



[Home](#) > [News](#) > CAP News Online

Calif. squadrons assist at Capital Air Show, meet Thunderbirds' Malachowski

Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85 hosts members from 8 units; 35 cadets, 8 sr. members participate

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Maj. Nicole Malachowski (center) of the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds with California Wing cadets at the Capital Air Show.

2nd Lt. Aaron P. Yanagihara
Public Affairs Officer
Eugene L. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85
California Wing

CALIFORNIA – Eugene L. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85 recently hosted a full contingent of U.S. Civil Air Patrol members from northern California at the second annual Capital Air Show in Sacramento, with 35 cadets and eight senior members from nine different squadrons participating in flight line control before an estimated crowd of over 100,000 at Mather Field.

Joining the Carnahan members at the event were Sacramento Composite Squadron 14, East Bay Cadet Squadron 18, Travis Composite Squadron 22, Marin Air Rescue Squadron 23, Diablo Composite Squadron 44, Sierra Composite Squadron 72, Auburn Composite Squadron 92 and Redwood Empire Composite Squadron 157.

The main attraction was the performing Air Force Thunderbirds, but the highlight of the activity for the CAP members was a 45-minute private meeting with Maj. Nicole Malachowski, the Thunderbirds' No. 3 right wing pilot. A former CAP cadet captain and a member of the California and Nevada wings, Malachowski stressed to the cadets the

importance of getting good grades, not hanging out with bad crowds, having high self-esteem and staying away from drugs and alcohol.

After her open discussion and questions and answers, she signed autographs and provided personal photo opportunities for the cadets.

[« Back](#)
