



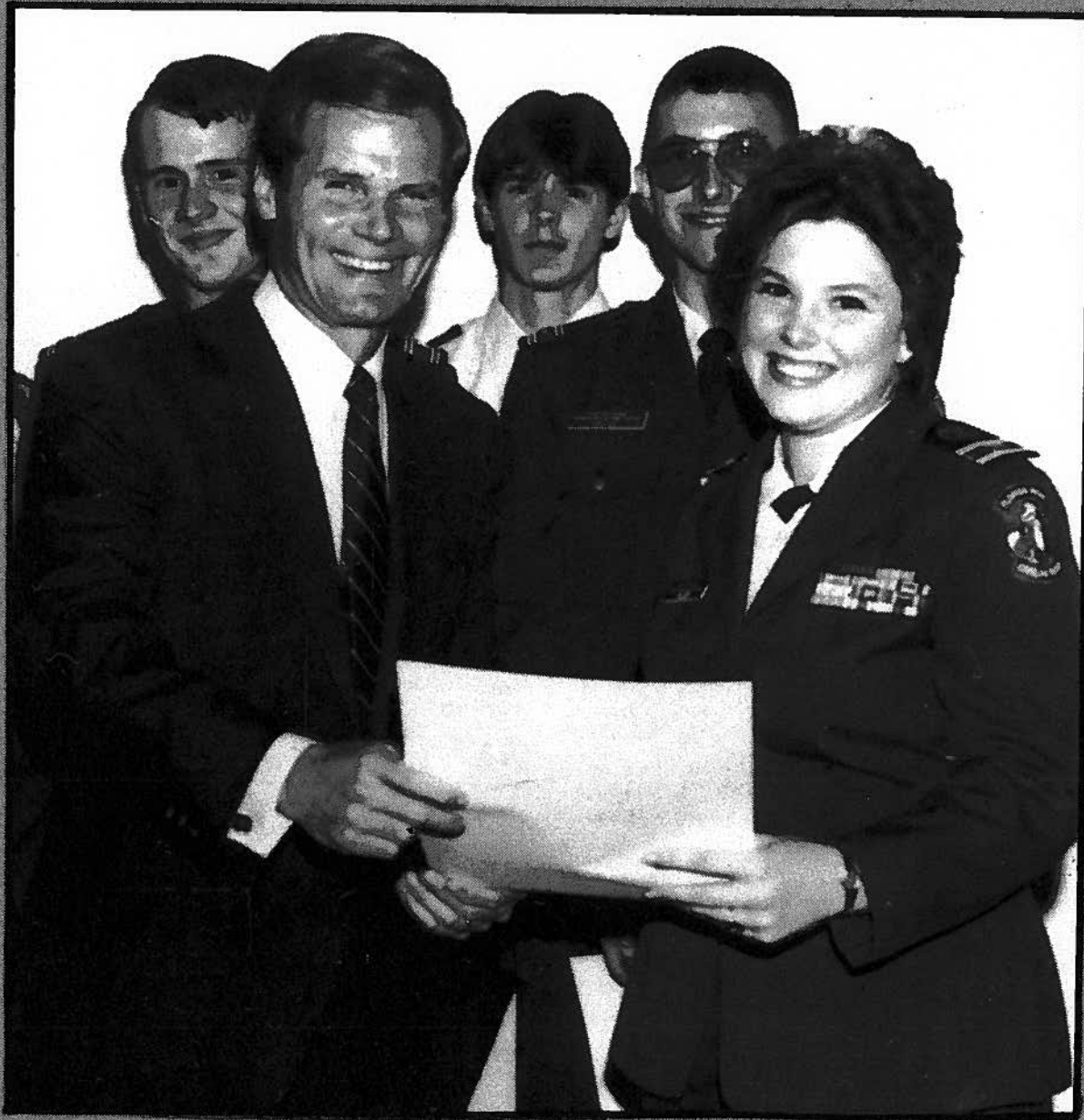
'Gator CAPers



Volume 27, Number 2

08001

April, 1985



U.S. Rep. "Bill" Nelson Attends Awards Banquet (Story Page 4)

Mission Coordinators Stay Current

By Lt. Col. Sid Birns Florida Wing PAO

Two a.m., anyday . . . that's usually when you get the call "there's a mission on."

The button was pushed and now you, as the mission coordinator start the wheels in motion, calling your alert list people, so they can gather those around them to carry out the mission of finding the missing aircraft.

Florida Wing Civil Air Patrol, held an update for its mission coordinators and training for its new ones.

