

The 184th Composite Squadron is chartered as a unit in the U.S. Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air Patrol. The unit is located in Shelbyville, Indiana and is part of the Indiana Wing.

History

It was April of 1972 when charter number 12184 was issued to a group of twenty-one charter members of the 184th Composite Squadron on West Washington Street in downtown Shelbyville, Indiana. The presentation of the charter occurred on the second floor of the Shelbyville City Hall building. This was also the site of the first squadron meetings starting in March of 1972. During the mid-1970's the squadron meetings were held at the Shelbyville Airport during the summer months. In mid-1972 the meeting location changed to the Shelbyville National Guard Armory. The Shelbyville National Guard Armory has been the home of the 184th Composite Squadron since 1972. Cadets and officers of the squadron have used the classrooms and the drill floor of the armory for thirty years. In the 1970's the main focus of the 184th Composite Squadron was communications. This focus of communications shifted when during the 1980's the squadron developed a search and rescue ground team. Once the ground team was activated it received taskings from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC), Langley AFB. 184th ground team personnel contributed 3 of the 6 members of the Indiana Wing ground team that won the Great Lakes Region Search and Rescue competition (SARCOMP) held in 1990. In 1997, the 184th ground team placed first in the Indiana Wing SARCOMP.

Mission

184th Composite Squadron is tasked with providing resources for search and rescue, disaster relief, and counterdrug operations. The 184th ground team provides search and rescue, and disaster relief resources. The 184th ground team participates in five to six practice exercises per year hosted by the Wing. In addition, the 184th ground team is on call for taskings by AFRCC or local authorities. The 184th provides specialty trained counterdrug aircrew resources to support the Wing's counterdrug missions. Indiana Wing provides counterdrug services to the DEA, U.S. Customs Service, and the Indiana State Police. The 184th is also tasked to provide a cadet training program to train future military leaders. Cadets age 12 to 18 are trained in subjects ranging from leadership, drill and ceremonies, to aerospace power. Many of the 184th cadets go on to enlist or enter college and later pursue careers as officers in the Armed Forces.

Personnel

The 184th Composite Squadron is comprised of about 25 to 30 personnel. Unit personnel include cadets and officers with resources specifically tasks with managing the 184th cadet training program, the 184th operations or overlapping of the two.