May 2026
Issue 1

THE COMMAND REVIEW

The latest news, announcements, and events from the Wing

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2026 Spring Ranger Training Weekend

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **05/29-30/2026 - Mountain Fury Flying Clinic - Asheville, NC**
- **05/30/2026 - Eastern SAREX - Tar River Composite Squadron**
- **06/06-07/2026 - All Hazards IMT Class - Wing Headquarters**
- **06/11-14/2026 - NC 307 High Adventure Challenge - Oak Ridge Military Academy**
- **06/13/2026 - Group 2 PODS Training - Triangle North Executive Airport**
- **06/20/2026 - Group 4 PODS Training - 3000 Aviation Dr. Winston-Salem, NC**
- **06/27/2026 - Group 5 PODS Training - Seymour Johnson AFB**

This newsletter is produced by the Office of the Chief of Staff. If you have a question or topic you would like to see discussed here please complete the form at https://ncwg.cap.gov/about/the-command-review-newsletter.

THE COMMAND REVIEW



The Commander's Desk

Col Brendan Kearns, Commander, NCWG

North Carolina Wing,

Welcome to the inaugural issue of the North Carolina Wing Commander's Newsletter. This marks an important milestone in how we connect as a wing and share our story. This newsletter will serve as a regular communication channel from your command team—keeping you informed, aligned, and inspired as we move forward together.

Our goal is not only to provide updates on priorities and progress, but also to create a central hub for wing activities, announcements, and event registration—reducing inbox clutter while ensuring you have everything you need in one place. Each issue will also be archived on the wing website so you can reference it anytime.

Since assuming command in January, I have been truly energized by the incredible pace and spirit of this wing. There is rarely a weekend without meaningful activity across our formations. Whether in Cadet Programs, Emergency Services, Operations, or Education and Training, you are showing—day in and day out—that the North Carolina Wing is fully engaged, mission-focused, and committed to excellence.

One of the first priorities in my commander's intent was improving the awards process. Recognizing our people—both cadets and senior members—is essential to building a culture of excellence and appreciation. While there is still some work ahead, we have made significant progress in reducing delays, and the positive feedback reflects the collective effort across the Command Staff, groups, and squadrons.

Equally important has been increasing the visibility and engagement of the Wing Command Staff at the squadron level. Leadership should be present, accessible, and engaged—and we are committed to being exactly that. Our goal is to support you where you serve and reinforce that we are one team.

As we look ahead, there are several key areas essential to maintaining our mission readiness:

- Driver Orientation Training (DOT): With the implementation of CAPR 132-1, DOT training is required as part of the Vehicle Risk Management Program. The grace period expires at the end of May. Members with a CAP driver's license should complete this requirement promptly.
- Cadet Protection Training (CPPT): CPPT is mandatory for all adult members and cadets age 18 and older. Effective August 31, 2025, this training must be renewed annually. Staying current is essential for participation and safety.

In closing, I want to personally thank each of you. What makes North Carolina Wing exceptional is not just the tempo—it is the dedication, professionalism, and passion you bring to every mission. You are building something remarkable. I am honored to serve alongside you and excited for what we will accomplish together as we continue to strengthen mission readiness, uphold high standards, develop future leaders, and advance our core missions.

Together, we are not just keeping pace—we are setting the standard.

'North Carolina Leads the Way.'



The NCO Corp Briefing

CMSgt Christopher Cozzi, Command NCO, NCWG

Let me be clear—standards matter. Readiness matters. Discipline matters. And every single one of you plays a role in whether this Wing meets the mark or falls short.

Across North Carolina Wing, I continue to see members stepping up, putting in the time, and getting after the mission. That's what right looks like. But we are not here to be average—we are here to be exceptional.

Excellence is not accidental. It is a decision you make every day:

When you show up prepared—or you don't.

When you enforce standards—or you let them slide.

When you lead—or you wait for someone else to do it.

We don't wait. We act. We train. We execute.

Every mission we support, every cadet we develop, every community we serve—those are not just tasks. Those are responsibilities. And they demand your full effort, your focus, and your professionalism.

If you are wearing this uniform, you are expected to:

Know your job

Train to standard

Hold the line on discipline

Take care of your people …No exceptions.