Fifty-two members throughout the state attended and were welcomed by **Col. Sam Spieker**, Commander, Florida Wing CAP. He indicated the importance of staying current and up-to-date with the latest changes and procedures concerning the wing's search and rescue capabilities. Finishing his remarks, Spieker turned the group back to **Lt. Col. Don Cunningham**, Wing Director of Operations. The Commander also participated in the day's schedule, consisting of Mission Public Affairs; The Legal Environment; Group Dynamics; Ground Operations; Communications Mission Style; The Mission Package and finally the Update Package Distribution, completing a full day of instruction and information.

For the first time Public Affairs was introduced into the program and was handled by **Major Cheryl Miller** who is an experienced Mission Public Affairs Officer. Miller stressed the importance of having the Mission PAO alerted as soon as the mission is started in order to facilitate the gathering of all the factual information and notify the media as soon as possible. At that point it is important the MC make sure that the PAO is apprised of all the latest information as it comes in. This allows the PAO to be able to answer questions by the media factually and to keep them updated as to the progress of the mission.

An important point concerning public affairs either on an actual mission or a practice mission is that there are only **two** official spokesmen for any mission and they are the Mission Coordinator and the Mission Public Affairs Officer . . . **NO ONE ELSE**. The reason for this is, the MC and the PAO are the only two that will have a complete overview of the progress of the mission and therefore are the only two that can speak truthfully and factually. Anyone else giving information to the media gives it as a "one sided" view and often incorrectly, thereby lowering our credibility.

Miller also presented an idea that has merit . . . having a media packet already prepared in advance to be able to hand out to media people containing the following information:

- The Mission Coordinator's name and address
- The PAO's name and address and mission phone number where he/she can be reached for further updating.
- A map (if possible, otherwise a written description) showing the area of search and last known direction of aircraft.
- Type of aircraft, number of people on board and any other information that has been "Cleared" by the MC for publication.
- How many pilots and planes and observers on the mission.
- How many personnel working on the mission.
- How many ground rescue teams and their capability of type of rescue to be performed upon location of missing people.
- How many vehicles
- The extent of CAP radio communications network.
- Anything else that would be pertinent to the mission.

Having this information readily available will save time for you as well as the media people and you will not have to repeat and repeat the same information.

Being a well informed and well prepared PAO will add to the success of the mission as well as to increase the positive coverage CAP will receive from the media.

Adding to the importance of communications was **Major Robert Miller**, Wing Communications Officer. He said "communications is the voice of command and communications on a mission can make or break it. After the mission is keyed, like the PAO, the communications officer should be contacted because he or she needs lead time so that he can get the operators he needs, into place. Using communications expertise means keeping idle chatter off the CAP channels . . . they are working channels and should not



Col. Sam Spieker addresses opening session of Emergency Services and Mission Coordinator update.

be used any other way." Miller couldn't stress strongly enough the importance of adhering to the professional use of the CAP network.

Another factor in mission communications is the administrative sequence of messages, it is most important and the communications officer should make sure they are in order, for possible future reference.

Wing legal officer **Col. Harvey Klein** brought out a number of important legal obligations we have to CAP and to ourselves. It was noted that we are covered by FECA on any Air Force authorized activity. Also, if a very serious injury or a death should occur during a CAP activity, any one of the following three people should be contacted immediately: **Lt. Col. Richard Read, Wing AF L/O; Col. Sam Spieker, Wing Commander** and **Tom Hanley, National Headquarters**.

A question arose about the legal coverage concerning a CAP corporate or private aircraft flying media people . . . the answer to that was a definite NO NO. However, a private aircraft, not involved in the activity can be used to fly media people. Insurance in this case is the coverage the pilot/owner would normally have for flying passengers.

Klein emphasized the importance of being aware of the legal ramifications of law suits and that we should be up-to-date on CAP regs concerning insurance.

Moving on to probably one of the more interesting areas of search and rescue as proposed by **Capt. Ed Wolff, Wing Ground Operations Officer**, is the actual ground rescue operation. Wolff presented a three level program as follows:

- Level I** RESCUE . . . to be proficient in first aid (50-15) and have a first aid card as well as be able to handle communications and direction finding. As a team they should be able to handle most emergencies.
 - Level II** Ground search and rescue
 - Level III** ELT/interviewing team
- Both II and III to have light first aid capabilities and be CPR rated.

In the area of Level I, the team would be capable of all weather search and recovery. All members of that team to be qualified as "first responders" and to be certified as an EMT and to be qualified as a technician communicator or above. What this means is that all members of a level one team will be fully qualified in all areas of ground rescue.

