July 2026
Issue 3

THE COMMAND REVIEW

The latest news, announcements, and events from the Wing

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NCWG 2026 Summer Encampment - MCAS Cherry Point

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **07/31-08/02/2026 - MAR South SAREX - Samarcand Training Academy**
- **08/01/2026 - High Altitude Balloon Challenge Launch Day - Indiana Wing**
- **08/07-08/09/2026 - NCWG Weekend Cyber Camp - NCNG Ft Fisher Training Cnt**
- **08/29/2026 - Group 6 PODS Training**
- **08/29/2026 - NCWG Aircrew School - Wing Headquarters**

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The Commander's Desk

Col Brendan Kearns, Commander, NCWG

Fellow North Carolina Wing Members, As we close out an exceptionally busy and productive July, I want to thank each of you for your service, dedication, and commitment to the Civil Air Patrol's mission. This month demonstrated the very best of our organization through leadership development, community service, and emergency services readiness.

2026 Summer Encampment

The highlight of the month was our highly successful 2026 North Carolina Wing Summer Encampment hosted by MCAS Cherry Point. More than 330 cadets and senior members attended and every participant contributed to the success of the activity. I want to offer my sincere appreciation to Capt Elaine Kaempf, Encampment Commander, and to the exceptional cadet and senior staff who created an environment where students learned new skills, developed greater confidence, and gained a deeper understanding of leadership, teamwork, and personal responsibility. On Day 1, I challenged every cadet and staff member to step outside their comfort zone. Everyone rose to that challenge. The cadets learned that confidence does not come from being told you are capable. True confidence comes from proving it to yourself. Through effort, perseverance, and courage, they discovered they can do hard things and that their limitations are much further away than they imagined.

Anson County POD Mission

I also want to thank the wing for its outstanding response to the Points of Distribution mission in Anson County. Following the failure of the county's water system, approximately 22,000 residents were left without reliable access to water for an extended period. North Carolina Wing members accepted the mission to support emergency management efforts by staffing POD sites throughout the county and distributing bottled water to affected citizens. We were greatly supported by both the South Carolina Wing and Virginia Wing, helping ensure we provided the level of assistance required by our fellow citizens. A special shout out goes to our cadets, who made up a substantial portion of both the field teams and the Incident Management Team. Their professionalism and dedication were

outstanding. This mission was a perfect example of what Civil Air Patrol does every day: Volunteers serving America's communities, saving lives, and shaping futures.

Mid-Atlantic Region SAREX

We will close out July by hosting the Mid-Atlantic Region SAREX at the Samarcand facility in Moore County. This exercise will bring together participants from multiple wings across the region and will integrate incident command, ground operations, and air operations while also involving many of our strategic partners from throughout North Carolina. Events like this strengthen our readiness and ensure that we are prepared to answer the call whenever our communities need us.

Closing Thoughts

July was an extraordinarily busy month, and I want to thank everyone who participated in this month's activities and made them so successful. Whether developing future leaders at encampment, supporting citizens during a community emergency, or preparing for major operational exercises, our members continue to demonstrate professionalism, dedication, and a spirit of service. Thank you for everything you do for the Civil Air Patrol and for the citizens of North Carolina.







The NCO Corp Briefing

CMSgt Christopher Cozzi, Command NCO, NCWG

As we close out an exceptionally busy July, I want to echo Col Kearns' gratitude to every member who contributed to the success of our wing's missions and activities. From Summer Encampment to the Anson County POD mission and the upcoming Mid-Atlantic Region SAREX, North Carolina Wing members once again demonstrated professionalism, dedication, and a commitment to service.

NCOs Making a Difference

I would like to recognize the more than 13 North Carolina Wing NCOs who supported the 2026 Summer Encampment. Throughout the week, they served as mentors, trainers, and role models, helping cadets develop confidence, discipline, and leadership skills. Their contributions were instrumental to the success of the activity and showcased the vital role NCOs play in developing future leaders and strengthening our organization.

Balance Fuels Readiness

While July brought tremendous success, it also demanded a great deal from our members. Between CAP responsibilities, careers, and family commitments, it is important to remember that readiness is not just about training and qualifications. It also depends on our personal well-being.

As we move into August, I challenge each of you to deliberately make time to recharge. Schedule a day off, spend time with family and friends, enjoy a hobby, or simply take a break from the demands of daily life. Put that time on your calendar and protect it. Just as we prioritize training and missions, we must also prioritize our physical, mental, and emotional well-being.

By maintaining balance in our lives, we preserve our ability to serve others. Taking time to recharge today ensures we remain ready to answer the call tomorrow when our communities, state, and nation need us most.

As I often say, "Remain Cool, Calm & Collected, Always." Those words apply not only during emergencies and challenging situations, but also in how we manage our daily lives. Balanced, resilient members are effective members, and effective members keep our wing mission-ready.

Thank you for your continued service to the Civil Air Patrol and the citizens of North Carolina.

Aim High, Serve Well, and Stay Ready.





The Deputy Commander's Corner

Lt Col James Fitzpatrick, Deputy Commander - West, NCWG
Lt Col Craig Richardson, Deputy Commander - East, NCWG

What are "Best Practices" and how do we get some?

"Best Practices" are simply proven methods or procedures that we have found that produce excellent results that we can use to standardize the way we do things. They help us maximize efficiency and reduce errors. They can be a way to organize our supply closet, teach drill, stage an Encampment or communicate with parents.

We can develop them ourselves over time, but often the best way to get them is from each other. The only way to do that is to go. Go visit other Squadrons. Go to Group events. Go to Wing events. Go to other Wing events. Just go.

One of our core values is excellence. If we are in the pursuit of excellence then we must always be on the lookout for "Best Practices" that we can incorporate to make us better, more efficient, excellent.

In these articles we will be putting out what we have found to be "Best Practices" in many areas that you may find helpful. You can test them against what you are doing and see if they work for you.

We encourage you to reach out into this great organization of ours and learn from each other.

In short: Just go.



Wing Staff News

- Aerospace Education Upcoming Events - AEX submission / Activity Report
- The process for submission of Wing Level Awards and Wing Level promotions can be located here:
  - https://ncwg.cap.gov/directorates/personnel/awardsubmission
  - https://ncwg.cap.gov/directorates/personnel/promotions

The State of the Staff

Maj Brent Wooters, Chief of Staff, NCWG

The Wing staff is made up of a lot of knowledge and experiences that come from outside of the Civil Air Patrol…but there are very few that require requisite knowledge, professional experience and certification that must be attained prior to being placed in the duty position. The first thought that comes to mind is probably a pilot and that would be correct. However this month I would like to focus on a group of members that often operates in the background and rarely seen or noted until needed.

Health Service Officers (HSO) are required to be professionally trained and certified in some aspect of healthcare to be slotted in that duty position. Often they operate as doctors, nurses, paramedics and EMTs in their professional careers. While Civil Air Patrol does not function as a medical provider or emergency medical service, and the HSOs perform basic lifesaving measures and first aid…they possess skills, training and experience well beyond.

The summer is a busy time of the year for the Health Service Officers and they participate in the planning and execution of several events throughout the wing to include encampment, Cadet Leadership School, Ranger Training Weekend and SAREX's at many different echelons. These healthcare professionals stand ready to protect our members and mitigate medical incidents.

The Wing Health Service Officer is Lt Staten Young and he has been working diligently to staff HSOs at every level. Squadron commanders should make every effort to slot an HSO in their unit and use them in planning and execution of events at their level. Please reach out to the Wing HSO when you are planning events and need HSO involvement.

