
News Release

NEW YORK WING
CIVIL AIR PATROL
U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY

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Civil Air Patrol Inducts Rep. Hanna into Congressional Squadron

Rep. Richard Hanna, R-Barneveld (24th Congressional District), was inducted into the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) Congressional Squadron Jan. 4 and received a briefing on CAP's homeland security, search-and-rescue and disaster relief missions.



During a ceremony in his Utica Congressional Office, Hanna received membership credentials from a New York Wing delegation that included Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Tom Carello of Syracuse and three wing staff officers, Lt. Col. Andy Liddle of Oneonta, Lt. Col. Gerald Marketos of Rome and Lt. Col. Larry Brinker of Binghamton. Since he is a pilot himself, Hanna also received a CAP flight suit.

As a Congressional member, Hanna wears the honorary grade of lieutenant colonel and is authorized to fly in CAP aircraft and participate in CAP activities.

"The congressman's passion for aviation and his record of service to community and country make him a perfect fit for the Civil Air Patrol," noted Carello.

"As an aviator, and a citizen keenly interested in what lies ahead for America," Hanna said, "I find the Civil Air Patrol's missions of emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education are the perfect blend of community service, and youth development and education with an aviation orientation. That gives me the opportunity to share my passion for flying and strong belief in service to others with today's youth."



The congressman also noted that he was "looking forward to getting more involved with CAP's search and rescue and homeland security missions that are so important to our nation at this time."

Liddle, Marketos and Brinker, who are government relations advisors for New York Wing Commander Col. Jack Ozer, briefed Hanna on recent disaster relief and homeland security missions in the state, including aerial damage assessment and ground team support after severe storms and flooding, and flying CAP planes as rogue aircraft for the Air National Guard's F-15 fighter interception practice.

Hanna invited New York Wing to get involved with his New York Defense Working Group, whose aim is to protect and enhance military installations in the state. Hanna formed the bipartisan alliance with downstate Rep. Tim Bishop, D-Southampton, and 18 House members are part of the working group.



He expressed his support of pending legislation that would award the Congressional Gold Medal for the Civil Air Patrol's World War II service as well as his support for restoring \$4.5 million for CAP operations and maintenance, \$10 million for aircraft and \$1 million for communications equipment to the 2013 Defense budget.

The Civil Air Patrol is the search-and-rescue, cadet-mentoring and aerospace education auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force, with more than 61,000 members nationwide. CAP operates a fleet of 550 aircraft, and in its Air Force auxiliary role, performs 90 percent of continental U.S. inland search-and-rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center and was credited by the AFRCC with saving 54 lives in fiscal year 2011. Its volunteers also perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of federal, state and local agencies. The members play a leading role in aerospace education and serve as mentors to nearly 27,000 young people

participating in CAP cadet programs. CAP received the World Peace Prize in 2011 and has been performing missions for America for 70 years.

Photos:

Civil Air Patrol inducted U.S. Rep. Richard Hanna (center), R-NY 24th Dist., into its Congressional Squadron. Presenting him with a CAP flight suit is New York Wing assistant government relations advisor Lt. Col. Gerry Marketos, MD, of Rome, and handing him membership credentials is New York Wing Vice Commander Lt. Col. Tom Carello (right) of Syracuse.

NY Wing Government Relations Advisor Lt. Col. Andy Liddle of Oneonta presents Congressman Richard Hanna with his Civil Air Patrol ID card.

Congressman Richard Hanna and NY Wing Government Relations Advisor Lt. Col. Larry Brinker of Binghamton discuss federal legislation and the Civil Air Patrol's homeland security and disaster relief capabilities.

Rep. Richard Hanna (24th Congressional district in upstate NY) proudly displays his CAP ID card.