Wrapping up the day's training was **Major Edward Fresnada** stressing the importance of proper paper work in order to receive reimbursement on mission incurred expenses. Fesnada cited the following examples as to why "you" don't receive your reimbursement promptly: forms improperly filled out; names left off; no serial numbers; no receipts, or receipts sent in 8 to 10 days after the forms, etc. Sometimes request for reimbursement can be outstanding for six to eight months, waiting for the paperwork to be completed properly.

Fresnada has come up with a "cover" check off sheet to be used in future reimbursement requests. This sheet would be the cover to all paperwork concerning the request for reimbursements. It would have areas to check off if you have complied with all forms, receipts and paperwork and when all necessary areas are checked then the whole package can be sent to him for reimbursement . . . otherwise . . . "no tickee, no shirtee."

CIVIL AIR PATROL ANNUAL SPRING FLORIDA WING COMMANDERS CALL

14, 15, 16 June 1985
Marriott's Marco Beach Resort
Marco Island, FL 33937 Ph. (813) 394-2511

PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

Mail this form to: Captain Patrice Campeau
1184 Tenth Ave. No.
Naples, FL 33940
Phone: (813) 261-8382
Radio: Sparrow 831 (HF)

NAME/RANK _____

CAPSN _____

UNIT NAME/CHARTER _____

ADDRESS _____

Attach Check or Money Order payable to Florida Wing,
Civil Air Patrol. Check one of the following.

- \$ 5.00 (Saturday & Sunday Meetings Only)
- \$25.00 All Conference Activities (SENIOR)
- \$25.00 All Conference Activities (CADET)
- \$17.50 Extra Banquet Tickets

DEADLINE OF 14 MAY 1985 FOR PRE-REGISTRATION

Registrations mailed or received after 14 May or at
the door will be \$30.00 for Seniors or Cadets.

Flying in? _____ Estimated time arrival? _____

YOUR CAP WING COMMANDER LOOKS FORWARD
TO MEETING EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.
PLEASE PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE
AND MAIL YOUR REGISTRATIONS EARLY.

FLORIDA WING CAP
ANNUAL COMMANDERS CONFERENCE
June 14 - 16, 1985

Name

Address

City State Zip

Arrival Date Time

Departure Date By Car Plane

No. of Children Ages

No. of Cribs Req. Roll-away Bed

Share Room with

Deposit Enclosed \$

If you require a special accommodation, please
call the Hotel direct. (813) 394-2511.

- Hotel Single \$42.00
- Hotel Double \$42.00
- Suite 1 BR
- Suite 2 BR
- Lanai 1 BR
- Lanai 2 BR
- BF Villa 2 BR
- GC Villa 2 BR

Rate includes up to five (5) people in room.

Rates quoted on the European Plan (No Meals
Included).

An automatic service charge of \$2.00 per room,
per day has been included in room rate to cover
the services of Bellmen checking in and out, all
maid service, pool and beach attendants.

First night's room deposit is required with each
reservation. Deposit refundable if cancellation
reaches Hotel 72 hours prior to arrival date. To
insure your accommodation, requests should be
received no later than: May 14, 1985.

Rate subject to 5% Florida State Sales Tax

Sorry, No Pets.

Check-in time: 3 p.m. Check-out time: 12 noon



Marriott's Marco Beach Resort
Marco Island, Florida 33937

Reservations

U.S. Rep. Bill Nelson Guest Speaker at Awards Banquet

By: Maj. Chet Brogan

U.S. Rep. Bill Nelson, 11th Congressional District, has told the Brevard, Indian River and St. Lucie counties Seven Squadron, Group 12, annual awards banquet that the "human spirit is rising in America as evidenced by more concern for community, country and God."

One hundred men, women, boys and girls were in attendance for the festivities at the Page 1 Restaurant and Congressman Nelson presented several awards to cadets as well as senior members of the volunteer organization.

Nelson also praised CAP for its humanitarian service to the community and country and for its unselfish roll in the aerospace education program, as well as CAP contribution to the youth of the country and to the cadet program.

Congressman Nelson has recently been appointed chairman of the Space Sub-Committee.

Receiving the Outstanding Cadet of the Year Award of Group 12 was **Craig L. Flowers**, 17, of the **TICO Composite Squadron**. Flowers, a senior at Astro High School in Titusville was chosen for his contributions to the cadet program such as participating in

missions, service as a radio operator and work in the aerospace education program. He will enter the Air Force in October with the grade of E-3.

