



# Aerospace Education

March - April 2006

# News

Inspiring Students To Excel

## Register for NCASE Online for Chance to Win SWA Tickets

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#### Aerospace Education News

Aerospace Education News is the official aerospace education bimonthly publication of the Civil Air Patrol at CAP National Headquarters, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

**Judy Stone**  
Editor

#### Contributing Writers

Judy Rice  
Kathy Baucum  
Jeff Montgomery  
Claudine Sayegh

#### Printing Service

Terry Fontaine & CAP Print Plant

If you have news, events, or ideas we might consider for the newsletter, please submit them electronically to [jstone@cap.gov](mailto:jstone@cap.gov).

NCASE 2006 is just around the corner and now is the time to register for this outstanding event! As an added incentive for registering online, you will be entered into a drawing for two positive space passes on Southwest Airlines (expiration date of 12/31/07). These passes are valid on Southwest Airlines operated flights within the continental United States.

The drawing will be held at NCASE 2006 General Assembly on Oct. 21, Saturday, 4:15pm - 5:30pm. You need not be present to win. CAP wishes to thank Capt. Tom Saxon (CAP Lt.Col.), Southwest Airlines, for his support to making this opportunity available.

This year's event will be a great opportunity to network with colleagues and to hear and see educa-

tional leaders, aviation and space personalities, as well as industry representatives. This one-of-a-kind conference will help you bring the wonder of aviation and space to your students.

So, join us to hear motivational speakers, attend hands-on, minds-on workshop sessions, and interact with "the best in the field." Learn about connecting this fascinating subject with your entire curriculum and applying National Content Standards and No Child Left Behind. Educators will be eligible to earn

one Graduate Credit. This is THE one event you will not want to miss!

Watch the newsletter and website at [www.ncase.info](http://www.ncase.info) for updates and coming events. If you have questions, contact Claudine Edelblute at [edelblutec@si.edu](mailto:edelblutec@si.edu) or Judy Rice at [jrice@cap.gov](mailto:jrice@cap.gov).



**Oct. 19-21, 2006**  
**Crystal Gateway Marriott Hotel**  
**Arlington, VA**

# NCASE

## National Conference on Aviation and Space Education

[www.ncase.info](http://www.ncase.info)





## In the AEO spotlight ...

### Lt. Col. Mike McArdle

Civil Air Patrol is filled with many wonderful volunteers whose tireless efforts help make CAP the outstanding organization that it is today. These volunteers expertly accomplish CAP's missions on a routine basis, many times without fanfare or recognition, but with a sense of pride that comes with knowing they are making a difference for their organization and for their country. Lt. Col. Mike McArdle is a shining example of one such volunteer.

Mike is a retired school teacher with over thirty years teaching in the public schools of Wisconsin. Mike spent over twenty of those years teaching aviation and space education. He has become a mentor for hundreds of students, as well as for many teachers. His techniques and ideas speak of a limitless enthusiasm for learning, teaching, and flight. His passion for flight has become his means to motivate youth, showing them the joy of flight. He convinced his school district to allow him to fly students, parents, teachers, and administrators in an airplane or a hot air balloon.

Even when Mike wasn't teaching aviation or space topics, he infused

aviation/space activities into his other courses. While teaching urban geography he took thirty of his students for flights. He then developed a school board policy for teachers to fly students.

During his years in teaching, Mike was also rising through the ranks in the US Army Reserves. Mike was an Intelligence Officer who eventually became the Commandant of the Fourth Army Intelligence School and later the Commandant of the Fourth Army Training Center. He retired at the rank of Colonel.



Mike started his CAP career as an Aerospace Education Member while he was still teaching. About a year later, he became a senior member of CAP. He has served as an Aerospace Education Officer (AEO) at squadron, wing and region levels. At each level, his service to CAP has been outstanding. As the Wisconsin Director of Aerospace Education (DAE), Mike led his wing to receiving an outstanding rating on the 2002 Compliance Inspection. At the time, Wisconsin was the first wing to receive an outstanding. This same leadership led to Wisconsin



**High School students and teachers from Madison East High School learn about hot air balloons.**

Wing winning the AE Mission Award for best aerospace wing in the Great Lakes Region for 2004 and third overall in the nation.

