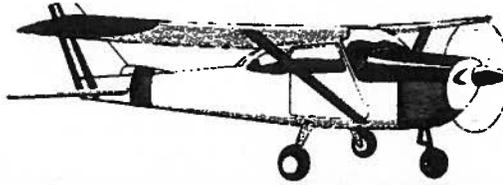


# FLORIDA FACTS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA WING, CIVIL AIR PATROL

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

APRIL 1997



## THE VIEW FROM THE PERCH



**Florida Wing Commander's Message April, 1997**

To all members of the Florida Wing:

By now I have had an opportunity to meet many of you on a personal basis at various functions or missions

throughout the Wing. As I approach the 7th month as your commander, I am starting to see some very positive things occurring.

The Wing Headquarters staff has had several changes which will enable us to provide better services, training, information and support to all our members in the units.

One of the most difficult tasks for your commanders to adjust to has been the additional requirements and changes that I have asked them to comply with as the new FLWG/CC. In some cases, the changes are necessary to help me in my transition as the FLWG/CC.

In many cases, the requirements imposed on us by National Headquarters requires us to do some things in different ways than has been done in the past.

In every case, before I issue directives, I ask the questions "Can we reduce the paperwork requirements to our members? Do we already have this information in some other report?, How does this help the Florida Wing in doing their job? I am very sensitive to the burden that we ask our membership to bear.

As we approach the dates for our Wing Conference, I have directed the project team to have a TOWN MEETING scheduled and I will ask all Wing Staff Directors and all Group Commander to share the stages with me as you have an opportunity to ask specific questions about CAP, and the Policies of the Florida Wing. This is an opportunity for all our membership to truly participate in your organization. I only ask that you act professional in you conduct, and abide by some of the ground rules that I'll set in order to give all our members an opportunity to share in this conversation with your Wing and Group Leadership.

Remember, that my CAP salary is exactly equal to yours.....

I look forward to meeting and talking to all of you at this years conference.

I truly believe that we have reached the bottom of the bungee cord cycle, and have started on the upcycle... Lets keep that momentum going in a positive, professional, safe way.

I had an opportunity to address the participants of the recent Commanders Course and was very impressed with the professionalism, and dedication that was evident on both the instructors, and student participants.

In addition to the academic lessons learned and presented, it was evident by the camaraderie and spirit that we are starting to come together as a team in many ways.

I observed during the Wing Headquarters staff meeting that same identity as a group with a common purpose and dedication. If I can coin a phrase, "I believe that we have reached the bottom of the bungee cord cycle and have

started on the up swing"

Lets keep that up cycle going. It's nice to be able to smile once in awhile, and start having some of that fun that I talk about at commanders calls.

Col. Skiba



**COL ANDY SKIBA  
FLORIDA WING COMMANDER**



**LTC VALERIE BROWN  
FLORIDA WING  
CHIEF OF STAFF**

**1997 FLORIDA WING CONFERENCE OPERATIONS TEAM SEMINARS**

1997 Wing Conference Proposed Seminars from the Operations Team of Florida Wing:

**"Show Me The Money!"** - Florida Wing has revamped its reimbursement procedures to allow you, the local member, to receive your money back within 45 days. Find out how at this informative 30 minute seminar hosted by the Wing Finance Director, Captain Sharon Kingsley, and the Wing DOSA, Major Mike Brown. Your questions will be answered!

**"How To Make Realistic Wounds That Will Gross Out Any Rescue Worker"** - This popular 30 minute seminar will focus on inexpensive ways to provide Moulage wounds to your "victims" that will heighten any training. This course is hosted by Major Alex Kaplan, Group 5 Commander and former Wing DOS.

**"Fire In The Cockpit!"** - This 30 minute seminar will be led by the Wing DOV, Major Luis Garcia, and will provide all aircrews with practical help in emergency procedures.

**"Is Florida Wing Out Of The SAR Business?"** - This one hour informative seminar will be hosted by the Wing DO, Major Robert Smith, as he shares the 1997 Training Calendar for the Wing to include air, ground, SAR, and disaster training. New projects of the Operations Team will also be discussed to include SAR Competitions and new Florida Wing Supplements. New resources for the Mission Coordinator will also be displayed.

**"How Come We Never Get Called Out On A Mission?"** - If you feel that you never get a chance to participate in the Emergency Services mission of CAP, then this 30 minute conference is for you! The Wing DOS, Major Jay Jeffries, will share the requirements needed for you to be part of the team.

**"Basics of Direction Finding"** - This is a 30 Minute fundamentals course taught by the Wing LGS, 1LT Darwin Culbertson, for those who would like to know how to operate the L-Per and the new

Tracker direction finders.

**"So, You Want To Start A Ground Team?"** - This popular 30 minute seminar will provide you with the first steps needed to start a ground team at your unit. Hosted by the Wing DO, Major Robert Smith.

**"Modern Directions In SAR"** - Be watching for information on live demonstrations throughout your free time on SARDog orientation, Airborne Video Assessment, and NASAR [National Association of Search And Rescue] testing opportunities.

Please note: Most of these proposed seminars are approximately 30 minutes in length. We have requested two rooms, preferably near to each other. If we have two rooms then the time to complete these seminars would be about two hours using a schedule such as the following (the times noted are arbitrary):

Thank you for considering these seminars while you are at the 1997 Florida Wing Conference. If you have any questions, please feel free to call (W (352)796-6791 or H (352)754-9173). My E-mail address is: rsmith@thestone.com

Respectfully Submitted,  
Rob Smith FLWG/DO

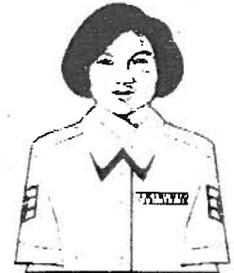


12:00 - 12:30  
12:30 - 13:00  
13:00 - 13:30  
13:30 - 14:00

**Room A**  
Show Me The Money!  
Fire in the Cockpit!  
Realistic Wounds  
Direction Finding

During free time:

**CADET PROGRAMS SEMINARS**



This is my rough outline for the conference for Cadet Programs:

- 1230-1330 Cadet Programs Town Meeting (Sharkey, Winquist & staff)
- 1330-1400 O-flight overview (E. Swearingen or Sharkey)
- 1400-1430 Cadet Education Programs/Wing leadership schools (Moyer & Chase)
- 1430-1445 Break/Pool visit
- 1445-1515 Drug Demand Reduction Program (Colon)
- 1515-1545 AE/Vision 2000 (Keenan)
- 1545-1645 CAC (Westcott & CAC staff)

Matthew R. Sharkey  
LtCol, CAP  
FLWing, Director, Cadet Programs  
ICEA #41

**Room B**  
Out of the SAR Business? - Part 1  
Out of the SAR Business? - Part 2  
How Come We Never Get Called?  
So, You Want to Start a Ground Team?

SARDog Orientation  
Airborne Video Assessment  
NASAR SARTech III Testing Sign-in

**Gone, But Not Forgotten**



1Lt Betty Bass of the Deland Composite Squadron died of cancer on March 15, 1997. The following information is provided by Capt. Bill Latham, commander of the Deland Squadron.

Betty served with Fla. State Forestry for years and in 1987 transferred to the Tomoka District (Daytona Beach area). In Spring of 1988, she attended the Balloon Fest at Deland Municipal Airport where the local squadron had both a fund raising work detail and a recruiting booth. She liked what she saw and joined in May, 1988. (Best recruiting we ever did!!)

She became active with the Cadets and in 1991 accepted the position of DCC. In 1990, she began amassing commendations for her efforts. Her list of commendations include a Wing 'Commanders Commendation' as well as a Regional 'Meritorious Service Award'. In addition to many Cadet activities and encampments, she has served in emergency services as radio operator, ground team, and aircrew. She has been extremely helpful by making herself available whenever needed as a monitoring station for over-water Custom Missions off the East Coast of North/Central Florida.