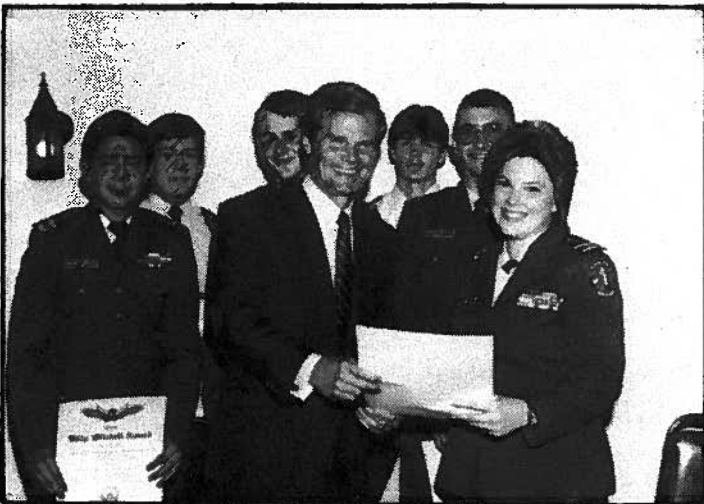
A following of cadets received the Mitchell Award which is a very high achievement in the cadet program: **Dana Deree, Central Brevard Composite Sqdn.; Charles Diaz, Jr., Indian River Composite Sqdn.; Craig L. Flowers, TICO Composite Sqdn.; Graham Kelly, Ft. Pierce Composite Sqdn.; Mike Macek, Central Brevard Composite Sqdn.; Laura Miller, Ft. Pierce Composite Sqdn.**

Among the senior membership awards were **Lt. Col. Ross Sedita** and **Lt. Col. Elizabeth "Lib" Sedita** who received the Gill Robb Wilson Award for conspicuous meritorious performance and exceptionally distinguished service in the Civil Air Patrol.

The Seditas, man and wife, have 67 years of service in CAP between them.

A special guest of CAP during the award banquet was **Col. Nathan "Nate" Lindsay**, commander of the Eastern Space and Missile Center, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.

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U.S. Rep. "Bill" Nelson presents Cadet Laura Miller, Fort Pierce Composite Squadron, with the coveted Mitchell Award.



Cadet Craig Flowers (center) receives his insignia designating his selection as "Outstanding Cadet of the Year" for Group 12. Affixing the award is Group 12 commander, Col. Ralph Gwinn of Cocoa. At left is Col. "Nate" Lindsay, commander of the Eastern Space and Missile Center, Patrick Air Force Base, Florida.



Col. Ralph Gwinn, Group 12 commander (left), was presented the Commanders Commendation Award by Florida Wing Commander Col. Sam Spieker of Fort Lauderdale.



Senior membership awards were presented to Lt. Col. Elizabeth "Lib" Sedita and her husband, Lt. Col. Ross Sedita for their meritorious service to Civil Air Patrol. Presenting the Seditas with the Gill Robb Wilson Award are (left) U.S. Rep. "Bill" Nelson and (right) Col. Sam Spieker. The Seditas are from Merritt Island.

Count Down To Rescue

Story By: Maj. Cheryl Miller
Photos By: Lt. Col. Sid Birns

TEN . . . NINE . . . EIGHT . . . SEVEN . . . on Saturday, 17 November, the countdown began for 96 Civil Air Patrol members at the annual Florida Wing **SARTEST**, held this year at Stuart's Witham Field. Months of preparation led to a day of superior weather, bringing in 19 aircraft, 32 vehicles and two ground rescue teams. In all, 66 seniors and 30 cadets participated. The U.S. Air Force evaluating team, led by **Lt. Col. Roger Dodd**, rates the overall effort a **HIGH EXCELLENT**.

The grey light of the early morning sky brought a calm over Witham Field. At 0800 the quiet was broken by the cranking up of the first aircraft taking off, heading out to its assigned search area.

The CAP building at Stuart was "buzzing." This year, administration, under the direction of **Lt. Col. Kay Cunningham**, used a computer, along with the capable assistance and records of **Lt. Col. Mary Douglas**, **Lt. Sharon Spieker** and **Lt. Col. Frances Dorough**. All records were checked and verified on the spot.

Safety was the "Order of the Day" by not only the Mission Coordinator, **Lt. Col. Don Cunningham**, but also by the Safety Officer, **Maj. Vic Meyer**, whose use of a "Hazard Area Map" as well as proper safety markings and procedures, was innovative and a definite plus.

Air Operations was conducted under the direction of our very own Wing Commander, **Col. Sam Spieker**, who told the assembled pilots, observers and ground teams, "We have been informed by Scott AFB (Hq. for Search And Rescue) that late yesterday afternoon, two pilots took off from this field in two separate aircraft. The pilots took off with the intention of flying formation and did not file a flight plan.

"They weren't back by nightfall and a ramp check within a 50-mile radius turned up nothing.

