



Alexandria



1st Lt  
Rebecca  
Walsh

Anoka



Maj  
Patrick  
Wolfgang

Crow Wing



Capt  
Heike  
Dodge

Hutchinson



Capt  
Andrew  
Heisel

St Cloud



Lt Col  
Shawn  
Warneke

St Croix



Maj  
Mike  
Bordonaro

## Minnesota Wing Group 2

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*Try not. Do, or do not. There is no try.*

*Yoda*

### Articles

Keep the articles coming, let everyone know the outstanding things your squadron is doing.

## Wing Conference

It was great to see everyone again at Wing Conference this year. After two years away due to COVID I'm glad to have been able to be back in person again.

Overall Group 2 had more participant in the Wing Conference than any over group! St Cloud led the way with the most attendees by and unit with 24 members!

What made this conference even more special is all of the awards that the squadrons of Group 2 took home! This goes to show that Group 2 leads the way in MN Wing.

## SUI

We're getting into the SUI season for Group 2 again. We have several squadrons due to be inspected again, with others not far behind leading into next year.

Remember to get everything in on time, when it comes to your unit's turn. Also be sure to close out those discrepancies as soon as possible, this has been a emphasis of MN Wing command.

If you need any help be sure to reach out to me and I will do what I can.

### Coming Soon:

In will soon be starting up a Specialty Track Mentoring Program for Group 2. The first wave will be to send out a survey to the membership seeking individuals interested in being mentors. I'll need your help to distribute this survey to your respective squadrons. The goal is to not only assist in member specialty tracks, but also to assist them in understanding the requirements of their position.

# Fundraising

Fundraising is an integral part of not only keeping the lights on but also keeping your Unit active. An active Unit will thrive and then assist with more fundraising, and that is a win/win scenario. If your Unit has a need rally behind it to raise money, even if you have some set aside. People will rally behind a cause as they want a defined cause to support. After you receive a donation from an individual or a business, make sure that you thank them for their donation and let them know what you did with it. Donors get tired of giving money and never being thanked or knowing what the money went to help with. If you give a personal thank you, such as a letter with pictures of what you did and a quote or two about how it affected the people that benefited from the contribution, the donors will be more willing to contribute again in the future.

If you have Cadets, get them involved. Wreaths Across America is one great way to involve the Cadets as they can request donation for the wreath sponsorships and then go down and actually lay the wreaths on the graves of our fallen veterans. Every Cadet and SM that we have spoken with that has attended this event has been moved by it and has so many positive things to say about it. Donors love it when we come back with pictures of the Cadets laying the wreaths and hear the impact that it has on the Cadets. This past year we had a brand-new Cadet that got to go as a Civil Air Patrol member and lay a wreath on the grave of his father! Another way to get involved is to help your local VFW, American Legion, Lyons Club, or other local organizations and most in turn will donate to your Unit from their gambling funds. On top of that, all of the time the Cadets and SMs put into these events is community service and it brings the community service into your Unit as well as benefits the Unit.

If you have a major project, you can look into grants from Walmart/Sam's – just stay in your Unit's territory so other Units can request in their own territory. The secret is to submit the request online and then go in person to the facility and speak with the managers and explain your need and continue to keep in personal contact until the grant is approved. You can also go to any place that has pull tabs as they are required by law to donate a certain percentage of the profits to 501c3s. Make sure to get your Unit's Tax ID number and make sure to notify Wing that it is a donation and Wing will send the official Tax Donation form to them.

And last, but not least, promote Civil Air Patrol through your appearance and professionalism. Our Squadron has had multiple events that we have been asked to volunteer for and after the event was over, we have received a request from the organizations to attend a meeting and received unsolicited donations for our hard work and professionalism. Remember we are the face of the United States Air Force Auxiliary!

**Written by 1st Lt Leah Staup, CDS, St Cloud Composite Squadron.**

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# New Commanders

Group 2 is getting ready to welcome in two new commanders. During the month of June there will be a change of command for both St Croix and Anoka.

On the 2nd of June Maj Mike Bordonaro will be relinquishing command to Capt Brian Alwin. I want to thank Maj Bordonaro for the extraordinary efforts he has made for the St Croix squadron over his term. Unfortunately he will be leaving us in MN as he retires to another state. I know I speak for everyone when I say he will be missed, but he is always welcome back to MN Wing.

On the 14th of June Maj Patrick Wolfram will be relinquishing command to Capt Ryan Kenny. Again I would like to thank Maj Wolfram for his efforts in Anoka, making it one of the largest squadrons in MN Wing. He has been in command of Anoka for five years now, and during that time Anoka has continues to lead the way and be an example for all other squadron.

Thank you to both gentlemen for all they have done, and thank you to the gentlemen that have come forward to lead their respective squadrons.