the Super Bowl or Olympics
  - Communications – Radio Frequencies and Access Tones
  - Documents marked FOUO (For Official Use Only)
  - Ops Plans, tail numbers of aircraft and Victor Airways
  - Location of Resources – airplanes, vehicles, repeater sites, etc.
- **Watch what you say or post.** Foreign and domestic terrorists are constantly monitoring our communications, looking for weaknesses. Don't try to impress others with your knowledge.  
**Loose Lips Sink Ships!**
- **Publicly accessible websites will NOT include:**
  - For Official Use Only (FOUO) Information, such as radio frequencies
  - Sensitive Information, such as any of the examples listed above.
  - Planned Deployments, such as movement of aircraft to or from mission base.
  - Personal Information – Social Security Numbers, Phone Numbers, etc.
  - Pictures of aircraft crashes, military aircraft (depending on technology), pictures of comm equipment with frequencies, counterdrug flights, ground targets, or any photo not cleared by the incident commander (IC) or Public Information Officer (PIO).

### **OPSEC IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**

- The purpose of OPSEC is to protect against unauthorized disclosure of official information. Keep your information secure at all times
- OPSEC is mostly common sense. If we take the time to learn what information needs protecting, and how we can protect it, we can continue to execute our missions effectively. 🇺🇸

## **Members of New Mexico Wing! Get Recognized for Your Writing!**

Beginning with the January 2020 issue of FLIGHT LINE, New Mexico Wing will recognize members who contribute articles to the newsletter as follows:

A New Mexico Wing **CAP Certificate of Appreciation** will be awarded to members who contribute articles to three different issues of FLIGHT LINE. (Issues need not be consecutive.) Multiple articles run in the same issue will count as one submission.

A New Mexico Wing **CAP Achievement Award** will be awarded to members who contribute articles to another six issues of FLIGHT LINE. (Issues need not be consecutive.) Multiple articles run in the same issue will count as one submission.

Wing will present the award certificate at the earliest opportunity. If no member is present to accept the certificate, it will be sent to the member's unit at the first available opportunity.

### **How to Submit Articles Suitable for Publication**

All articles will be written in AP Style. For more information, go to [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org), or see our supplement, "Associated Press Style in a Nutshell."

"Article" is defined as a narrative that:

- Is written in AP Style;
- Answers the questions Who, What, When, Where, and Why, and preferably also How;
- Has one or more quotes from participants, with attribution;
- Has two or more digital photos attached (not embedded in the text), with appropriate cutlines (photo captions). An article submitted without digital photos that is selected for publication will count as a half-credit. For full credit, it must have accompanying photos.

### **General advice on writing a good article:**

- Get all the facts right, stick to the facts, and do not use hearsay or express opinion.
- **Take good digital photos.**
  - Do not use digital zoom, or else your photos will lack good focus and definition;
  - Take "action shots" of people doing something interesting that is material to the article; for each photo, identify the people on it by grade, name, and unit.
  - Make sure everyone is in the correct uniform and you identify all, as per above.
  - **Note: Good photos are essential to add immediacy and flavor to the story.**
  - **Get good quotes.**
  - Ask participants for their opinion.
  - Get full grade, name, position title and unit of assignment for each quote.
  - Get the individual's consent to publish the quote as recorded (read it back).
  - **Note: Getting quotes is how you get to express opinion, and get your readers to share the experience that you are writing about.**
- **Write in good, idiomatic, unadorned English**
  - Do not "pad" your sentences, such as saying "due to the fact that" when "because" will do;
  - Avoid trite expressions, such as "it goes without saying" – if it does, don't say it;
  - Avoid colloquial expressions.
  - Do not write in acronyms – always define the first instance, such as "Federal Aviation Administration" before you use FAA;
  - No nicknames – unless famous, such as "Ike" for Pres. Dwight D. Eisenhower. 🇺🇸



## Associated Press Style in a Nutshell

Below are the most important rules to keep in mind when writing in AP Style

- Write the title in normal English-language capitalization. Never all in caps.
- Add your byline below the article title
- Do not format the text in the article (only exceptions are: bullet comments and numbered paragraphs in a section that details a process or sequence).
- Do not indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Use AP Style rules for punctuation.
- Single space the article. At the end of each paragraph, execute two end-of lines (Enter key).
- Do not introduce artificial paragraphing by hitting the Enter key at the end of each line in your article. Instead, let the text wrap naturally and tap two Enter keys at the end of the paragraph.
- Use only a single space after a period.
- Insert a dateline at the beginning of the article, following AP Style rules.
- Answer the 5Ws: Who, What, Where, When, Why + the honorary W: How. In writing a CAP article, you will always know the 5Ws.
- Write all dates in AP style.
- Do not use postal codes instead of state abbreviations (not OK but Okla., not NM but N.M.) but some states have no abbreviation, such as Texas.
- Write all military grades in AP Style.
- Write the article in the third person singular.
- Express no opinion. To express opinion, use one or more quotes of qualified sources – always get the quoted person’s permission to include the quote, unless it is a matter of record (printed article or recorded audio-visual). Get the quoted person’s grade, name, job title and organization.
- Never self-quote.
- Identify all persons by grade or title, name, job title if material, and organization.
- Never refer to a young person as “kid.”
- When a young person is a CAP cadet, never use “boy,” “girl” or “child” but identify each one by grade, full name (or last name only – never first name only), and unit of assignment.
- Never use “their” for the possessive of a singular subject, such as, “the cadet took their meal.”
- Avoid the abbreviations i.e. and e.g. You may know what each one means, and the Latin words they represent, but most people confuse the two. Be clear. Write in English and leave Latin and non-English to scholars.
- Refer to CAP members by grade, name, duty position and unit of assignment. Never by first name.
- On second or subsequent references, use only the last name, except when there are two persons with the same last name, in which case the use of both first and last name is preferred (never just the first names).
- In the case of CAP or military commanders or higher-ranking senior members, on second reference use the grade and last name.
- Do not use Lt. as a grade. Lt. is a mode of address. The correct grade may be 2nd Lt. or 1st Lt., but never Lt. The Navy is the only service that has the grade of Lt.
- Do not use exclamation marks, as doing so expresses opinion.
- Use simple declarative sentences.
- Avoid the passive voice.
- Remember the good rules of English grammar and syntax, and follow them.
- *For best results*, buy the latest copy of the Associated Press Stylebook, available at a modest cost at [www.ap.org](http://www.ap.org) – read it, study it, know it, and use it. 📖

## Flight Line, New Mexico Wing – July, 2020 Uniform and Photo Guidelines

- All personnel must be in the proper uniform.
- Face-to-waist is the best composition for most photos.
- Uniforms should be clean, neat, pressed and in good repair.
- T-shirts should not be visible on any of the open-collar service uniforms (USAF-Style and Corporate).
- Only regulation headgear is allowed with all uniforms (USAF-style and Corporate).
- Hair must be clean, well-groomed and neat.
- Members must meet weight and grooming standards to wear USAF-style uniforms.



**BDUs/ABUs:** For group photos, either all sleeves up or all sleeves down, to present a uniform appearance.

Tie (or collar tab) must be worn with all long-sleeved service shirts (both USAF-style and Corporate), Class A uniforms and CAP blazer combinations.

### SUNGLASSES AND EYGLASSES

- Sunglasses are not allowed in military formations.
- Sunglasses and eyeglasses will not be worn around the neck, on top/back of the head or worn hanging exposed on the uniform.
- Pens, pencils, wallets, watch chains, fobs, pins, jewelry, combs, cigars, cigarettes, pipes and sunglass cases will not be worn or carried exposed on the uniform.