Remember, we are professionals in the business of Search and Rescue and even though we don't have any information as to which direction they were headed, we will find them."

Visits by various Agency representatives, including the **District Highway Patrol**, **Stuart Police Department** and **Martin County Office of Disaster Preparedness**, allowed CAP's Emergency Services Program to be seen in full operation. Getting the story were representatives of **The Stuart News**, **The Port St. Lucie News**, **WPTB (Channel 5 TV, West Palm Beach)**, **The Post (West Palm Beach)**, **WXLTV (Channel 40, Sarasota TV)** and by phone, releases were given to **WOVV**, **WIRA** radio, **WRIT** radio and **The Mirror (Jensen Beach)**. The **CAP SARTEST** story was on the radio, in the newspapers and on TV, for the six o'clock newscast and ran for several days after.

To close out an already eventful day, the last ground team out actually helped to rescue someone at the scene of one of the target areas. Just as they reached the site, a man came over the hill screaming, "My wife, she's having a reaction to ant bites and she's five months pregnant! HELP!!!" The ground team (from Group 3) assisted at the scene, calling via VHF radio for an ambulance while the team's medical officer treated the woman for shock. The woman was taken to Martin Memorial Hospital, and was kept there for several days of observation and was thankful that the CAP ground rescue team was there that day.

As the finale of the SARTEST a presentation of the CAP Lithograph, "The Early Days" was made to **Mr. Frank Walton**, **Asst. Vice President of Grumman Aerospace Corporation**, on behalf of the Wing, for their assistance and cooperation.

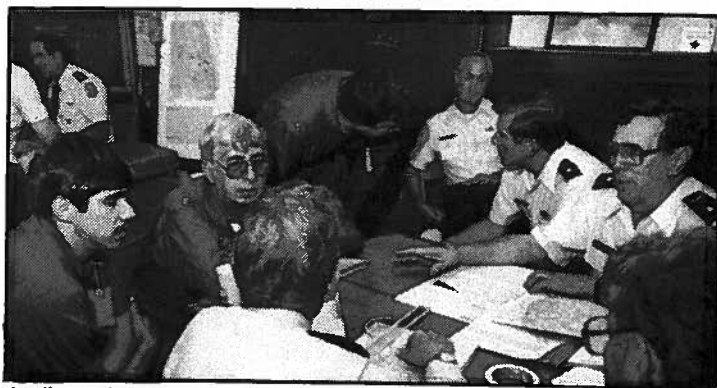
Rounding out his last days of active duty and his final CAP activity before retiring from the U.S. Air Force, **Col. Roger Shaw** congratulated the Wing on its fine performance and said . . . "you done good."



Shown as they go over their assigned search area during the Search and Rescue Evaluation, are left to right: Capt. Le Hughes and Maj. Wayne S. Roshaven, pilot in command, both of Florida International Cadet Squadron and Senior Member Glenn Barrett of MacDill Cadet Squadron.



"It's a dirty job, but somebody has to do it," so says Capt. Le Hughes, as she checks radio antenna before she takes off on practice search mission.



As pilots and observers return from their search areas, they are debriefed. Shown at debriefing session are: with back to camera, Col. Henri Casenove, Florida Wing; S/M Dennis Dillon, Patrick Composite Squadron; Capt. Harold Teeple, Fort Lauderdale Comp. Squadron; Lt. Col. Roger Shaw, USAF evaluation team (talking with another observer) and Lt. Col. Robert Croft, Florida Wing, debriefing officer.



Reporter Chris Kucha of Action News, TV Channel 5 West Palm Beach, is shown as she interviews Lt. Col. Dick Read, USAF, Florida Wing Liaison Officer. Kucha was on hand when the ground rescue team moved in to administer first aid. She and her photographers got a first hand view of Civil Air Patrol in action during the practice Search and Rescue Mission as it was evaluated by the Air Force evaluation team.



Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Sid Birns

You Count . . .

OUTSTANDING, OUTSTANDING . . . that's what the USAF MEI inspection team gave to our Wing.

We couldn't have done it without you . . . your reports giving us the necessary information and getting them to Wing, on time, gave us the ability to get our house in order. Everyone in this Wing counts. THANK YOU for your past performance, during 1984 . . . **YOU ARE OUTSTANDING!**

Let's zero in on some of the unit PAO's. We seem to have a problem of communication, so PLEASE NOTE the following:

1. Some PAO's don't seem to be aware that the PA monthly reports are now required on a QUARTERLY BASIS, due at Wing HQ on the following dates:

December 20	June 20
March 20	September 20

2. If your unit publishes a Newsletter, PLEASE mail a copy to National. (After putting forth all that effort, why not get the recognition for the work?)
3. If one of your stories and pictures has been published in your local paper, please clip it out and send it along with name (Banner) of the paper, to National HQ . . . 1 copy only.
4. DO NOT SEND QUARTERLY REPORTS TO NATIONAL.
5. Send only 1 copy of your quarterly report and 1 copy each of all published articles and pictures, to Wing HQ, PA.
6. DO NOT SEND DUPLICATE COPIES OF YOUR QUARTERLY REPORTS OR DUPLICATES OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES AND PHOTOS, to Wing.
7. **Please be aware** — quarterly reports received after the due date are as useless as yesterday's news.

