

# United States Air Force Auxiliary



## Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol

**For Immediate Release**

**For more information contact:  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt Al Pabon, 612-296-0474**

### **Crow Wing Squadron Member Receives Eaker Award and is Minnesota Wing Cadet of the Year**

Breezy Point, MN – Cadet Lt Col Keelan Diehl is Civil Air Patrol's newest recipient of the LT Gen Ira Eaker Award. The award denotes successful completion of all sixteen achievements and four phases of the Civil Air Patrol Cadet Program. The Eaker Award recognizes cadet completion of the academic, leadership, moral leadership and physical fitness curriculum in existence since 1964.

Maj Gen Doyle Larson, USAF Ret. presented Cadet Diehl with the award during a ceremony at the breezy Inn resort on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

During the same program Cadet Diehl was presented with the Minnesota Wing Cadet of the year Award. This award recognized the outstanding achievements contributing to the success of CAP's missions over time. The award also recognizes the cadet's leadership and excellence in comparison to his peers.

Cadet Diehl was nominated to North Central Region for consideration as the region Cadet Of the Year.

Col Dale Hoium the Minnesota Wing Commander recognized Cadet Diehl's accomplishment with a Commander's Commendation Award.

Cadet Diehl is a member of Crow Wing Composite Squadron. The Squadron meets at the Brainerd Regional Airport on Monday Nights.

Cadet Diehl's Squadron Commander, Capt Elizabeth Pfungsten was presented with a US Air Force Torch Award. The award was presented by Lt Col Greg Tanoff. Colonel Tanoff is the CAP-USAF North Central Liaison Region Commander. The Torch Award recognizes the CAP Officer who had the most influence on Cadet Diehl's development as a cadet and young adult.

Civil Air Patrol's Cadet Programs provides a structured program for youth, from sixth grade through age 20. The program encompasses 16 achievement levels that include study in four areas aerospace education, physical training, leadership, and moral and ethical values. Upon completion of each achievement, the cadet earns increased cadet rank, decorations, awards, eligibility for national and international special activities, and an opportunity for flight and academic scholarships.

This award honors the late Air Force General Ira C. Eaker, aviation pioneer, career military officer and one of the chief architects and visionaries of the US Air Force.

Civil Air Patrol, the official U. S. Air Force Auxiliary, is a civilian, volunteer, nonprofit, service organization. The unpaid members perform more than 85 percent of inland search and rescue missions as tasked by the Air Force Rescue and Coordination Center. Volunteers also take a leading role in aerospace education and conduct one of America's finest youth programs through CAP Cadet Programs.

There are more than 1300 Civil Air Patrol members in Minnesota

For more information about Civil Air Patrol go to the Minnesota Wing website [www.mnwg.cap.gov](http://www.mnwg.cap.gov) or call 1-800-FLY-2338.

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**Minnesota Wing, Civil Air Patrol PO Box 11230, St. Paul, MN 55111-0230  
[www.mnwg.cap.gov](http://www.mnwg.cap.gov)**



Photo Caption

Major Gen Doyle Larson, USAF Retired (l) and Col Dale Hoium, MN Wing Commander (r) presents the Lt Gen Ira Eaker Award to C/Lt Col Keelan Diehl. Cadet Diehl was also recognized as the Minnesota Wing Cadet of the Year at the 2002 Wing Conference.

**Minnesota Wing, CAP USAF Auxiliary**  
This picture can be downloaded from the Minnesota Wing website at [www.mnwg.cap.gov/pa/releases.htm](http://www.mnwg.cap.gov/pa/releases.htm)

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