Mike has always been willing to share his knowledge and expertise with others. Over the past several years, Mike has helped HQ CAP/LMA with many projects. Mike has the recurring role as an instructor with the National AEO School in Pensacola, Fl. In this role, Mike has shared his compliance inspection experiences, as well as his ideas about AE Plans of Action, with other DAEs and AEOs. His knowledge has helped many DAEs and AEOs receive excellent and outstanding ratings on compliance inspections.

In addition, Mike has conducted a seminar for several years at the National Conference for Aviation and Space Education (NCASE). His seminars have consisted of valuable information for DAEs and AEOs. According to Dr. Jeff Montgomery, an Aerospace Education Program Manager at HQ CAP, who has worked with Mike on many projects, "I rely on Mike's insights and intelligence, as well as his dedication to CAP, for invaluable ideas and commitment to the betterment of aerospace education. He is a tremendous asset, and we owe him our sincere gratitude for his many contributions."

For all of these reasons and more, Mike was inducted into NCASE's Crown Circle in 2002 for his extraordinary leadership and accomplishments in aerospace education. He is truly worthy of this prestigious award, and CAP is blessed to have Mike McArdle as a member.

# In the AEM spotlight ... Kenneth Huff

Kenneth Huff, an avid aerospace educator, teaches sixth grade at Mill Middle School in Williamsville, New York. Since entering teaching in 1992, Kenneth has worked to facilitate interdisciplinary, inquiry-based learning activities linking aerospace with science, mathematics, and technology. Along with like-minded colleagues, Kenneth has been instrumental in creating new science lab procedures with performance tasks and rubrics aligned to the New York State Learning Standards. Not only has he been involved in curriculum, but he also has been responsible for coordinating staff development.

Throughout his teaching career, Kenneth has promoted aerospace in his classrooms. From 1993 to 1999, Kenneth taught at Cleveland Hill Middle School in Cheektowaga, New York, where he created an aerospace unit on the planets culminating with a visit by a NASA astronaut to the school. He then moved to Mill Middle School where, in 2003, he raised several thousand dollars to bring a NASA Mobile Aerospace Education Laboratory (MAEL) to the students there. Kenneth's leadership efforts have not only provided students science knowledge and



**The NASA Mobile Aerospace Education Laboratory (MAEL) visited Mill Middle School's students.**

understanding, but also allowed students to have a better understanding of technologies as they relate to future careers in aerospace. Kenneth was also instrumental in students being involved in a live downlink with the Expedition 8 crew of the International Space Station (ISS). As a result of this experience, in March 2005, Kenneth arranged for ISS Expedition 9 astronaut, USAF Lt. Col. E. Michael Fincke, and ISS Expedition 9 Lead Flight Director, Matt Abbott to visit western New York.

Kenneth's many accomplishments and recognitions have made him the educator he is today. Kenneth



graduated cum laude from Buffalo State College in 1992 with a B.S. in Elementary Education. He earned his masters degree in elementary education in 1997, also from Buffalo State College. Memberships in such organizations as the National Science Teachers Association, the Science Teachers Association of New York State, the Air Force Association and the Civil Air Patrol, have been the support for these accomplishments and recognitions. Kenneth received the Erie County Youth Best Mentor in 1999; the Air Force Association New York State Teacher of the Year in 2001; the State of New York Legislative Recipient in 2001; and the Civil Air Patrol's Crown Circle for Aerospace Education Leadership award in 2004. Kenneth also involved his students in the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Excellence Award Program in 2002 and was chosen by NASA as a Field Test Teacher in 2001 where he continues to serve the agency in the development of their Earth to Orbit Engineering Design Challenges Program for middle school students.