Please do not waste time, money and material, follow the above requests and we will eliminate all this duplication of effort.

One other thing, where it concerns the quarterly report (FL Wg Form 2) please make sure that you put your name and rank where indicated and put the unit name and charter number where indicated. Also put the group number. Although it is not indicated, please indicate the quarter you are reporting. If there are any questions, or you would like to make a change on the form, please let me know. I will be happy to make any change for the better.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the conference . . . in the meantime, write good stories, shoot good pictures and safe flying. That's a wrap.

CAP Personnel Now Two For Two

By: 1st/Lt. Susan Moore

It started at 0600, Saturday, October 20, 1984 and ended at 1730. For the second year in a row, CAP personnel from Florida Wing, helped Air Force personnel at Homestead Air Force Base, Open House.

There were two shifts totaling 211 CAP personnel. The CAP personnel manned traffic routes; assisted parking at two parking lots; helped seat visitors and VIP's; answered questions and otherwise assisted the Air Force personnel with making the crowd of 125,000 comfortable.

On display were military equipment and aircraft such as F-16, F-15, C-5, C-135, KC-10, C-130, B-52, F-14, and F-4's. Aircrews were on hand to explain the equipment's functions and to pose for pictures with some of the younger visitors. The **31st Security Police Squadron**, demonstrated handling of military trained dogs. The **301st Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Squadron**, demonstrated the Air Force rescue and recovery techniques.

The main attraction was the **Air Force Thunderbirds**. The six red, white, and blue F-16 fighter falcons, put on a one-hour demonstration of precision flying.

After putting in a full day of work, the CAP personnel from groups 5, 10, 15 & 20 returned home exhausted. Before they left questions were asked, "Did we do well? Did we make you proud? We gave 100%."

Rescuer Donates Check To Group Five

By: Capt. E. B. Bergman,
PAO, Palm Beach Sr. Squadron

Sometimes fate reverses our best efforts — the rescuer becomes the victim. One such misfortune touched Florida Group Five's Chief Check Pilot, **Major Benjamin O. Myers**, who is an employee of the Department of Transportation of the State of Florida.

While working on the repair of a bridge over the Miami Canal near Lake Harbor, Major Myers and co-worker **Raymond Boyne** were struck by a large tractor-trailer and swept from the bridge.

Both had received serious injuries and when they surfaced, Myers made it known that he couldn't swim! Oblivious of his own battered condition, Raymond Boyne somehow effected Myers' rescue.

Major Myers has had extensive surgery to his injured leg and is still undergoing treatment. Boyne fully recovered in two months and the State of Florida has since awarded him a life saving certificate along with a check. Of course, Major Myers' appreciation of his co-worker's performance goes deeper than wall plaques and money.



1st Lt. Susan Moore, Projects Officer for Homestead AFB Open House, receives plaque for Florida Wing from (left) Capt. Edward M. Oglesby, Security Police Operations Officer.

The 31st Security Police squadron answered the cadets by giving out 211 Certificates of Appreciation. In ceremonies they also gave out a plaque to Florida Wing, in recognition of the four groups/nineteen squadrons that participated. Well Done CAP.

Among those CAP members in attendance at the presentation ceremony were: Lt. Col. Sam Spieker, Commander Florida Wing, and 1st/Lt. Susan C. Moore, Projects Officer for Homestead AFB Open House. Others present were: Capt. Edward M. Oglesby, USAF, Security Police Operations Officer, M/Sgt. Larry Heusohn NCOIC and the entire Security Police Supervisory Staff. The Chief of Security Police, Michael W. Higgins, Lt. Col. USAF, was TDY and unable to attend. Each certificate was personally signed by Lt. Col. Michael W. Higgins.



Capt. Norma Deringer of Boca Raton Cadet Squadron presents award to Raymond Boyne (center). Looking on is Maj. Benjamin Myers.

But rescuer Boyne's selflessness did not end there. Impressed by Myers' strong regard for the Civil Air Patrol program, his favorite topic of conversation, Boyne endorsed the check and gave it to Myers for CAP use.