After Betty resigned her position as DCC, it was discovered that she had completed all re-

quirements for promotion to Captain but had apparently never made application. Such application was immediately submitted by the Squadron, it has cleared Wing, but, alas, it was too late for her to receive it in this life.

.....

Following is information submitted by LTC Matt Sharkey:

I guess the honor of posting how the service went, will be done by me.

Betty worked for the Division of Forestry and they were kind enough to let us hold an outdoors service at their grounds. If you could have seen the forest and beauty, you would understand why Betty worked with these people. The day was beautiful, blue skies and maybe a little too much wind, as the flags can attest to.

I would say that about 50-60 people attended, 20 forestry people, 30 CAP cadets and seniors and the remainder was the family and friends. Can not forget that Andy Ferrari brought Betty's dogs!!

Chaplains Davis and Clark (from the Deland unit, the female half) conducted the service. Chaplain Clark spoke a lot about Betty's passion and "mothering" of the cadets during her last weeks. The work and interactions that Betty had with these cadets was highly discussed.

Mike Kuypers from the Forestry Division, spoke next about Betty's work at the forest and her actions at the fire tower. He said something about missing her iced tea. Betty was also into quilting and he displayed one of quilts

for the audience on the podium. A plaque was dedicated to her and will be hung in their Deland site, with her quilt. He also mentioned that she played "Woodsy Owl" and repaired Smokey the Bear's costume.

Tom Farmer and Fred Swearingen spoke next about her background and assistance with cadet programs and her help at the activities. They both related how they lost a person that was "part of their families."

Bill Latham, the Deland SQ CC, spoke about his friendship with Betty. He related back to the early days of Betty's service and announced that she was being promoted to Captain.

Chaplain Davis brought closure to the service and related that Betty wanted this service for us. Tom Farmer presented the Bass family with a US flag at the end of the service just before TAPS was played. The colors were retired at this point by a joint CAP color guard from Gainesville and Deland.

A magnolia tree was then planted by all in dedication to Betty. A good portion of CAP and Forestry people both in uniform, shoveled dirt around the tree. When this was done, refreshments were served and

stories were told by all in the beautiful forest area.

A couple of people do deserve mention here for their assistance in making the service a reality. They are, in no order: Chaplain Davis and Clark, the Farmers, the Swearingens, Bill Latham, Steve Fredeman and the new friends CAP has from the Forestry service.

.....

E-mail comments from her friends...

Betty could be a tough old bird, as many a cadet found out the hard way when they were not following regulations, but she had a heart of gold. She was always there for the cadets comforting and supporting as the situation merited. There were many nights she would be doing other people's laundry into the early morning. —Larry Gray

She is definitely one for the books. We will all miss her. —C/Col Billy Westcott

We could always say to her the Wing's hurting, we need you to be there, the Cadets need you. The answer would be yes sir, I will be there. Betty I miss you !!!

—Roland W. Rasmussen  
(RUSTY)



**CAP MEMBERS, BETTY'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS FROM THE FORESTRY SERVICE PLANTED A TREE IN BETTY'S MEMORY**

**Also Remembered ...**

Lieutenant Colonel John Stootman (Tampa Cadet Squadron) passed away on Tuesday, 8 April 1997 in Tampa, Florida.

Lt. Col. Stootman was a veteran of 17 years with the US Navy. On 14 Jan 94, Lt. Col. Stootman and his wife, Lt. Col. Florence Stootman, were both recognized for having over 20 years of service in the Civil Air Patrol.

At a Group 3 Banquet, Lt. Col. Stootman was presented with a US flag - the same flag that flew over the US Capitol building on the 52nd Anniversary of the CAP on 1 Dec 93. The flag was presented by Colonel Ernie Lewis, the then Florida Wing Commander, and Col. Lewis said "This flag is presented in recognition of 21

years of service to the Civil Air Patrol, for unselfish dedication in developing responsible citizens....the Tampa Cadet Squadron would like to present this flag."

A Naval veteran of World War II, Lt. Col. Stootman was honorably discharged from the US Naval Reserve in 1962. In the Civil Air Patrol, by 1984, he had completed the requirements for and earned everything from Level I up to the Gill Robb Wilson Award. He was presented with Wilson #320 and was congratulated by General Howard Brookfield, who was, at that time, the CAP National Commander.

Lt. Col. Stootman served in many positions during his career with CAP: He was the Group 18 Communications

Officer, Florida Wing Communications Officer, Group 17 IG; Interim Commander of Group 3; Group 3 Communications Officer; Emergency Services Officer; Senior Programs Officer; Cadet Programs Officer; Plans and Programs Officer; and Safety Officer. He earned a Commander's Commendation Award for his work during Hurricane Andrew and the recovery missions that followed.

Tampa Cadet Squadron was, however, Lt. Col. Stootman's main love. He began there as Activities Officer in 1975. He was Communications Officer and participated in many communications exercises, and SAR tests and missions. He went on countless cadet bivouacs; assisted with Special Olympics, Wheelchair Olympics, and helped many cadets get First Aid and Radio

Operator cards. He was appointed Tampa Cadet Squadron Commander in 1991.

The words "unselfish dedication" cannot begin to describe the work that was done by Lt. Col. Stootman and the countless hours he spent influencing hundreds of young people through his work with the Civil Air Patrol.

Funeral services were held Saturday, 12 April 1997, 1400 hours Graveside services were at the Garden of Memories Cemetery, on East Martin Luther King Blvd., east of 50th Street, following funeral. Military honors were rendered by cadets of the Tampa Cadet Squadron.

—Skip Munger, Major, CAP Florida Wing Administrator

**Computer Humor**

Submitted by  
Capt. Sharon Kingsley

Once upon a midnight dreary, fingers cramped and vision bleary, Finance manuals piled high and wasted paper on the floor, Longing for the warmth of bed sheets, still I sat there doing spreadsheets. Having reached the bottom line I took a floppy from the drawer, I then invoked the SAVE command and waited for the disk to store,  
Only this and nothing more.

Deep into the monitor peering, long I sat there wond'ring, fearing, doubting, while the disk kept churning, turning yet to churn some more. But the silence was unbroken, and the stillness gave no token. "Save!" I said,

Save my data from before!"  
One thing did the phosphors answer, only this and nothing more.  
Just, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

Was this some illusion, some maniacal intrusion?  
These were choices undesired, ones I'd never faced before. Carefully I weighed the choices as the disk made impish noises. The cursor flashed, insistent, waiting, baiting me to type some more. Clearly I must press a key, choosing one and nothing more.  
"Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

With fingers pale and trembling, slowly toward the keyboard bending, Longing for a happy ending, hoping all would be restored, Praying

for some guarantee, timidly, I pressed a key. But on the screen there still persisted words appearing as before. Ghastly grim they blinked and taunted, haunted, as my patience wore. Saying, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

I tried to catch the chips off guard, and pressed again, but twice as hard. I pleaded with the cursed machine; I begged and cried and more. Now in mighty desperation, trying random combinations, Still there came the incantation, just as senseless as before. Cursor blinking, angrily winking, blinking nonsense as before. Reading, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

There I sat, distraught, exhausted, by my own machine accosted. Getting up I turned away and paced across the office floor. And then I saw a dreadful sight; a lightning

bolt cut through the night. A gasp of horror overtook shook me to my very core. The lightning zapped my previous data, lost and gone forevermore. Not even "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"

To this day I do not know the places to which lost data go. What world is wrought where lost data will be stored, Beyond the reach of mortal souls, beyond the ether, into black holes? But sure as there's C, Pascal, Lotus, Ashton-Tate and more, You will one day be left to wander, lost on some Plutonian shore,  
Pleading, "Abort, Retry, Ignore?"



# SAREVAL

An Air Force evaluated SAR mission was held at New Smyrna Beach airport [NSB] on Saturday, March 1. This SAREVAL (Search & Rescue Evaluation) was to test the people and resources of Groups 2, 6, 7.

The following are my thoughts and opinions solely. If I leave anyone's name out I apologize in advance as it is simply that I either forgot it or ran out of room. No slight to anyone is intended. Any factual errors are may own as well and I will gladly publish corrections as soon as they are pointed out to me.