Kenneth has worked tirelessly to promote aerospace education. He has given aerospace workshops for hundreds of educators at the local, state, and national levels such as the Science Teachers of New York State conference, the New York State Middle School Association conference, and the Earth to Orbit Engineering Design Challenge National Symposium.

Kenneth Huff models enthusiasm and commitment to aerospace education and is a motivator to the students he teaches. Aerospace education is fortunate to have such a great supporter on their team.

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*"Aerospace education is important because it helps improve the quality of life here on Earth, and allows us to explore our universe," Huff said. "Educating and inspiring today's students is imperative if we as a society want our scientific endeavors to continue."*



## Online Opportunities for Science Teachers

Article by Cindy Workosky

The National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) is the largest organization in the world promoting innovation and excellence in science teaching and learning for all. NSTA works toward this mission by enhancing professional development for teachers of science, producing top quality resources and materials, and advocating for the needs of all science educators.

NSTA has had a long history of supporting the use of aeronautics and space to enhance the teaching of science, mathematics, and technology in our nation's classrooms. For years NSTA has collaborated with NASA to inspire a new generation of Earth and space scientists, and aeronautical engineers. Among the most exciting joint ventures is the popular NASA Explorer Schools program, which establishes a three-year partnership between NASA and school teams who participate in workshops at NASA Field centers and acquire and use new teaching resources and technology tools.

NSTA is working aggressively to find ways to bring more high quality professional development experiences to teachers of science. With this goal in mind, NSTA is developing a suite of electronic professional development resources for science teachers. NSTA is creating an electronic professional development (e-PD) portal that will be the "home base" for teachers in search of usable science content specifically tied to their school's needs. Teachers will be able to conduct an online search that will recommend various professional development opportunities and resources,



Science educators explore the science of flight at a NSTA Conference in Nevada.

and personalized tools will allow them to manage, track, document, and certify their learning.

At the center of the e-PD portal are NSTA Science Objects, which are online teacher tutorials that focus on individual scientific topics — from Newton's first law to the origin and evolution of the universe. The soon-to-be-released Science Objects engage teachers in a unique interactive learning experience promoting greater, more in-depth knowledge of complex scientific topics.

Science Objects will follow another great NSTA resource — SciGuides. Released in 2005, SciGuides enable science teachers to integrate the web into their teaching. Each guide consists of a rich library of web-accessible resources that have been aligned with the National Science Education Standards and reviewed using eight educational rubrics. Each SciGuide has associated lesson plans, short vignettes describing how the lessons can be implemented in the classroom, and

samples of student work.

Providing professional development that combines both face-to-face and online follow-up opportunities for learning has many benefits. NSTA is now offering face-to-face Symposia combined with live Web Seminars and asynchronous threaded discussions delivered in partnership with NASA, NOAA, and NSTA Press. These events are delivered to educators attending NSTA conferences and are offered in many content areas.

NSTA is pleased to work together with the Civil Air Patrol to participate in an important topical track at the National Conference on Aerospace and Space Education (NCASE) in October in Arlington, Virginia. Attendees will see and learn more about NSTA's innovative online learning opportunities for science teachers and how they can be integrated into any professional development plan. All of NSTA's new e-PD tools can be found at [www.nsta.org](http://www.nsta.org).



Aerospace symposium at Nevada NSTA conference.



## AEF Grant Info

The Aerospace Education Foundation continues to support CAP with its wonderful aerospace grant program.

Four grant cycles occur every year; two for CAP unit grants and two for CAP educator grants. The \$250 grants are for aerospace-related activities. The next cycle is for educator grant applications with a deadline of March 31. Be sure to get your applications in before the deadline. Grant winners are asked to provide feedback by completing the short feedback form sent to them. This feedback is critical to the continuation of the program. If you haven't already done so, please take a moment and complete the form and send it to HQ CAP/LMA.