Presently, Major Myers is able to get about by auto. He is hopefully looking forward to again flying search and rescue missions and other duty in Group Five's two corporate aircraft.

Wing Commanders 12-Hour Media "Blitz"

Photos & Story By:
Lt. Ron Gilbert
Ass't. Florida Wing PAO

As Florida Wing's newly appointed Assistant Wing Public Affairs Officer (external), I was looking for a way to blanket an area, in this case Sarasota-Bradenton, with a CAP message. First I needed a message and then someone to deliver it. Our 43rd anniversary, the first week of December and our new Wing Commander, Col. Sam Spieker, were a perfect combination.

It took me about a day and a half of telephoning and personal contact to line up the schedule. Finally, the game plan was in place: interviews at two radio stations, a TV station and three newspapers. To fill a couple of blanks in the day's schedule, there was a CAP Week proclamation at Sarasota City Hall and a potluck dinner attended by senior and cadet members of the Sarasota and Bradenton Squadrons.

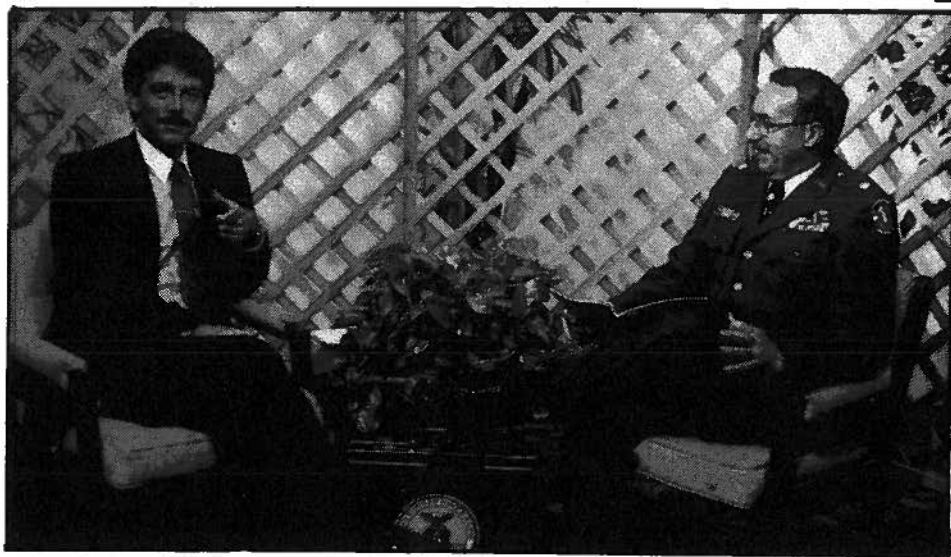
Remembering a time when, as a TV reporter, I had interviewed the Kroger Supermarket Chain's Chairman-of-the-board and he had frozen with a severe case of "mike fright," I was worried about Col. Spieker's ability to perform. On the way from the airport to the first interview I gave the Wing Commander a "drill" on how to handle himself as the subject of an interview. You can imagine my embarrassment when he walked into WAMR's studio and did an absolutely flawless job of presenting the CAP story in a "live" interview conducted by two interviewers!

Weather problems delayed Col. Spieker's departure from Ft. Lauderdale and a misunderstanding over where he was supposed to land, gave our great CAP radio network a chance to show its stuff. The Colonel was reached in flight and changed his course for Venice, arriving only five minutes behind schedule.

Captain Etta Spieker, the Colonel's wife, was with him and the three of us in uniform made a good impression wherever we went. While the Colonel was being interviewed, Captain Spieker and I were doing "one-on-one" interviews with people.

Did we meet our objective? You bet we did and what's more, we met a lot of nice people and had a lot of fun doing it. We're already planning the next media "blitz" and we're going to try to spread them throughout the Florida Wing during 1985. If you are a Group or Squadron PAO and there is a CAP event coming up in your area, let's put our heads together and see if we can arrange a schedule of TV, radio and newspaper interviews for the Wing Commander.

1985 can be the year Florida "found out" about Civil Air Patrol. Let's make it happen!



Tom Amontree of Channel 40 Sarasota, introduces Col. Spieker to his audience.

Headquarters Sqdrn. Performs Mission "Above and Beyond"

By: Maj. Mary Leali

A recent mission in the Florida Panhandle was faced with the prospect of using only one hand-held radio for mission communications. When Lt. Col. Joseph Frakes, Headquarters Senior Squadron Director of Operations, learned of this situation, he immediately notified by radio Capt. Henry Boerner of Tampa of the mission. Boerner owns a communications van with complete mission radio facilities, HF, VHF, ELT locator, CB, FM, etc. Additionally, the van has first aid facilities including stretcher, oxygen, and drag hook, plus all the comforts of home.