I would like to congratulate all the participants at the FL Wing SAREVAL on Saturday 1MAR97) at New Smyrna Beach. In particular, Lt John Bayne as the IC (Incident Commander) did an outstanding job putting together the resources and facilities to make it all happen.

Zero accidents and a very positive learning environment. It was an interesting day from several standpoints. According to 1Lt Vanessa Rowley, there were 19 cadets and over 60 (I forgot the exact number) seniors registered. In addition to the USAF evaluators and field target staff, there were numerous VIP guests and visitors including Col Skiba (as he said, our "...NEW Wing Commander for the week"), LtCol Valerie Brown (CS), LtCol Rob Smith (DO), and Maj Mike Brown (DOO) from the HQ staff. Also, the Volusia County Sheriff's of-

fice sent their Bell Ranger helicopter and crew to the site where they participated in the morning kick-off briefing.

In addition to the MULTIPLE problems presented, we encountered and worked 2 non-distress 121.5 ELT incidents. One was reported by an aircrew on a scenario task (Capt Lee Greenway and crew in CPF 821), and one an RCC SARSAT mission (congratulations to LtCol Ron Onken and his aircrew in CPF 831 who were diverted from a scenario task and who subsequently identified the source in a seaplane on a lake. When it took off I understand they had good tone, but were NOT cleared to fire -- though the signal did cease just prior to the take-off.) Lt Bayne and other Daytona ground team members located the other ELT signal in the evening AFTER everyone else went home as it turned out to be an EPIRB at a marina in the midst of Daytona (just south of the Seabreeze Bridge).

The mission staff were all excellent, and it would be impractical to list all their names. However, 1Lt Frank Haas earned the gold star for the day for his outstanding communications setup and Maj Gary Nelson got a silver star for outstanding briefing/debriefing center. Also, the chaplain (whose name I am sorry I have forgotten) received high praise for his active, compassionate role with the grieving ex-husband and for all his work keeping the spirits and morale high among the many participants who, as is usually the case, find themselves waiting interminably for something to happen.

This mission had one of the most extensive uses of computers (especially geographic mapping computers) I have ever seen. There was also a computer dedicated specifically to weather with a dedicated weather officer in the briefing area. There were also computers used in a packet link between the communications center and the main mis-

sion base HQ/Operations area. The easy audit trail created as a by-product of this packet link was especially valuable as the day wore on and the complexity of coordinating the multiple teams and aircraft increased.

—James K. Massey, LtCol, CAP Asst MC



**MANY MEMBERS OF GROUP 2, 6 & 7 GAINED EXPERIENCE DURING THE SAREVAL, INCLUDING C/1LT SHANE TURNER, WHO WORKED IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH 1LT FRANK HAAS & 1LT BOB COLBERT**



**LTC DAVE FULLER, MAJ ROB SMITH, WING DO, MAJ MIKE BROWN, WING DOO & CAPT LEE GREENWAY PLAN A SORTIE FOR N98708, FROM THE GAINESVILLE COMPOSITE SQUADRON**

# COMMUNICATION

submitted by  
 1Lt Frank Haas  
 Coord., Central FL Commu-  
 nications Response Team



Those of you with Internet access who have an interest in CAP Leadership Skills will want to visit a site named "The CAP Officer." The URL is <http://www.dartmouth.edu/~janl/journal/current.issue.html>

The site features a handful of articles which focus on leadership skills in CAP. Of particular interest is the article by Major Curt E. LaFond entitled Mentoring Cadets to Develop Their Potential. I found it to be quite informative.

## Communicating Effectively

Never say the word "thing" ever again. "Thing" destroys the communication process. It says nothing and only frustrates the listener. When you say, "What is that thing over there?" The listener looks around and has no clue what you're talking about.

Your attempt to get information fails. When you approach a superior and ask him if he knows the status of the thing you need done, you get a puzzled look. How many things do you suppose he's keeping track of? When you call tech support and say, "I was working in that Window thing and I clicked on that thing and then something happened that I didn't expect and a message thing came up on the screen and I clicked again on the thing..." all you are doing is frustrating the listener and wasting his time and yours.

True leaders are effective communicators. The ability to speak intelligently and specifically is a rare and special tal-

ent. If you want to command the respect of your peers, be a good, clear, specific communicator. The most respected people in the world have always been strong clear communicators. Think about it. Think of any famous person and take note of their ability to speak.

Do people tend to misunderstand what you tell them? Do you have to repeat yourself often? If so, here's a few tips to improve your communication skills.

1. Think about what you are going to say. It's OK to pause long enough to let your brain formulate a full sentence that fully says what needs to be said. The slight bit of time required will be more than made up by the increased clarity of your phrasing.

2. Speak loud enough to be heard and speak slowly enough to pronounce every word. Most of us have no good excuse for mumbling and running our words together. One of the best methods of improving your speech is to record yourself reading a paragraph from a book or newspaper and then listening to the recording. It

can be very revealing.

3. Never use the word "thing." It only masks what you mean and communicates nothing.

4. Be enthusiastic when you speak. Boring speakers are generally ignored. People pay close attention to enthusiastic speakers.

5. Pay attention to the body language of your listener. They may not say they don't understand but it will show in their face and their eyes.

Spend just a little time concentrating on improving your speaking skills and suddenly people will pay closer attention to what you say and they will understand you the first time. Everything you do will take on a fresh new efficiency and confusion will fade away. Can't succeed on your own? Consider a Dale Carnegie course or Toastmasters. Public speaking skills are among the most valuable corporate assets you can possess. Being a good communicator will do more to promote you than almost anything else you can do. Speak clearly and succeed.

# HELP WANTED

Wanted: CAP Communicators and individuals interested in becoming CAP Communicators. The Central FL Communications Response Team needs additional staff to transport, setup and staff its mobile mission base communications facility. If you are a top flight CAP radio operator or want to learn how to be one, this is your chance to be a part of FL Wing's best known comm team.

## Requirements:

Live within 1 hour driving distance of Daytona Beach. Be a CAP Senior or Cadet Member Be readily available for callouts by telephone, radio or pager. Have an interest in CAP communica-

tions and be willing to learn.

The Team has openings for individuals who can help transport equipment and personnel, setup the comm facility and operate one or more of its voice and packet radio stations on a duty shift schedule during missions and training exercises. At the conclusion of the mission or exercise, team members tear down the facility, pack the gear and transport it back to storage at the Daytona Beach Composite Squadron.

The Central FL Comm Response Team is usually called out whenever a missing aircraft search is started and a mission base is established somewhere in Central Florida. The team is also called upon to provide communications for large scale training exercises. The team

also provides comm training for units and groups in Central Florida.

Interested members should contact 1Lt Frank N. Haas anytime at (904)677-7272 voice mailbox #6 or email to [headrat@worldnet.att.net](mailto:headrat@worldnet.att.net) or write to Central FL Comm Response Team, c/o Daytona Beach Composite Squadron, P O Box 1048, Daytona Beach FL 32115-1048 for further information.

We need you now. Call today!



NOTES FROM CADET PROGRAMS

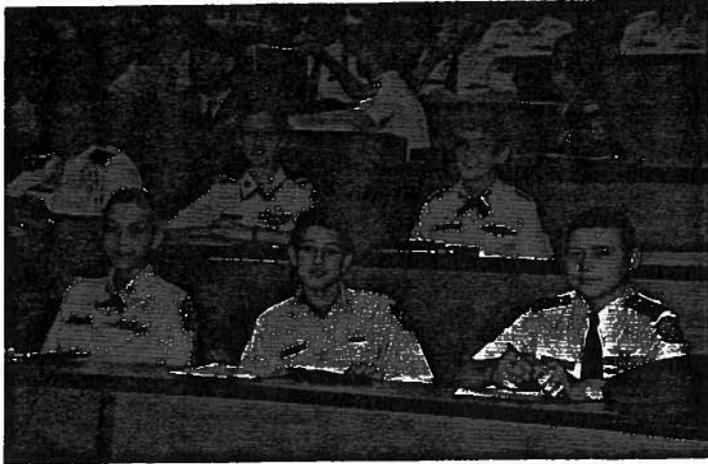
WING CAC

SPECIAL ACTS

Cadets arrived on the campus of Seminole Community College near Orlando from all over Florida by van, chartered bus, and POV's on Saturday, February 8, 1997. They were there for the Special Acts Selection in order to qualify for National activities in the sum

He had planned to have results posted that day, but the walk-ins caused a delay in his computer printouts. All squadrons were mailed the results within days and Capt. Jenkins is to be commended for the detailed printouts - complete with comments from the board for each cadet.