The list of 2005 Winter cycle

winners are:

- Boca Raton Composite Sq., Boca Raton, FL
- Bellingham Composite Sq. - Bellingham, WA
- Brian M. Mooney Sq. - Medford, NY
- Cape Fear Composite Sq. - Wilmington, NC
- Cloverfield Composite Sq. - Santa Monica, CA
- Col Berta A. Edge Composite Sq. - Keesler AFB, MS
- Dakota Ridge Composite Sq. - Parker, CO
- Erie Composite Sq. - Erie, PA
- Fayetteville Composite Sq. - Fort Bragg, NC
- Group IV - Albany, GA
- HQ Missouri Wing - Whiteman AFB, MO

- Pineland Composite Sq. - Lakewood, NJ
- Ross P. Barrett Cadet Sq. - South Charleston, OH
- Salem Composite Sq. - Salem, OR
- Stratford Eagles Sq. - Stratford, CT
- Student Leadership Academy Cadet Sq. - Venice, FL
- WA Perry Cadet Sq. - Columbia, SC
- Walco Composite Sq. - Elkhorn, WI
- Westchester Hudson Composite Sq. - Valhalla, NY
- Weston Cadet Sq. - Weston, FL

**Congratulations to all!**  
**Grant applications can be downloaded at [www.cap.gov/ae](http://www.cap.gov/ae).**

*"...We purchased rocketry kits, rocket simulator to experiment and transportation to rocketry launch sites. After the kits were used the cadets used that knowledge to purchase pieces and parts to build 2 rockets from their own design built using the simulator program."*

*CJ Muncy, 1st Lt. CAP - Winchester Composite Squadron  
Past AEF Unit Grant Winner*



## Aerospace Education Foundation Will Pay 1/2 Off Aerospace Education Memberships

The Aerospace Education Foundation is sponsoring Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Education Memberships at half of the \$35.00 membership cost for the first year.

### To qualify:

- You must be joining Civil Air Patrol as a new aerospace education member.
- Your application must be received no later than November 1, 2006.
- Your application must be one of the first 140 received for this special sponsored program.
- Your payment of \$17.50 must accompany the AE membership application. \*\*
- Note on the application "AEF Sponsorship."

### Renewing:

- 60 AEM ½ price Renewals will be awarded on a first-come-first-serve basis to those completing the AEF/AEM survey form.\*\*

Mail or fax the completed application and your payment of \$17.50 to: Civil Air Patrol NHQ/LMA Attention: Kathy Baucum, 105 S Hansell St, Maxwell AFB, AL 36112, Phone: (334)953-4213 Fax: (334)953-4235 Email: [kbaucum@cap.gov](mailto:kbaucum@cap.gov)

\*\* Application and survey forms can be found online at [www.cap.gov/ae](http://www.cap.gov/ae).

## Air Force Association's (AFA) Aerospace Cadet of the Year Award

It is time again to consider nominating outstanding cadets for the AFA Aerospace Cadet of the Year Award. This annual award goes to the most deserving cadet who has made significant contributions by promoting aerospace education with in CAP and the local community.

Nomination packages should use pages 14 and 42 from CAPP 15, Aerospace Education Officers' Handbook, for guidance.

Submissions should go from the wing DAE, to the region DCS, then on to HQ LMA. Nominations should arrive at HQ CAP no later than April 15.

Please take a few moments and nominate your outstanding cadets for this prestigious award.



## CURRICULUM CORNER ...

# Kite Flying Weather

### Objective(s):

Students will design, build and fly a kite.  
Students will apply the forces of flight to their kites.

### National Science Standards:

Content Standard A: Science as Inquiry

- Abilities necessary to do scientific inquiry
- Understanding about scientific inquiry

Content Standard B: Physical Science

- Motions and Forces

Unifying Concepts and Processes

- Form and function

**Grade Level(s): 5-8 (but can be used in K-4 with extra preparation.)**

### Background Information:

A kite is a special sort of aircraft, attached to the ground by a string. When a kite is stopped from being blown backwards by the wind it will usually fly. The string we hold when flying a kite is what is used to stop the kite from flying away with the wind. Because this sort of aircraft has no engine it needs something else to make the kite move through the air. The power source for a kite is the wind. Without wind moving over the kite it won't fly. Some kites need lots of wind. Others need very little wind for them to fly.

