



What an amazing journey readers will experience in this issue of the *Volunteer!* While there are always many wonderful stories to enjoy in every issue, this one is especially heart-warming. Our anchor story on Eric Boe, for example, chronicles the impact of CAP's Cadet Program in helping him reach his goal of becoming an Air Force pilot. Ultimately, he added astronaut to his list of accomplishments! Boe is living his dream. He recently piloted the STS-126, the Space Shuttle Endeavour, arriving at the International Space Station with equipment *and* his Spatz coin in tow!

There's also in-depth coverage of CAP squadrons' success in securing Wreaths Across America sponsorships totaling more than \$200,000. Working with Worcester Wreath Co., our members raised more than \$72,000 for their own squadrons while also supporting wreath-laying activities at nearly 400 veterans' cemeteries and memorial gardens. A photo montage chronicling selected wreath-layings across America speaks to the heart of CAP's core mission of service to communities "Above and Beyond." Wreaths Across America is indeed a perfect service project for the CAP family — one that allows us to give back to our servicemen and -women and their loved ones.

Each issue of the magazine also features CAP's missions, and this one provides exceptional coverage of our members' CAPabilities — from responding to ice storms in Kentucky and to devastating floods in Washington, as well as helping save lives in Utah and Nevada. We even helped the University of Wisconsin survey the state's deer population.

CAP was credited with saving 91 lives last year, but our members daily touch the lives of countless others: the cadet who listens to the chaplain and finds new ways to interact with his parents, the adult member who realizes that a way to be relevant in this economy is to use the CAP network to find potential job openings, or the teacher who was about to give up trying to find ways to reach the students of today until he or she experienced a flight in CAP's Fly-A-Teacher program. CAP changes lives every day, and sometimes we "save" a few more than we may ever know.

In hindsight, the contents of this issue of the *Volunteer* represent service that's all in a day's work for us. CAP members volunteer to serve, and they professionally execute their duties with excellence every day, above and beyond the call of duty across our great nation.

Semper Vigilans!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Courter".

Maj. Gen. Amy S. Courter
CAP National Commander