Congratulations to C/2Lt Jose Monroy from the Coral Springs Cadet Squadron for being named the Florida Wing Phase III Cadet of the Year for 1996 and C/Major Hugh Stewart from the Miami Springs Optimist Cadet Squadron for being named the Florida Wing Cadet of the Year for 1996.



CADETS FIRST TOOK THEIR TEST

mer of 1997. In all 123 cadets showed up - some had not pre-registered or filled out the new Form 31's and that caused a time delay.

Cadets from Basic to Colonel were there to compete for National slots, "doolie" encampment scholarships, and Cadet of the Year.

Special Acts was coordinated by Capt. Jayson Jenkins, Maj Jenny Wertz and many other helping hands that made the operation work that day.

Capt. Jenkins had the function going like clockwork, with cadets signing in, testing, and going before boards.

Next year Florida Wing plans to have the Special Acts Selection Boards held again at the campus of Seminole Community College. It is an excellent site since it is central to all squadrons and the facilities are more than adequate for such a function. We strongly encourage each unit to send all their cadets to Special Acts - it is a great learning experience, time for cadets to fellowship and who knows - they might get chosen for their favorite National activity!



THEN CADETS WENT BEFORE THE BOARD

FROM: Chairman, Florida Wing CAC

SUBJECT: Upcoming Meeting Agenda

1. The next Cadet Advisory Council meeting will be on 25 May 97 during the Wing Conference. Plan on attending the meeting. We have some important matters to discuss.

2. The agenda for 25 May 97 is as follows:

a. Elections for Wing Recorder. The Florida Wing Commander has given verbal approval that the current Wing CAC staff continue in their duties for an additional year. C/LtCol Richard Martin will assume the office of Vice-Chairperson at the conclusion of the meeting, thus leaving the office of Recorder open. Persons running for this office should have served as a representative to the CAC and meet the criteria as stated in CAPM 50-16, Chapter 7 Paragraph 4.b.(1). Candidates need to contact C/Col Westcott via telephone (813-269-9095), email (bhw@mail.gte.net), or mail (3614 Cypress Meadows Rd., Tampa, FL 33624-2912) to express their intent.

b. Cadet Honor Society. We will be formulating the directives for the Cadet Honor Society, and assuming a role in its operations. Be prepared to discuss and input your ideas to make this society work.

c. Middle School Programs. Units that include this program are having some level of difficulty managing it. We will be discussing ways to help guide the program along. Group Representatives that have squadrons hosting this program should become familiar with it to input your knowledge of the program at the CAC meeting.

d. Wing Special Activities. We will gather ideas for wing activities that allow members that are not eligible for national activities attend activities in the summer, especially for the younger cadets. The Florida Wing "Cadet Officer Training School" and Cadet NCO Academy may be discussed.

—Continued on Page 8

# NEWS FROM THE TROOPS

—Continued from Page 7

3. Please disseminate this information to the fullest extent. Valuable information can be attained by units under the group echelon, where the heart of the cadet program is. If you are no longer the Group Chairperson/ Representative, please forward this letter to the current Representative and inform the Wing CAC Chairman.

4. I plan on seeing each of you at the Wing Conference/CAC meeting. Thank you.

Billy Wescott  
Cadet Colonel,  
CAP

FIWg CAC Chairman

## SPACE CAMP

I would like to say "thank you" to the members of the CAC who participated in selecting the cadets to attend Space Camp/Aviation Challenge.

Winners are as follows:

- 1: Brandie Harris
- 2: Leiza Heron
- 3: Sean Cohen
- 4: Dustin Black
- 5: Melissa Swearingen
- 6: Greg Grantham

All these cadets did was send a letter to Cadet Programs saying why they wanted to attend Aviation Challenge. It was unbelievable that only about 10 cadets applied. Come on guys, how much effort does it take to write a letter when the prize is a free week at Space Camp's Aviation Challenge. To those going - have fun and bring back a report for the next Florida Facts!

### Dateline Miami—

Miami Enterprise Cadet Squadron is proud to announce that our Chaplain, Dr. Scott Downing, has been approved from National Headquarters.

Dr. Downing's appointment and promotion to Capt. was held Sunday, Feb. 16 at: Naranja Park Baptist Church. 13295 S.W. 268 Street. Naranja, Fl. 33032 11:00 hrs.

Fla. Wing Chaplain LtCol. Kermit Davis conducted the ceremony. Fla. Wing Commander Col. Skiba flew in to attend.

A reception followed the service with refreshments and snacks served.

Naranja Park Baptist Church is located about one mile from Homestead Air Reserve Base.

Capt. Ron Alexander  
Commander, 08090

### Dateline Apollo Beach—

On the 15 & 16 of March 1997 the Apollo Beach Cadet Squadron was given a mission. A search and rescue you might say. We rescued drivers by searching out a parking space for them at the Apollo Beach Chamber of Commerce's recent Manatee Arts Festival. C/SSgt Jaime Bruns and 2Lt Stephen Modica were appointed project officers over the 20 cadets and seniors who arrived to help us in our mission. Rescued drivers is roughly estimated at 3000 over the two days.

In the 5 years the festival has

been in existence this is the only year that there were no complaints and only compliments about the parking from all of those rescued. Our teamwork and well organized efforts were not only noticed by the event organizers, who have already requested our presence next year, but by other organizations who were present and have requested our presence at their events to be held later this year.

The Manatee Arts Festival is held annually in Apollo Beach Florida, where 72 artists who work their wonders on many different forms of media gather to show and sell their most recent efforts. Many are truly works of art. A sizable portion of the profits are donated to preservation efforts of the manatee. The manatee, also known as the sea cow is a large, playful walrus looking sea mammal whose existence is endangered by both a disappearing habitat and by unknowing boaters propellers.

### Dateline Clearwater—

Major Scott Clarkson, Group IV Commander of the Florida Wing presented Civil Air Patrol Cadet 1Lt Joshua Schumacher the organization's Amelia Earhart Award and promotion to the rank of Cadet Captain in a formal ceremony held Thursday, April 10, at the Clearwater Air Park.

Cadet Captain Schumacher, is the son of Mr. Michael Schumacher and Mrs. NoaJean Schumacher of Holiday, Florida. He is a member and Cadet Commander of Civil Air Patrol's Clearwater Composite

Squadron, which he joined in October 1994.

Additional promotions were awarded to: Robert Johnson to Cadet Sergeant, Sean Lower to Cadet Tech Sergeant and Joseph Priolo to Cadet Staff Sergeant.

In addition, eleven Cadets were awarded the CAP Model Rocketry Certificate and Badge by Captain Atanasio, Commander of Clearwater Composite Squadron 08043.

Lee Selner, PAO  
08043

### Dateline Miami—

Once again CAP was in the public light and shined brightly. On 22 March Maga City Miami, which sponsors the Special Olympics in Miami, asked Group 10 to assist them. Group staff and Miami Springs Optimist Squadron showed up with approx. 30 cadets to help out in first aid, security, and public relations.

The Medical Team treated everything from scraps, to providing assistance in 1 heart attack and one seizure until fire rescue arrived.

There were about 2,000 people attending along with corporations: Bell South, Motorola, F.P.L. and others.