Just like a normal airplane, or even a bird, there are four forces that affect a kite when it is flying. They are gravity, lift, thrust, and drag.

**Gravity** pulls everything towards the center of the earth. Anything on the ground can't get pulled down any further than that, but things in the air can get pulled down to ground level. The heavier a kite is the harder it will be to fly. Kites are generally made from lightweight materials so that they will fly easily.

**Lift** is the force pushing the kite away from the surface of the earth. It is produced by air moving over the top of the kite at a faster speed than the air that is moving over

the bottom of the kite. Daniel Bernoulli, a scientist in the eighteenth century, discovered that the pressure of air becomes lower when it is moving. The faster the air is moving the lower the pressure becomes. A kite is shaped so that air will be slowed down if it is traveling under the lower surface of a kite and will speed up if it is traveling over the upper surface of the kite. The faster the air moves over the upper surface of the kite the lower the pressure of that air becomes. As the air pressure above the kite becomes lower, the air pressure below the kite pushes the kite up in order to equalize the pressures above and below the wing. The greater the difference between the low pressure above the wing and the higher pressure below the wing, the greater is the amount of lift produced. In order for all this to happen, air needs to be moving over the kite.

**Thrust** is the force that makes something move forward through the air. Birds use muscle power to develop thrust, and except for gliders, airplanes use motors. A kite cannot produce its own thrust, and instead must rely on being held in place while the wind moves past it. So the thrust that acts on a kite is produced because the kite is being held in one place by its string while the wind flows around the kite. If there is no wind a kite would only fly if the person holding the kite string started running, making their own wind as air started flowing around the kite.

**Drag** is the friction that causes the kite to stop flying straight overhead. As the air flows over the surfaces of a kite the wind gets held back a little bit by the roughness of the fabric and the sticks. Any kite will always have some drag, and some kites are not able to fly without some extra drag being exerted on them. This additional drag is usually created by the tail of the kite, and allows us to make the kite point in the correct direction. A single, long tail causes a certain amount of drag, but the same tail, cut into several lengths will produce much more drag, because the air is slowed down even more when it has to pass around several strips rather than just one. A tail gives a kite lateral stability.

# Kites (Continued)

## Safety rules about kite flying:

1. Never fly a kite in a thunderstorm or while it is raining. The kite, or the flying line, might be hit by lightning.
2. Never fly a kite with wire, or anything that could conduct electricity through the flying line to you, and don't use a wet flying line.
3. Never fly a kite near power lines, antennae or transmission towers.
4. Never fly a kite above crowds, near public streets, highways, airports or helicopter pads or other areas where your kite might be a hazard to other people.
5. Don't climb trees, buildings or power poles to retrieve your kite. Ask for help from an adult or make another kite.
6. If your kite pulls strongly, wear gloves while flying it, to prevent the line cutting into your hands or causing a friction burn.
7. Don't use monofilament fishing line to fly your kite. It is hard to see, and it can cut into skin very easily when it is pulled taut by a flying kite.

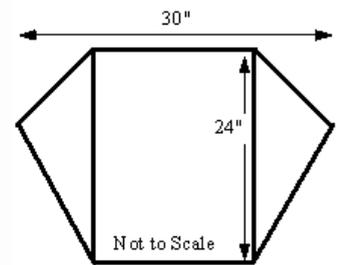
## Materials:

- Sled kite pattern
- Paper grocery bags

- Kite string
- Non-bendable soda straws (4 per student)
- Tape
- Scissors
- Hole punch
- Markers
- Material for kite streamers (such as surveyor's tape from a hardware store)