To our senior leaders—your example sets the tone. Your standards become the Wing's standards. If you accept less, you get less.

To our cadets—you are not future leaders. You are leaders now. Start acting like it. Bring the energy, bring the discipline, and raise the bar for those around you.

Here's the bottom line:
We are building a Wing that is ready, capable, and trusted—every time, everywhere.

That doesn't happen on its own. It happens because each of you decides to do the hard things, the right way, every day.

Stay sharp. Stay disciplined. Stay focused.

Let's get after it—and continue to prove that North Carolina Wing leads the way.





The Deputy Commander's Corner

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

The Importance of North Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol Unit Emblems and Heraldry

Unit emblems and heraldry are far more than artwork on a uniform. Within the wing, they represent identity, heritage, professionalism, and pride. These symbols connect our members to the long tradition of service performed by CAP volunteers across our state and the nation.

Every emblem tells a story. A unit's design may reflect its local community, aviation history, emergency services mission, or connection to the region it serves. For the North Carolina Wing, heraldry also honors the state's proud aviation heritage as the birthplace of powered flight. These emblems remind our members that they are part of something larger than themselves.

Heraldry strengthens morale and esprit de corps throughout the Wing. For cadets especially, wearing an approved squadron patch creates a sense of belonging and accomplishment. It builds pride in the unit and reinforces commitment to CAP's core missions of Emergency Services, Aerospace Education, and Cadet Programs.

Professional, standardized emblems also enhance organizational identity and credibility when supporting state and local agencies during missions and disaster response operations. They demonstrate discipline, unity, and respect for CAP traditions.

Most importantly, unit emblems preserve history. They honor the members who served before us while inspiring future generations of volunteers. By maintaining meaningful and approved heraldry, North Carolina Wing ensures its legacy of service, excellence, and professionalism continues for years to come.

If you haven't submitted your unit's emblem and heraldry yet, please do so today. For additional information regarding the Civil Air Patrol Heraldry Program, see CAPR 110-3 and the North Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol website.

https://ncwg.cap.gov/directorates/administration/unit-emblems-heraldry



Wing Staff News

- Administrative Officer Lt Tina Redner has requested that all emails for her come to her NCWG email address at tina.redner@ncwgcap.org
- Please send all email going to the Wing Personnel Officers to NCWGDirectorOfPersonnel@ncwg.cap.gov

The State of the Staff

Maj Brent Wooters, Chief of Staff, NCWG

After I joined the Civil Air Patrol as a new member in 2017 I kept hearing "The Wing" mentioned but really had no idea what that even meant. It was quite some time before I actually had contact with someone from "The Wing" and I am not sure I still had a grasp of what it was or what actually happened there. It was some time later before I had exposure to the Wing Commander and the Wing staff.

When Col Kearns extended me the opportunity to serve as the Chief of Staff for the Wing he made it very clear that his intent was for the Wing Command Staff as well as the Wing staff not to reside high up on Mount Olympus but to rather exist amongst the membership. The Command Staff would be directly involved in the success and evolution of the groups and squadrons and that occurs by being present and accessible. I carry that same mantle for the Wing staff.

Civil Air Patrol is set up with different echelons and we all know that the squadron is where the recruiting, retention, growth and excitement occurs. The other echelons exist to make all of those things possible at the squadron. We set that tone for the Wing staff at the very first staff meeting and set our North Star as the success of the squadrons and how do we assist them with that success. The goal of the Wing staff is to first have a trained and ready bench of subject matter experts and mentors that are triple stacked in each directorate…nothing rests on the shoulders of one member. Next, through the groups we will develop programs, accountability checks, and resources for the squadrons to make their path to success that much easier. I encourage each member to review the organizational chart on the NCWG webpage and familiarize yourself with the members that serve on the Wing staff…they should not be strangers to the membership and are in their positions to assist.

Through the future editions of the Command Review newsletter we will highlight the different directorates and members of the Wing staff. You will be able to learn who these dedicated members are and how they can assist you and your squadrons in your CAP journey, but this is not a one way street. The NCWG webpage has a form on the page where the newsletter resides that allows you to submit questions, concerns and comments for the Wing Command Staff or the Wing staff. Please use this as a tool for your success and as has always been my policy in every position that I have been honored to hold within CAP, my door is always open to the members.