A JOB WELL DONE.  
1Lt. Gooch ( Gr. 10 Comm. )

### AIDS Walk Miami

On 23 Feb 97 the Miami Springs Optimist Cadet Squadron volunteered at the Miami AIDS Walk in South Beach. The activity was sponsored by the Health Crisis Net

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 work and raised a total of \$50,000 for AIDS research. The fifty-three (53) Miami Springs Members provided security for the TV/Movie Celebrities, assisted Police Officers, and greater the 26,000 participants (walkers).

Mayling Ganuza, C/FO, CAP  
 Cadet Public Affairs Officer

**Dateline West Broward—**

In this article I will tell you about our skeet shoots. I will tell you about why we participate in them, and what they're like.

The skeet shoots are very important in our fundraising. Our cadets go over to whatever park hosts the shoot and assist in running the skeet shoots properly and make sure that they run smoothly. The shoots take place most of the time at Markham Park. There, we are given a location in the park where we then are assigned usually one of two tasks; scoring or firing the skeet disks. The shoots usually last for four to five hours. When the competitions conclude we go to the cafeteria and eat lunch together. Then we go home after a long day of hard but rewarding work.

JOEL ARENCIBIA  
 West Broward Composite Squadron

**Dateline Marion County—**

The Marion County Composite Squadron 08361 completed a practice SAREX on January 11, 1997. Two aircraft sorties were completed locating two different targets. The first target was a ELT located near the south end of Dunnellon Airport, and the second was a simulated downed aircraft in a field just northeast of the retirement community called "On Top of the World". This second target was a set of orange panels set out in a brown field and with no ELT. The aircraft was briefed to fly a search pattern in grid 276 C & D.

Under senior supervision both the ELT site and the simulated downed plane site were manned with cadets. They were instructed to flash mirrors and use other

methods to attract the planes attention (just as if they were really down). In addition they were to give two sets of hand signals to the plane and the air crews were graded on how well they reported on the sightings, and if they included the correct hand signals in reports, debriefings, etc. The day was fun for all, and both sorties found the simulated plane, but the first plane did not locate the ELT as apparently its battery was dead. Much attention was given to proper paperwork procedures and safety of all participants was stressed.

**Dateline Clearwater—**

Joshua Schumacher, 16, has satisfactorily completed all requirements for the solo phase of his flight training. He soloed for the first time at Clearwater Air Park.

Joshua has been an active member of the Civil Air Patrol since joining in October 1994. Cadet 1Lt Schumacher has participated in a Florida Wing Encampment, Squadron Bivouac's and a number of other Squadron related activities. He has achieved his Billy Mitchell and Amelia Earhart awards and is presently serving as the Cadet Commander of the Clearwater Composite Squadron.

Schumacher is a home school student and is employed part time at the Clearwater Air Park where he continues his flight training.

**AND BABY MAKES FOUR**

Congratulations to Maj Jenny Wertz, Cadet Programs Special Activities Officer and husband Maj Merlin Wertz, Group 6 Deputy Commander, on the birth of their baby boy. Keegan Bryce Wertz was born on February 22, 1997 at 0945 and was 6lbs, 20 inches long. He joins big brother Alex - future additions to the Sabal Cadet Squadron!

**Dateline Eglin AFB—**

In a ceremony held at the Eglin Composite Squadron headquarters on January 7th, 1997, Major Dale K. Robinson accepted the reins of command from Captain Martha A. Woodcock. Lieutenant Colonel John Kiger, Group XI Commander officiated. Major Robinson has completed Level IV of the Senior Training Program and is a graduate of Region Staff College. Prior to accepting command of the squadron, he served as public affairs officer. He formerly commanded Phoenix-Litchfield Composite Squadron 313 in Arizona and holds a master rating in cadet programs.

Captain Woodcock will continue to serve as deputy commander for seniors and testing officer for the squadron.

Colonel Kiger also presented the squadron with the Unit Citation Award for service from 1968 - 1996. The award cited the thousands of hours of volunteer work squadron members have contributed to the community over the years, highlighting the squadron's performance during recovery operations following Hurricanes Erin and Opal in 1995.

Rounding out the ceremonies, Colonel Kiger presented the General Billy Mitchell Award to Cadets Patrick Woodcock and Patrick Draper.

Senior member 2nd Lieutenant Edward Lege was recently awarded the Commander's Commendation for the effort he put into his volunteer work with Civil Air Patrol. Lieutenant Lege often put in three or four hours a day most days of the week at the squadron, where he worked behind the scenes to ensure the necessary paperwork and other routine chores were completed. He also manned the squadron as a mission base for the numerous emergency locator transmitter search missions the squadron was tasked with in 1996. Lieutenant Lege is in the process of relocating to Tennessee.

Cadets Ted West and Tara Quill received letters from Florida Wing commander Colonel Andrew Skiba commending their outstanding performance at the Alabama-Mississippi Wings Joint Encampment in December.

**PROMOTIONS, AWARDS...**

**To 2nd Lieutenant:**

Marjorie L. Black (HQ FL Wing/Asst TTN)

Paul Garrett Hayes III, MacDill Composite Squadron

Ana Ivonne Aviles, Finance Officer, MacDill Sqdn.

**To First Lieutenant:**

Charles C. Harrison, Coral Springs Cadet Squadron

William J. Decordre (HQ FL Wing/DOA)

Clarence P. Morton Sarasota-Bradenton Comp. Squadron/CC

**To Captain:**

Sharon Kingsley, FL Wing Finance Officer

David L. Younce, McCoy Cadet Squadron

Mario D. Bartoletti (DOG 1 Jan 97), MacDill Sqdn.

Joseph D. Lampariello (DOG 1 Jan 97), MacDill Sqdn

Robert Wisniewski (DOG 1 Jan 97), MacDill Sqdn

Dr. David P. Kalin, M.D., M.P.H. (Medical Officer, MacDill Sqdn)

**To Major:**

Wendell E. Reeve, Jr., MacDill Comp. Squadron

Steven J. Bell, Chaplain, MacDill Sqdn

Luis A. Garcia, DOV, FL Wing HQ

Jay K. Jeffries (DOG 1 Jan 97), Florida Wing HQ

Larry J. Durham, (FL WING HQ) (TTN).

**To Lieutenant Colonel:**

Robin P. "Pat" MIRK, Legal Officer, FL Wing HQ

Jerry V. Proctor, Deputy Cdr/ Seniors, MacDill Sqdn.

**Graduation - Check Pilot Course 27 Oct 96 (Diplomas at Wing):**

Peter Baker - 08376

Robert Becka - 08310

Luca F. Bencini-Tibo - 08010

Bryan Brotheridge - 08122

Phillip Brown - 08043

Ronald Brown - 08383

Jimmy Davis - 08424

Gregg Delea - 08104

Larry Durham - 08001

Frits Forrer - 08310

Luis Garcia - 08001

George Gemberling - 08376

Morris Groover - 08249

Frederick Hanold - 08323

David Helms - 08051

Hartford P. Jenks -

George Keeler - 08173

Jacob Kertz - 08021

Joseph Lavati - 08249

David Lehtonen - 08272

Eugene Littlefield - 08182

Kenneth Lung - 08279

Randal Miner - 08025

Jack Moore - 08047

Grant Pope - 08310

Daisy Poss - 08060

Russell Reichmann - 08337

Gordon Reily - 08323

Stephen Rogers - 08279

Jeffrey D. Shebesta - 08424

Vicki Lynn Sherman - 08060

Harry Singleton - 08060

Andrew E. Skiba - 08001

Randall Smith - 08383

Nicholas Spencer - 08019

Charles D. Svoboda - 08153

Roger Thomas - 08001

John P. Wilson - 08424

In the short time I have been the commanding officer of #08051 (less than 30 days) I believe that I have had quite a singular occasion/opportunity to preside at a small squadron ceremony honoring the simultaneous promotions of an entire family.

At our last meeting (28th) : 1st Lt. Larue Earnest, Jr. (Recruiting Officer) received his promotion to Captain. His wife, 1st Lt. Rae Earnest (Finance Officer) received her promotion to Captain, and their daughter SM Evona Earnest (Ass't. Historian) received her promotion to 2nd Lt.

