

# **HISTORY OF ALABAMA WING**

## **CIVIL AIR PATROL**

Auxiliary of the United States Air Force



**1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018**

**HISTORY**  
*of* **ALABAMA**  
**WING CIVIL AIR**  
**PATROL**

Auxiliary of the United States Air Force

Prepared by

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Wing Historian

Reviewed by

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Alabama Wing Commander

Alabama Wing Headquarters  
Maxwell Air Force Base  
Alabama

## ALABAMA WING UNITS

\*Indicates a change of command during 2018. The name with the asterisk was the commander at the start of the year. The name on the top line is the commander at the end of 2018.

### **Alabama Wing Headquarters, AL 001**

**Commander – Col James B. Lewis**

Meeting Address

111 South Kuter Street  
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Meeting Times: 09:00 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday. Commander's Call held once every quarter.

### **Mobile Composite Squadron, AL-005**

**Commander – Maj Gilbert Wright**

Meeting Address

2241 Michigan Avenue  
Mobile, AL 36615

Meeting Times: 19:00 Monday

### **Tuscaloosa Composite Squadron, AL-024**

**Commander – Maj Mike Carr**

Meeting Address

Tuscaloosa Regional Airport  
Tuscaloosa, AL 35406

Meeting Times: 18:30 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday – Seniors 18:00 every Tuesday – Cadets

### **Dothan Composite Squadron, AL-029**

**Commander – Maj David M. McGonegal**

Meeting Address

Dothan Regional Airport  
750 Flight Line Drive  
Dothan, AL 36303

Meeting Times: 18:30 Monday Cadets meet every Monday.

**Maxwell Composite Squadron, AL-032**

**Commander – Capt Robert E. Colley**

\*Maj Gerardo Otero

Meeting Address

111 South Kuter Street  
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

Meeting Times: 18:30 Cadets meet every Tuesday

Meeting Times: 19:00 Seniors meet 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month.

**Muscle Shoals Composite Squadron, AL-041**

**Commander Capt Matthew C. Holt**

\* Maj Tommy Yates

Meeting Address

Muscle Shoals Airport  
Muscle Shoals, AL 35611

Meeting Times: 18:00 Every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday.

**Huntsville Senior Squadron, AL-055**

**Commander – Maj Raymond T. Downward**

Meeting Address

Madison City Exec Airport MDQ  
358 Bolling Road  
Meridianville, AL 35759

Meeting Times: 19:00 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday

**Gadsden Composite Squadron, AL-075**

**Commander –Maj Tamara L. Reed**

Meeting Address

5323 Airport Road  
Alabama National Guard Building  
Gadsden, AL 35904

Meeting Times: 17:00 Every Tuesday, except 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday.

**Bessemer Composite Squadron, AL-087**

**Commander –Capt William T. Blake**

\*Capt Robert G. Newsome. Jr.

Meeting Address

700 Mitchell Field Road  
Bessemer, AL 35022

Meeting Times: 18:30-21:00 Monday nights.

**117<sup>th</sup> Air National Guard Composite Squadron, AL-090**

**Commander – Maj Thad Mullins**

Meeting Address

5401 East Lake Blvd.  
Building 205/117<sup>th</sup> ANG  
Birmingham, AL 35217-3595

Meeting Times: 19:00 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday.

**Auburn Composite Squadron, AL-113**

**Commander Capt Brian W. Kervin**

\*Capt Gwynedd T. Webster

Meeting Address

2150 Mike Hubbard Blvd.  
Auburn, AL 36830-489

Meeting Times: 18:30-20:30 Cadets meet every Tuesday of the month.

**Chilton County Composite Squadron, AL-117**

This squadron was deactivated September 28, 2018.

**Commander – Major Samuel A. Ogilvie**

Meeting Address

550 Airport Road  
Chilton County Fairgrounds Arena  
Clanton, AL 35045

**Pell City Composite Squadron, AL-118**

**Commander-1<sup>st</sup> Lt Timothy J. Gamblin**

Meeting Address

240 Airport Road  
St Clair County Airport,  
Pell City, AL 35128-4120

Meeting Times: 18:00 Thursday. Cadets meet weekly.

**Redstone Composite Squadron, AL-119**

**Commander – Lt Col Kim A. Miller**

\*Lt Col Mike Guthrie

Meeting Address

Central Church of Christ  
407 East Clinton Avenue  
Huntsville, AL 35758

Meeting Times: 18:00-20:00 Mondays. Cadets meet every Monday, Seniors 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Springville Cadet Squadron, AL-126**

**Commander-Maj Michael McIntyre**

Meeting Address

198 Marietta Road  
Springville, AL 35146

Meeting Times: 18:00-20:00 Every Tuesday.

