

Cornelius Robinson Coffey Composite Squadron, IL-332

Civil Air Patrol is a volunteer organization that has a vast amount of adults who give their time and talent to the program. You may ask why we participate in this program. For some, it may be to help our community, assist our children, or to receive prior military experience. We all have different reasons why we participate, but the ultimate goal is the same; to give back and to impact not only our lives but to touch others, especially the youth. This is not an easy task. It takes dedication. Our mission is to provide the youth of our nation a quality program that enhances their leadership skills through an interest in aviation and simultaneously, provide services to the United States Air Force and the local community. Civil Air Patrol's (CAP), American's Air Force Auxiliary, Vision Statement is building the nation's finest force of citizen volunteers performing missions for America.



Interested in aviation? Or maybe the military? If so, the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program is for you. If you're over 12 years old and looking for a challenge, join us for an informative introduction to Civil Air Patrol, the official civilian auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. Meet CAP cadets and hear first-hand what it's like to be a cadet. Learn about the incredible opportunities CAP has to offer, including flight training, leadership development, summer activities, academic scholarships, and much more. We'll explain all the benefits of belonging to one of America's finest youth programs. Parents, please join us for this event as well. CAP adult leaders will be on hand to answer your questions and tell you about CAP opportunities for adults.



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Thornwood High School, 17101 South Park Ave., Room 1104

Tuesday's at 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Squadron Commander – Capt. Tenia Curtis – (708) 698-4647 or Capt. L Willis – (708) 220-2500

Deputy Commander of Cadets – Lt. Alicia Williams – (773) 220-5193



ADDING VALUE TO THE SCHOOL

Some of the benefits students and schools receive by partnering with CAP include:

Students

- Develop leadership skills
- Experience the thrill of flying
- Test-fly potential careers
- Earn rank and awards
- Qualify for college scholarships
- Solidify their moral character
- Make friends and have fun

Schools

- Strengthen students' discipline and reduce referrals
- Offer an alternative to drugs and violence
- Boost attendance through high student morale
- Acquire new opportunities for peer mentoring
- Improve student participation in community service
- Provide students with a meaningful after-school activity
- Provide an enhanced STEM-based curriculum proven interesting and challenging to students

CURRICULUM

Civil Air Patrol is a character education program. Cadets meet once a week for 2 hours throughout the school year, usually after school, and into the summer, if so desired. Additionally, the squadron is encouraged to hold one special event per month on a Saturday. To achieve its goal of developing tomorrow's aerospace leaders, the Cadet Program is organized around four main themes:

Leadership

CAP introduces cadets to Air Force perspectives on leadership through classroom instruction, mentoring, and hands-on learning. First, cadets learn to follow, but as they progress, they learn how to lead small teams, manage projects, think independently and develop skills for adult life. Popular leadership activities include color guard, public speaking, and team leadership problems.

Aerospace

CAP inspires in youth a love of aviation, space, and technology. Cadets study the fundamentals of aerospace science in the classroom, and experience flight first-hand in CAP aircraft. Summer activities allow cadets to explore aerospace careers. Popular aerospace activities include model rocketry, satellite tracking, and hands-on projects.