Larue (Bud) has been a member of the CAP since 1955, Rae since 1971, and Evona since 1993. Evona is also on active duty with the U. S. Air Force.

It is quite coincidental that these three promotions came through the system at precisely the same time!

Robert D. Brandt  
Capt. Commanding

Notes from the Daytona Beach Composite Squadron:

Congratulations to:

Jeff Peterson - promoted to Major

Ben Hand - promoted to 1st Lt.  
Christina Olson - promoted to 2nd Lt.

Loretta Bayne - promoted to 2nd Lt.

Cadet Steven Austin - earned Earhart Award

Cadet Michael Fulton - earned Mitchell Award

We are delighted to report that Major Greg Winqvist has transferred back to DBCS after being away for 3 years. Major

Winqvist has been in NY Wing where he commanded a squadron. He has returned to Florida to complete his college work at Embry-Riddle Aero University.

As a direct result of the recent SAR Eval, DBCS has embarked on a Ground Team Member training program in cooperation with neighboring New Smyrna Beach Composite, Deland Composite and Ormond Beach Senior Squadrons. We hope to graduate at least 20 new ground team members within the next 60 days.

DBCS Commander 1Lt Frank N. Haas completed the Wing Unit Commander's Course at MacDill AFB 14-16 March.

Information for the 08033rd Sarasota-Bradenton Composite Squadron, LtC N. Karen Wade Commanding, is as follows:

The following personnel were promoted to 2nd Lt. at the December Family Night:

Clarence Morton

Kenneth Reed

Donald Winter, Jr.

The following Cadet was Promoted to Cadet Captain on the same night:

Andrew Bennett

Don Winter  
Communications Officer

At the Group VII Banquet, held at Patrick AFB on March 14, LtC David Lehtonen, CAP, Group VII commander, announced that Ti-Co Composite Squadron had been selected as Squadron of the Year. Ti-Co, long a steady performer in the competition,

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## FLORIDA FACTS

—Continued from Page 10  
has recently emerged as a powerhouse of cadet recruiting and activities. Accepting the award for the squadron were Capt Kevin Keenan, Squadron Commander and C/Capt. Scott Walters, Cadet Commander.

C/FO Schuyler Boulware, Cadet Commander of Patrick Comp. Sq. was named Cadet of the Year for Group VII, and had the honor of being the first to receive the Major General Jimmy Morrell Trophy. C/FO Boulware's squadron will keep the trophy until the next Cadet of the Year is named. The trophy is named for MGen Jimmy Morrell, USAF, Ret., a past commander of Patrick AFB's 45th Space Wing who is a local resident and supporter of the Group VII's Cadet Program.

Outstanding Senior Member of the Year was LtC Ron Onken, Commander of Central Brevard Senior Squadron. LtC Onken was cited for the dramatic increase in efficiency of Central Brevard Sq. and his management of many practice SAR missions that the squadron has hosted.

General Morrell made two presentations of the Amelia Earhart Award at the banquet. Ericka Laing, Cadet Commander of Stuart Cadet Squadron and Scott Walters of Ti-Co each received the award and the promotion to the grade of Cadet Captain. The Gen. Billy Mitchell Award was presented to C/FO Nate Stublely and C/FO Bryon Beck, of Stuart, and C/FO Schuyler Boulware of Patrick.

Other honored guests of Group VII were Col Ronald Larivee, USAF, 45th Space

Wing Vice Commander, and LtC Kit Alverson, USAF, Ret. who spoke about his wide-ranging career in high performance jet aircraft. Many door prizes were awarded to the members of Group VII in the form of spaceflight posters and souvenirs donated by United Space Boosters Inc. and Capt Tony Pinto of Ti-Co Comp. Sq. Capt. Pinto recently completed Level 3 training, and was awarded the Grover Loring Award at the Banquet.

Capt. Kevin Keenan  
Group 7 DCP

GP5 held its annual awards banquet. Coral Springs Cadet Squadron was named GP5 Cadet Sqdrn of the year; Palm Beach Sr. Sqdrn was named GP5 Sr. Sqdrn of the year; Capt. Randy Wilkinson was named GP5 Sr of the Year; C/SSgt Brian Aquilla was named Gp5 Cadet of the Year. LTC Seymour Orgel received a Meritorious Service Award; LTC Peter Weinstein received the Exceptional Service Award; LTC Robert Masiker and Cpt. Bill Passinos were awarded Commanders Commendations.

The assistance of LTC Valerie Brown, Wing/CS, is gratefully acknowledged in standing in for Col. Skiba, who could not attend due to his presence at MacDill. She ably assisted in the presentation of the awards. Plaques of Appreciation were presented to County Commissioner Mary McCarty and former PBC Sheriff Charles McCutcheon for their support of GP5.

A proclamation of the County Commission designating Dec. 1, 1996 as CAP Day was presented to us on behalf of the Commissioners.

Owen Gasoway, owner of Florida Airmotive and FBO of Lantana Airpark, signed an MOU with GP5 to provide 10 hours of free avgas to any cadet who starts primary flight training in the CAP a/c with CAP CFI's. In addition, Mr. Gasoway will pay for their medical exam for their medical certificate once they turn 16 years. Mr. Gasoway is a former pilot of Task Force 3 during WWII, and still owns and hangs one of the original CAP anti-sub patrol planes at LNA. His support is, as always, greatly and sincerely appreciated.

Maj. Alex Kaplan, GP5/CC

The Group 6 Banquet was held February 1, 1997 at the Holiday Inn in Altamonte Springs. Honored guests were LTC Bob Pettigrew, Vice Commander for Florida Wing North, LTC Matt Sharkey, Florida Wing DCP, and LTC John D'Anieri, S.E. Region IG.

Awards given out were:  
Senior Member of the Year:  
1Lt John Bayne from Daytona Beach Composite Squadron.  
Cadet of the Year:  
C/2Lt Shane Turner from the Orlando Cadet Squadron.

Mitchell's awarded to: C/FO Chris Didier from the Orlando Cadet Squadron and C/FO Chris Johnson from the Sabal Cadet Squadron.

Special recognition and award was given to LTC John D'Anieri, SE Region IG, for 25 plus years service to CAP.

Trish Turner, PAO  
Orlando Cadet Squadron

The Sabal Cadet Squadron held its second annual Award

Banquet for 1996 on Monday, 06 January 1997. 1996 marked the completion of Sabal's first full calendar year of operations, having been founded in mid-1995.

Annual awards presented at the banquet included:

Superior Achievement Award 1996 — C/SSgt John Miller  
Cadet of the Year 1996 — C/FO Christopher Johnson  
Senior Member of the Year 1996 — 2Lt Cathy Titshaw  
Parents of the Year 1996 — Lynne and Jack Miller

C/FO Chris Johnson also received a plaque commemorating his achievement as the first Billy Mitchell Award recipient at Sabal.

Jayson Jenkins, Cpt CAP  
Commander, Sabal Cadet  
08042

At the Group 5 annual banquet the Palm Beach Cadet Squadron gave 4 awards out - 3 cadet and 1 senior. The award winners are as follows:

Senior of the year: Capt. Bill Passinos

Cadet of the year: C/2LT. John Mikula

Most improved: C/A1C. Cornelius McGriff

Most motivated: C/SSgt. Matt Etter - also on Wednesday Matt Etter soloed at Lantana airport.

At Eglin Composite Squadron Cadets Christopher Brown and Ted West were promoted to the cadet grade of flight officer in a promotion ceremony held March 4th. Both cadets have completed Phase II of the cadet program and have been awarded the Gen—

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 eral Billy Mitchell Award by National Headquarters, Civil Air Patrol. Also receiving promotions were Cadet Hector Bauza to cadet second lieutenant, Cadet Tara Quill to cadet staff sergeant, and Cadets Wise and Scott to cadet airman.

Other recent awards include Major Dale Robinson, who received the Paul E. Garber Award for completion of Level IV of the Senior Training Program.

Cadet Jason Hodges was awarded a \$500 Flight Scholarship by the Order of the Daedalians Seagull Flight.