Boerner was alerted in Tampa at 0815 hours on Thursday, 27 December 1984 and arrived at Perry Airport Mission Headquarters, a distance of about 300 miles at 1530 hours. While there, he provided the vital communications link for ground and aircraft. Without his unselfish assistance, the mission could not have been successfully operated. He has received praise for his action from Col. Sam Spieker, Florida

Wing Commander, and numerous other Florida Wing Staff members.

On Monday, 30 December, Boerner left Perry Airport to return to Tampa. Behind him, he left many new acquaintances including some cadets whom he helped instruct in radio procedures. He was very impressed with the Panhandle units, particularly the Perry-Foley Composite Squadron. "That unit has developed a tremendous rapport with the townspeople and local businesses. All meals were provided for CAP during the mission and I was really treated well," Capt. Boerner reports.

Capt. Boerner joined CAP eighteen years ago at the Tampa Cadet Squadron. Also he volunteered for the Army Air Corps during WWII and attained the rank of sergeant. Now he hopes to complete his training and be promoted to major in the near future. When asked why he performed his selfless act, Boerner replied, "Isn't that why we joined CAP?"

In My Father's Footsteps?

By: C/Sgt. Era Wakes

Nearly 20 years ago — long before I was born, my father put his CAP uniform into moth-balls never expecting to wear it again. Now, at the age of 66, he is back in the program.

In 1964, the then Maj. Ben Wakes, was on the staff of S. Hallock Du Pont, Jr., Florida Wing Commander. As Wing IO he led the Florida Wing to the nation's No. 1 Information spot. He also edited Gator CAPers, which at that time, was an 8 page tabloid and considered CAP's best unit publication.

Employment and family life changes made it necessary for my father to leave the program. Last year, when I turned 13, I joined CAP. When I was appointed Cadet PAO for my squadron I turned to my dad for advice. I guess my enthusiasm for the program must have rekindled memories for him because last month he rejoined the program.

He is now Senior POA for my Squadron and together we are trying to do for Group 15's Blue Eagle Cadet Squadron what my father did for the Florida Wing.



From The Editor

By: Maj. Jack O'Connor

Perhaps the time has come for "ye editor" to contribute a few lines of copy.

The response from many of you to our request for copy and pictures has been greatly appreciated.

Speaking of pictures, we have received many fine photos, but unfortunately they were Zerox copies and not useable. If there is concern about photos being returned, etc., might I suggest an extra print when processing. If there is a request to return photo, we will be glad to do so.

Do not hesitate to send color prints with your stories. They are just as acceptable, if good quality, as black and white photos. Also size is not important if the photo is in sharp focus.

Another item to pass along which is most important is "change of address." Be advised that our mailing labels are secured from National Headquarters DPD. Unless you have advised them of your change of address, sending a card to this department will serve no purpose. Either send corrected IBM run or postal change to National Headquarters.

Most, if not all of the information, for the "Across the Wing" and "Cadet Corner" column is taken from unit newsletters received by us. It would help matters

greatly if each not only carried the name of the unit, but also included unit and group number.

Also when reference is made to an individual that person's rank should be included.

Remember to keep your stories and pictures not only interesting to other CAP personnel but also the general public, many of whom receive this publication.

This office will try to maintain a quarterly schedule with our publication but without your continuing support by contributing copy and observing deadlines, it will be impossible.

If at any time extra copies of our publication are needed by your unit for a special function they will be made available while supplies last.

Squadron Tells CAP Story From Pulpit

The members of Central Baptist Church, one of Miami's oldest churches, had not been alerted, so they were somewhat amazed to see CAP's **Blue Eagles Cadet Squadron 08349** all in their 1550's, file into church on Sunday 10 February.

But they weren't in the dark for long. **Church Administrator Gene Whitehouse** explained that the squadron had been invited to use the pulpit to explain the aims and purposes of Civil Air Patrol. This was admirably done by **C/Lt. Garcia**.

Lt. Hattie Milan (Bruce), a member of the congregation and a continuous member of CAP for over 20 years, issued the invitation to the squadron.

"I always keep telling people about Civil Air Patrol" Hattie said, "but it's so much better to have a cadet explain the program. Besides," she continued, "they look so good in their uniforms."

The sermon, coincidentally, could not have been more appropriate — it was based on "following orders" . . . God's and mans'.



Gator CAPers

Gator CAPers is an official magazine published quarterly in the interest of the members of the Florida Wing of Civil Air Patrol.

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