**Central Alabama Senior Squadron, AL-132**

**Commander – Lt Col John M. Traylor**

\*Maj Carl G. Rossomme

Meeting Address

Shelby County Services Building  
Pelham, AL 35124

Meeting Times: 18:30 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month.

**General Joe Wheeler Composite Squadron, AL -134**

**Commander-Lt Col Robert B. Williams**

\*Maj Joseph F. Jeffries

Meeting Address

1000 Bethel Road  
Hartsell, AL 35640

Meeting Times: 1800 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday for seniors, every Tuesday for cadets

**Mountain Lakes Composite Squadron, AL-135**

**Commander – Lt Col John Randolph**

Meeting Address:

Guntersville Municipal Airport  
405 Buck Island Road  
Guntersville, Alabama

Meeting Times: 1800 Mondays

**TAG (Tennessee-Alabama-Georgia), Flight, AL 136  
Commander-Capt Jonathan D. Aultman**

Meeting Address:

3665 Alabama Highway 73  
Bryant, Alabama 35958-4801

Meeting Times: 18:30-2100 Monday

**Alabama State Legislative Squadron, AL-999  
Commander – Bruce P. Baughman**

Meeting Address

111 S Kuter St, Bld 711  
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112

## Historian

The Wing stood up two groups on January 1, 2018. They were named Group 1 (North) and Group 2 (South). Col Mike Oakman was appointed the first Commander for Group 1 and Lt Col Harold Coghlan was appointed the first Commander for Group 2.

The Cullman Composite Squadron, SER-AL-134, moved their meeting location to Hartselle, Alabama. The Squadron change of command ceremony was conducted at the Huntsville SAREX. During the change of command, Col Lewis announced the name change. With the unit move, a name change was requested to be more representative of the new location. A search was conducted to identify a local historical figure with a military background that the unit could be named for. Joe "Fighting Joe" was selected and submitted. Wheeler is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. Prior to the name change being granted, permission had to be obtained from the family. Lucy Legrand Walser, a great great granddaughter granted permission on March 19, 2018.



The unit patch represents the fighting spirit of Lieutenant General Joe Wheeler. His moniker "Fighting Joe" is embodied in the patch. The Red and White background are the traditional colors of Calvary. General Wheeler was described as a brilliant Calvary tactician and rose to become the Chief of Calvary of the Confederate States of America. His tactics were so well respected that the United States Army adopted his tactics as the standard after the War Between the States. His fighting spirit is represented with the crossed sabers, the traditional arms of the Calvary in the attach.

Wheeler served in the United States Congress prior to being appointed a Major General of Volunteers in the Spanish American War. He was the senior member of the commission which negotiated the surrender of Santiago and the Spanish Army in Cuba. He was commissioned Brigadier General in the United States Regular Army in 1900. Wheeler Dam, a hydroelectric dam on the Tennessee River, was built in the mid-1930s as part of the New Deal-era initiative to improve navigation on the river. It is named for Congressman Wheeler, an early advocate of federal development of the Muscle Shoals Area.

The Mobile Composite Squadron, SER-AL-005 revised their old patch that was designed by Lt Col Frank Brown a number of years ago. The new patch was developed with the assistance of Lt Col Stephen Howard, Assistant Wing Historian. Howard was also instrumental in developing the CAP National Headquarters requirements for unit patches.



The circular design with the lower tab meets the Air Force Standard for squadron level patches. The tab is blue to represent the dominant color in insignia of the Civil Air patrol parent organization, United States Air Force. Blue also represents the squadron search and rescue air operations. The tab displays the name of the unit in contrasting white lettering.



The new design retains the yellow background superimposed with a red counterclockwise rotating symbol indicating a Hurricane. Yellow represents caution. CAP activities are conducted with safety as the primary objective. The yellow reminds members to exercise caution in all activities. The inter symbol of the patch is red. This represents thus the urgency of the emergency services missions that the squadron performs. Red is also the universal warning sign color for a Hurricane. The red counterclockwise rotating symbol, indicating a Hurricane, represents the squadron's extensive emergency services activity performed both before and after a storm.

The center of the patch is white and represents the eye of a Hurricane, which is calm. The calm nature in which we perform all of our activities supports our committed goals of caution and safety. The squadron charter number "SER-AL 005" is displayed in the center of the new patch.



The patch to the left served as the Mobile Composite Squadron patch for a number of years. It is included in the Annual History to provide historical documentation of the earlier squadron patch.