The scholarship is awarded annually to an outstanding Civil Air Patrol Cadet from Eglin Composite Squadron. Cadet Hodges is a Mitchell Award winner and presently serves as cadet commander. The scholarship may be used by Cadet Hodges to pay for training and training materials necessary to earn a private pilot rating. It will pay about one third of the total cost of earning a Federal Aviation Administration private pilot certificate and should allow Cadet Hodges to complete flight training through his solo flight.

Maj Dale Robinson  
 Eglin Comp. Commander

dent at River Ridge High School, a 2nd Lieutenant, Flight Commander and member of the Drill Team in the Air Force JROTC program.

Lee Selner  
 Clearwater Composite Squad.

Just to pass on some good news now that I am back on-line. We at the 08335 Venice Squadron have another cadet who has made the Air Force Academy. He is C/MSgt Jeremy Downs. We are very proud of him and I know he will have a bright future. So now that is 3 for group 3

1Lt Harry Leon  
 Venice Cadet Sq. Commander

Harry Leon 1LT  
 Squadron Commander 08335  
 Venice Cadet Squadron

It has been brought to my attention that C/LTC Doris Raimondi has received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

I wish to extend my sincere congratulation to C/LTC Raimondi on her appointment. She is as example of the quality of the cadets not only in Group 3 but the Florida Wing and the Civil Air Patrol.

C/LTC Doris Raimundi - Semper Fi, and she knows what that means.

Major Robert D. Ashman  
 Group 3 CC

## ACADEMY APPOINTMENTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, CAREERS...

The Palm Harbor Cadet Squadron (08438) has three cadets who will be graduating from high school in June. Since notification of acceptance or scholarships is not received until April, final decisions for these students is not available yet. However, at this time:

C/Sgt. Philip Bramlage is waiting to hear from Academies and ROTC scholarships.

Flight Officer Richard Cornelius has been accepted at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and is anticipating an Air Force ROTC scholarship.

C/2Lt. Ryan Mortimer has received an appointment to the Air Force Academy.

Allen L. Mortimer  
 Palm Harbor Cadet Squadron

Cadet Sergeant, Robert Lee Johnson, Clearwater Composite Squadron, has been honored for achieving Scout-ing's highest rank.

Eagle Scout Johnson was presented with a proclamation and certificate by Commissioner Sallie Parks at a ceremony held in the Pinellas County Commissioner's Chambers. Robert then spent the balance of the day with his sponsor, Dr. Edward Swanick, a noted St Petersburg Cardiologist, discussing his interest in the possible field of cardiology. He then accompanied Dr. Swanick on his rounds at St Anthony's, Bayfront and All Children's Hospitals.

After hospital rounds Robert was the guest of Dr. Swanick at the annual Eagle Scout Banquet held at the St Petersburg Hilton and Tower.

Robert is an Honor Roll stu-

Cadet MSgt. Fernando Zappta, from Miami Enterprise Cadet Squadron, 08090 has received his appointment for the Air Force Academy and will be leaving us in June. We are very proud of Fernando and wish him the very best.

Capt. Ron Alexander  
 Commander, 08090

Just received confirmation that C/Capt Thomas Gonzales has received an appointment to the Air Force Academy. Tommy has been a member of CAP for the past 4 years .

William Horst Maj. Cap  
 Sq. Commander 08128  
 St. Johns River Comp. Sq.

We also have one C/1LT Adam Goodpasture, who got his appointment to the Air Force Academy several weeks ago. He had his choice between the Navy or Air Force.

Let me begin by congratulating ALL of the CAP cadets who will graduate high school this spring. Some of you will go to college, technical schools, military, or enter the world of work. Some of you have applied to the various academies. Some fewer have received nominations and some fewer yet have or will receive appointments. YOU are ALL SPECIAL - you are CAP Cadets and you WILL succeed!

I am the proud commander of Oakhurst Cadet Squadron in Seminole, Florida and this year we have four graduating seniors on our mml:

First is C/LTC. Brian Lau. Brian is the current FLWG Cadet of the year. Brian has maintained an UNWEIGHTED 4.0 average for his four years at The Center for Advanced Technologies in St. Petersburg. Brian has not yet picked his

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—Continued from Page 12 college but Princeton and Stanford are on the list.

Second is C/LTC. Andy Gray. Andy is also at the Center for Advanced Technologies and maintains a weighted GPA of over 4.0. He made the county All Star Football team and is a varsity wrestler. Ever since second grade Andy's, dream is to become an astronaut. He began his quest in the YAA program then BSA (Eagle Scout), CAP and now he has accepted an appointment to the USAFA.

Third is C/Lt. Nadia Saxman. Nadia is the commander of her JAFROTC unit at Brandon High School and a first rate diver rated second in the state. She has been

approached by the coaches at both West Point and Annapolis. Even though her brother is at West Point, Nadia will chose the Naval Academy.

Fourth is C/Sgt. Eric Musgrave. Eric is an honor student and wrestler at Pinellas Park High School. Eric has only been in CAP a little over a year but has dreamed of a military career and has accepted an appointment to West Point.

We can all look at these four young people with pride, for they are Civil Air Patrol Cadets!

Respectfully submitted by,  
Larry Gray  
FLCAP 409  
08084 CC

WHICH PARENT ARE YOU?

"I got two A's "  
the small boy cried  
His voice was filled with glee.  
His father very bluntly asked,  
"Why didn't you get three?"  
"Mom, I've got the dishes done,"  
the girl called from the door.  
Her mother very calmly said,  
"Did you sweep the floor?"  
"I've mowed the grass,"  
the tall boy said  
"And put the mower away."  
His father asked him,  
with a shrug,  
"did you clean off the clay?"  
The children in the  
house next door  
Seem happy and content.  
The same things happen  
over there,  
But this is how it went:  
"I got two A's",  
the small boy cried.

His voice was filled with glee.  
His father very proudly said,  
"That's great, I'm glad  
you belong to me."  
"Mom, I've got the  
dishes done,"  
The girl called from the door.  
Her mother smiled  
and softly said,  
"Each day I love you more."  
"I've mowed the grass,"  
the tall boy said,  
"And put the mower away."  
His father answered  
with much joy,  
"You've made my happy day."  
Children deserve a little praise  
for tasks they're asked to do,  
If they're to lead a happy life,  
So much depends on you.  
Submitted by Maj. Jeri Webster  
"The Poem Lady"  
CC  
Ormond Beach Comp. Squad.

Again and again it is reaffirmed that CAP is the best-kept secret—here's how I found out about it...

As an avid fan of the Air Force and airplanes, I often find myself searching for such related content on the Internet. While surfing away one day and following links at random, I stumbled across the web site (<http://www.cap.af.mil>) for the National Headquarters of the Civil Air Patrol. I noticed it had a military looking logo and was aviation related, so my curiosity was piqued and I decided to investigate. Naturally, the first thing I read was "What Is the Civil Air Patrol?"

The answer: an aviation lover's paradise and also accessible to me! I was immediately taken by the idea and just knew it would be my home. In mounting excitement, I searched for the necessary basic information: where is it and when can I start? I didn't waste any time finding the link to the Florida Wing

home page and firing off e-mails to the people listed there (little did I know about going through chain of command!) I was pleased that my requested information came through so quickly.

It appeared that my e-mails were forwarded up and down the ranks to many different members. I received prompt and helpful replies from people trying to direct me to the right squadron. The next thing I knew, I heard from several area squadron commanders giving me their home phone number and pager numbers, and other points of contact.

A fantastic organization of genuinely interested people—I think I'm here to stay!

.....  
Lisa Golden is 18, will graduate from Boone High School in May and hopes to major in engineering in college. She is currently settled in with the McCoy Cadet Squadron in Orlando, Florida and has found a cozy niche as Administration Officer

AN INAUGURAL MOMENT

by  
SM Derek Graham  
Naples Senior Squadron

On Jan 6, 1997 I received an E Mail message from Civil Air Patrol Florida Wing asking for cadets and senior members to work at the 1977 Inauguration. I jumped at the chance to participate in such a great event!