## Procedure:

1. Using one of the paper bags or poster board, make a pattern for your kite (using the shape and measurements shown.)
2. Cut open the grocery bag and lay your pattern on top.
3. Trace the pattern onto the grocery bag and cut out.
4. Decorate your kite with markers or other art medium.
5. At the outside corners, place tape on the back side and fold toward the front of the kite. Use another piece of tape and repeat the procedure, but tape in the opposite direction. This will reinforce the corners.
6. Fold the kite in half, match the reinforced corners and punch holes through the reinforced corners.
7. Connect two soda straws together using tape to reinforce the connec-

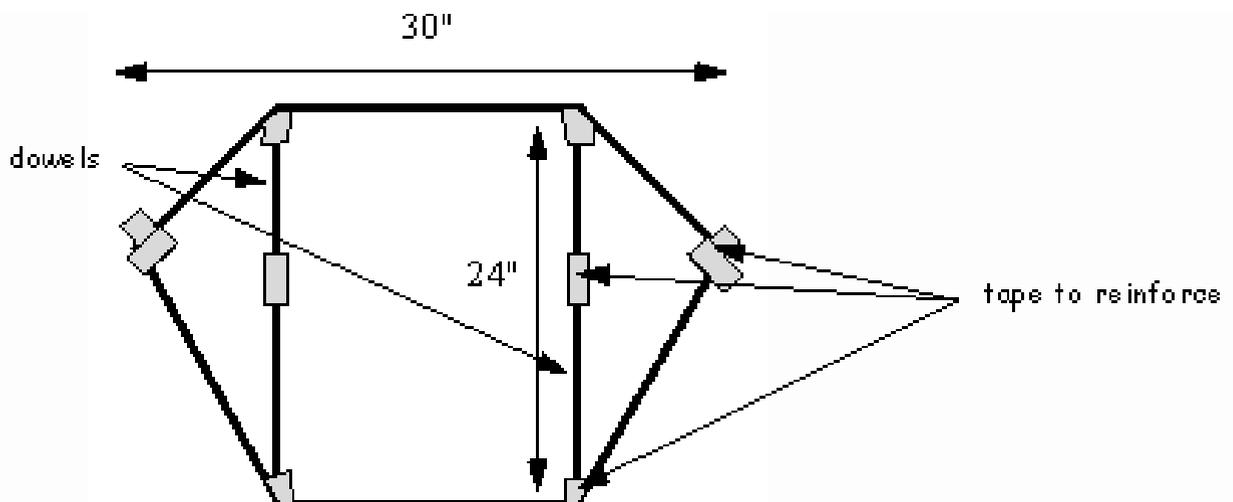


tion. Do this again with two other straws. These will be your spars. You can also use small diameter dowels.

8. Tape the spars lengthwise as shown.

9. To make the bridle, cut a piece of string that is five times the length of the dowel (about 10 feet). This proportion works for all sled kites. If this string is cut too short, the kite will not open wide enough to catch the wind. Tie one end of the string through each hole. Square knots work the best. Match the holes and find the exact midpoint of the string. This is a critical step. If the loop is not at the midpoint, the kite will dive to one side. Now tie a knot, leaving a small loop. Tie your flying line to the loop and you are ready to fly.

10. Test fly your kite and use the scientific method to make your kite fly better. Such things as adding streamers or a tail to the kite may help with stability. Changing the size, shape or type of material may also impact your kite's performance.





## REGION TO REGION

### NORTHEAST REGION

**April 8-9**

Massachusetts Wing will be hosting the "Fly A Teacher" program at Hanscom Air Force Base, Bedford, Massachusetts. Captain Lois Libenson, Director of Aerospace Education, will be overseeing this exciting program in which 20 Massachusetts teachers will be participating in a two day program, including a full day workshop and a second day of orientation flights. For more information about the Fly A Teacher Program, go to the CAP AE website at [www.cap.gov/ae](http://www.cap.gov/ae) or contact Claudine Edelblute at [edelblutec@si.edu](mailto:edelblutec@si.edu).

