



LEGEND

- 1** CAP flies the world's largest fleet of single-engine planes — 550 aircraft, mostly Cessnas.
- 2** CAP cadets often go door-to-door to evaluate damage and check on residents' well-being in the wake of disasters.
- 3** CAP's search and rescue mission includes locating missing hikers, children and others who are lost.
- 4** CAP members stepped up to provide emergency relief and damage assessment when Hurricane Ike hit southern Texas and Louisiana in September 2008.
- 5** Members' response to disasters and other emergencies includes helping transport and distribute bottled water and other vital supplies to victims and emergency responders.
- 6** Members often fill and stack sandbags when floodwaters from swollen waterways threaten to inundate low-lying areas as a result of snowmelt or unusually heavy rains.
- 7** Through CAP's ACE (Aerospace Connections in Education) program, educators work to further students' appreciation of aviation and STEM subjects — science, technology, engineering and math.
- 8** Every December, CAP members honor the nation's fallen at Wreaths Across America observations, in which up to 1 million wreaths are placed on veterans' graves.
- 9** CAP's World War II subchasers flew coastal patrols that discouraged and eventually stopped German U-boat attacks on U.S. oil tankers bound for Europe.
- 10** Women played an important role during CAP's formative years during World War II, serving both on the ground and in the air.
- 11** During the 1940s and 1950s CAP established a broad nationwide communications infrastructure of scheduled radio nets and trained operators.
- 12** President John F. Kennedy greeted visiting CAP cadets in the White House Rose Garden in May 1962. "I'm sorry I wasn't in (CAP) when I was younger," he said.
- 13** President Dwight D. Eisenhower shook hands with eager CAP cadets during a White House visit in the 1950s.
- 14** CAP cadets met future President Ronald Reagan when he was governor of California during the dedication of Perris Dam in May 1973.
- 15** CAP members are patriotic citizens whose volunteerism is driven by love of country.
- 16** CAP's World War II mission was recognized Dec. 10, 2014, with presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal honoring the service of its founding members.
- 17** National Blue Beret cadets perform a variety of services at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh in Wisconsin, including marshaling aircraft, sweeping flight lines and helping search for missing aircraft.
- 18** Col. Zack Mosley flew as a CAP subchaser along the Atlantic Coast during the early months of World War II and also promoted the organization throughout the 39 years his "Smilin' Jack" comic strip ran in newspapers nationwide.
- 19** For many cadets, CAP's rocketry program is a favorite part of aerospace education.
- 20** CAP's more than 24,000 cadets receive valuable training in leadership and character development through a variety of activities.
- 21** Every CAP cadet under 18 is eligible for five orientation flights in a powered plane and glider.
- 22** Aerial photography is CAP's predominant emergency services mission.
- 23** Ground team missions require careful planning and preparation as well as expert map-reading skills.
- 24** Col. George Boyd, one of the original Tuskegee Airmen of World War II fame, first explored aviation as a CAP cadet in the New Jersey Wing.
- 25** U.S. Air Force Col. Nicole Malachowski, the first female pilot on the Air Force Thunderbirds aerial acrobatics team, traces her love of aviation to her six years as a CAP cadet in the California and Nevada wings in the late 1980s and early 1990s.
- 26** CAP's 55 gliders provide cadets and senior members with an appreciation for the principles of aviation through nonpowered flight.
- 27** CAP's hot-air balloons provide members with yet another avenue for experiencing flight.
- 28** CAP aircrews fly as targets in restricted airspace for U.S. Air Force intercept training missions.