Fitness

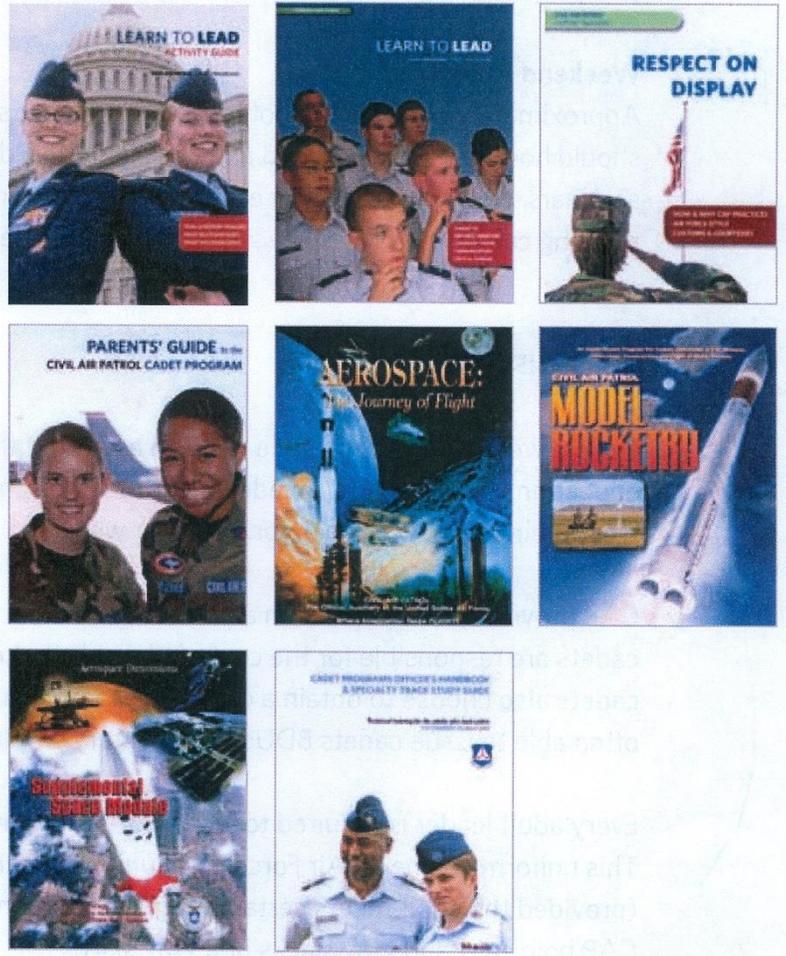
CAP encourages cadets to develop a lifelong habit of regular exercise. The Cadet Program promotes fitness through calisthenics, hiking, rappelling, volleyball, competitions and other activities. The cadet's fitness test is aligned with the President's Challenge.

Character

CAP challenges cadets to live the CAP core values of integrity, volunteer service, excellence and respect. Through character forums, cadets discuss ethical issues relevant to teens. CAP also encourages cadets to promote a drug free ethic in their schools and communities.

Some of the topics covered in the aerospace curriculum include:

- Science of flight
- Space and spacecraft
- Weather
- Model rocketry
- and more



Some of the topics covered in the leadership curriculum include:

- Character
- Air Force traditions
- Leadership theory
- Communications
- Critical thinking
- and more

Encampment

Each year, the wing headquarters hosts an encampment. One of the most exciting opportunities in the Cadet Program, the encampment is typically one week in duration and hosted on a nearby military base. Cadets test-fly aerospace careers, enjoy special tours, tackle obstacle courses, and develop leadership skills. An activity fee of \$100 to \$300 per cadet covers the cost of lodging and meals. Encampment is an optional activity, but cadets who remain in CAP longer than two years will need to graduate so they can advance in the program.

Weekend Activities

Approximately once per school term (or twice per semester), the squadron should host a special weekend activity. Field trips, drill competitions, leadership seminars, day hikes and other events that are not conducive to a weekly squadron meeting can be offered as special Saturday activities.

THE UNIFORM

Cadets wear an Air Force-style uniform as part of their leadership and character education. In sponsoring a cadet squadron, the school agrees to allow cadets to wear their uniform to school one day per week.

CAP provides each cadet with a blue service uniform (pants, shirt, hat, belt). The cadets are responsible for the cost of plain black dress shoes and insignia. Most cadets also choose to obtain a camouflage uniform battle dress uniforms. CAP is often able to issue cadets BDUs from military surplus.

Every adult leader is required to wear a CAP uniform when working with cadets. This uniform can be an Air Force-style uniform similar to what the cadets wear (provided the adult meets certain weight and grooming standards), or a simple CAP polo shirt and gray slacks or a gray skirt.