### MIDDLE EAST REGION

**March 18**

Kite Day will be held at the National Mall Building of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC.  
<http://www.nasm.si.edu/events/eventDetail.cfm?eventID=384>

On **April 15**, the program will be "Explore the Universe."

**March 25**

Women in Aviation Day will be held at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Washington, DC.  
<http://www.nasm.si.edu/events/eventDetail.cfm?eventID=389>

On **April 8**, the program will be "Telescopes, Telescopes, Telescopes."

**March 23-25**

The 68th Annual International Technology Education Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland.  
<http://www.iteaconnect.org/>

**May 5-6**

The 2006 Robotics Education Symposium will be held at Georgetown University in Washington, DC.  
<http://www.tsarobotics.org/>

### GREAT LAKES REGION

**May 1-3**

Wisconsin Airport Management Association will hold its 51st Annual Conference at the Regency Suites / KI

Center, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

<http://www.wiama.org/WAC/conference.htm>

### SOUTHEAST REGION

**April 4-10**

The 32nd Annual Spring Celebration of Flight, Sun 'N Fun presents "The Joy of Flight" in Lakeland, Florida.  
<http://www.sun-n-fun.org/content>

**March 23-25**

Women in Aviation's 17th Annual International Conference will be held in Nashville, Tennessee at the Opryland Hotel. Educator Forum, March 23.  
[http://www.wai.org/conference/2006\\_conf\\_index.cfm](http://www.wai.org/conference/2006_conf_index.cfm)

**April 1-2**

The 2006 Florida International Air Show will be held at the Charlotte County Airport in Punta Gorda, Florida.  
<http://www.heraldtribune.com/apps/pbcs.dll/section?CATEGORY=AIRSHOW>

**May 6-7**

McDonalds presents Air & Sea Show in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.  
<http://www.nationalsalute.com/flash.html>

### NORTH CENTRAL REGION

**March 5-7**

The Upper Midwest Aviation Symposium will be held in Bismark, North Dakota.  
<http://207.243.70.208/umas6.htm>

### SOUTHWEST REGION

**March 22-24**

The Texas Aviation Conference will be held at the Town Lake Hyatt Regency in Austin, Texas. For details, call 1-800-86Pilot.

### ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

**March 10-12**

The Idaho Aviation Festival will be held at the Boise Centre on the Grove in Boise, Idaho.  
<http://www.itd.idaho.gov/aero/AviationFestival/>

**April 3-6**

The 22nd National Space Symposium will be held at the Broadmoor in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Educational activities will be included in the agenda.  
<http://www.nationalspacesymposium.org/index2.cfm>

**April 28-30**

The 2006 Montana Wing - Civil Air Patrol State Conference will be held in Billings, Montana at the Holiday Inn Grand Montana. Teachers and youth program leaders are invited to attend the free aerospace education seminar on Saturday, from 10:00am until 12:00noon. Contact information: Captain Paul Tweden at 406-252-2578.

### PACIFIC REGION

**April 1**

Sally Ride Festival will occur at CalTech in Los Angeles, California.  
<http://www.sallyridefestivals.com/>

**April 6-9**

National Science Teachers Association will hold its 54th National Conference on Science Education in Anaheim, California. Check out the CAP AE workshop!  
[http://www.nsta.org/conventionDetail&Meeting\\_Code=2006ANA](http://www.nsta.org/conventionDetail&Meeting_Code=2006ANA)

### Items of Interest

**March 29 - Sun-Earth Day 2006:** "Eclipse in a Different Light."  
<http://sunearthday.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

**The Education and Public Outreach office of the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy (SOFIA)** offers educators a chance to participate in their program. The goal is to have K-14 classroom teachers, science museum staff, and outreach-active amateur astronomers from every part of the US become better educators as well as ambassadors for NASA after partnering with SOFIA's astronomers and engineers. To find out about this program and the opportunity it presents to educators, go to  
<http://www.sofia.usra.edu/Edu/edu.html>