



Civil Air Patrol
U.S. Air Force Auxiliary

OREGON WING



Teamwork Yields National Championship

Working toward their common goal — victory — are (from left) Cadet Cpts. Joshua Vanrenterghem and Luke Van Sickle, Cadet Lt. Col. Rhett Miller, and Cadet 1st Lt. Colton Swift.

On April 17, 2021, the Oregon Wing's Aurora Composite Squadron claimed Civil Air Patrol's first Air Force Association StellarXplorers national championship. The team's four cadet officers had worked together at least three years, placing second the previous year. During the 2021 competition, the team members never met in person — because of pandemic-related restrictions everything was done virtually.

The Oregon Wing is proud of the Aurora squadron's StellarXplorers teams, which has reached the national championships four years out of five. That success is due in large part to the cadets' strong adherence to CAP's core values — integrity, respect,

volunteer service, and excellence.

Integrity was evident in the members' trust and teamwork. No one cadet could complete the competition requirements in the allotted time. Preparation and participation called for carrying out individual responsibilities. The members' respect for each other's abilities and work ethic placed the team ahead of the competition. Their mutual respect grew each year.

CAP membership gave the cadets the opportunity to compete in StellarXplorers. Participation wasn't available in surrounding schools.

Striving toward excellence, the cadets' preparation, teamwork, and performance improved each year.

They could see the improvement, especially as the competitions became increasingly difficult. They have become a model for fellow cadets.

The Air Force Association's StellarXplorers National Space Design Competition provides an outstanding STEM opportunity for high school students. Competing teams use specialized software, logic, problem-solving, and teamwork to solve scenarios involving systems missions and constraints. They provide solutions to a typical space design problem, such as orbit determination, satellite component selection, and launch vehicle planning.

Volunteer Members

263 adult members
230 cadets
63 aircrew personnel
332 emergency responders

Squadrons

13 locations statewide

Aircraft

8 single-engine

Vehicles

19 vehicles

Interoperable Communications

10 VHF/FM repeaters
218 VHF/FM stations
38 HF stations

Missions

7 search and rescue missions

16 lives saved*

29 finds*

** Includes lives saved and finds credited with national team support*

5 disaster relief missions

31 air defense intercept training and evaluation missions

1 CAP, Air Force ROTC, and Air Force Junior ROTC cadet orientation flight mission

3 other Air Force support missions

12 training missions

2 other missions in support of partner agencies and organizations or local municipalities

Significant Events Supported

- Felix Keynote
- Felix Hawks
- Oregon wildfire mission infrastructure
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Lower Columbia and John Day bird surveys
- Army Corps of Engineers Burn Area surveys
- Bootleg Fire response

COVID-19 Mission Support

- Vaccination clinic staffing

Cadet Flying

413 CAP, Air Force ROTC, and Air Force Junior ROTC cadet orientation flights

Total Hours Flown

955

Financial

\$1,731,840 value of wing's volunteer hours

National Commander

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Region Commander (Interim)

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Wing Commander

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