I applied by E Mail and after several days of waiting I received an acceptance letter stating the Florida Wing Commander approved my application - I was thrilled!

On Thursday, January 16th I arrived at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, an Ordinance Army Post located near Baltimore MD for Billeting in the CAP/ROTC Barracks. "I felt I was in

the Army!"  
The following morning I joined a group consisting of six senior CAP members and six Cadet members. The group was then bussed to Bolling Air Force Base near Washington D.C. Upon arrival, our group was assigned to work in the "will-call" department. People then arrived to pick up Inaugural activity tickets from our team-some of the interesting people were Michael Jordan's wife, also a Brigadier General plus various friends of dignitaries. Our team performed these duties plus general customer service for three days.

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On Saturday Brigadier General Bergman, National Commander of the Civil Air Patrol, visited our group for an inspection. I understand we received excellent marks for our service. Also on Saturday, January 18th our group was treated to the American Gala Rehearsal which included Bands, Music soloists, Duets, Dancers. Stevie Wonder, Kenny Rogers, Trisha Yearwood and Aretha Franklin were among the many well known performers attending the rehearsal, which was very interesting to me.

On Monday, January 20th, Inauguration Day, I proceeded to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum to receive instructions for our duties of the day. Cadets under 18 years of age were assigned to crowd control during the parade. Seniors and Cadets 18 years and older were assigned search work in the perimeter, basically looking for suspicious materials.

As I flew home on Tuesday I reflected on the preceding week. The fact that millions of people in an election select the greatest leader in the world, the President of the United States. And on Inaugural Day the oath of office is rendered, and in an orderly fashion the reins of government are passed to the recipient.

Imagine, S.M. Derek Graham, Naples Civil Air Patrol was there to see it all happen! I shall never forget it!

# COMMANDER'S COURSE

Comments regarding the Commander's Course held in March at Wing HQ:

What an excellent course! And lots of fun too. From the e-mail I put out I had three requests for when is the next one . . . . .

Just in case no one wrote to you for the Florida Wing Facts I thought I would go over some highlights of the two day program.

It was presented by Chief of Staff Valerie Brown with assistance from other CAP members, some were Wing Staff Officers some were not. I don't have all the names.

The course was a roadmap to develop an effective active unit with improved productivity and accountability. It outlined four steps for this plan.

Charting your course (the short and long term) Navigating (Command Poker and your agenda) Toolbox and Tools (Forms Guidelines Schedules, Resources) Reaching Your Destination (Evaluation/Celebration).

Anyone who attended the course was provided a toolbox (it was a real box) and a binder with the course (available for reproduction) Mock unit meetings with assigned officers and a problem were assembled. Somewhere between our knowledge and getting that knowledge out of our mouths - most of us have shortfalls. Practice makes perfect.

Sharon Kingsley, Cpt  
Florida Wing Finance

"Have-to" attitudes versus

"Want-to attitudes...

Learning that the Commander's Course produced positive side effects confirmed my own experience.

For some of the past work I have done, I was required to attend "in-service workshops". When I attended (on my own) more than the minimum needed to satisfy the requirements, I was much better at what I did than those who chose to do the training in some other way.

Associations with people who wanted to do well, were enthusiastic about what they were doing and who did well lifted up MY ability to excel, also. It rubbed off on me!

A shared experience produces bonding, esprit de corps, etc.; as I am sure some of our ex-military can confirm. It is not always the knowledge alone that builds us up; but our teamwork-type attitude.

Is it possible that people who WANT to do something approach it with a different mind-set than those who "have to?" If we were to do periodic-voluntary-refresher-type training, would those periodic gatherings promote the prized camaraderie mentioned below?

Maj Bob Vail  
Group 3 PAO

While this weekend like any training weekend put out a gigantic amount of information, I must say that I am proud to be part of a group of people who are learning not only how to do their jobs, but how to help others learn how to do their jobs, and that we are learning how to put fun back

into our organization. When I joined over 2 years ago, it was all work and no play. If we cannot have fun and laugh together (when it is appropriate) than how can we work when it is necessary and we are under the crunch. It not only helps to build camaraderie but also esprit de corps. If this can be built into the seniors you know for sure it will carry over to the cadet side of the house. I think that this is part of what Col. Skiba wants for all of Florida Wing and after the last six months I would say we are on our way.

I ask for those who have participated in the training for the last six months and evaluate the knowledge you have gained, put it in order, then pass it on to others. This is how we will rid the tarnish off of our wing's image and make all members proud to be a member of our wing no matter what position person of any age holds.

ILT Vanessa Rowley  
Wing Personnel Officer

I would like to start on a very positive note, To those concerned, THANK YOU very much for this course. I have learned a lot I did not know, re-enforced what I did and reminded me of that which I had forgotten. There were a lot of briefers/instructors and in particular LtC Brown was the overall best of the best. Her abilities to instruct and as director of the course where simply outstanding! Thank You very much. To end the CC's Course area, if you are in a command position, slated to take command or would like to in a short time please take this course, it was worth it.

David L. Younce  
Capt, CAP  
McCoy Cadet Squadron CC

**STANDARDS  
EVAL**

by  
MAJ Luis Garcia  
FLWG DOV

During the recent months, a number of items have occurred that affect pilot operations. CAPR 60-1 was issued on 15 Dec 1996. The new CAPR 60-1 changed 31 items in the regulation and has made DOV the office of primary responsibility. These changes affect every pilot in Florida Wing. Pilots should order a new regulation from National HQ and review the changes. If any questions arise that cannot be answered locally, please contact me at (305) 267-6034.

Authorization orders for Check Pilots #97-03-01, Chief Check Pilots #97-03-02, and O Ride Pilots #97-03-03 dated 15 March 1997

are being distributed by Wing HQ to all units. Also, recent check rides have shown that many members are not keeping proficient. Members are not practicing basic private pilot maneuvers. Many are waiting to do them at the annual form 5 check ride and consequently failing.

Pilots need to conduct proficiency flying versus currency flying throughout the year. A good way to do this is through flight clinics such as the one conducted by Groups 3 & 4 at the FAA Safety Center at Lakeland. Also Check Pilots and Instructor Pilots are available to assist with proficiency.

Lastly, the National Check Pilot Standardization course is scheduled for October 25 & 26, 1997. Further information on applications for staff and students will published soon. Keep flying safe and professional.

**LOGISTICS**

Memorandum for: All Units  
from  
Henri Casenove, Col, CAP  
Director of Logistics

Subject: Supply Documenta-  
tion

1. The mail went out this past week from Wing headquarters.
2. In the mail out there are documents requiring action by both the commander and supply officer. Please complete and return the required information ASAP to Headquarters Florida Wing CAP/LG. This is essential to prepare for getting off freeze.
3. As of this date units obtaining expendable items (including uniform items will have a CAP Form 37 (Shipping and Receiving Document), signed by the unit commander or supply officer for the items being picked up. If quantities vary from those indicated, the numbers on the CAP Form 37 will be adjusted. This is required to maintain an

audit trail. This paper trail validates that no unit is stockpiling expendables over a long period of time.

Subject: Supply Officer Seminar at Wing Conference

1. There will be a 1.5 hour supply officer session during the Wing Conference on Sunday, 25 May. It is recommended that all supply, transportation and maintenance officers attend.
2. CAP forms and procedures will be reviewed to give all attendees a good understanding of the supply process and how they relate to the paths of accountability.
3. This session is highly recommended for all new and or active supply officers. Attendees will understand how the procedures effect the overall operation of the wing and both the units and the wings ability to receive equipment or be frozen from receiving any items.
4. This session will be very informative to all attendees, and will increase the professionalism in these staff positions.

**ADMIN  
PERSONNEL  
SEMINAR**

by  
Maj Arthur Trinque, PAO  
Skyline Senior Squadron

Group Three's member of Skyline Senior Squadron 08344, LTC Virginia Cullity, recently held a seminar at the Citrus Composite Squadron in Inverness, Florida. The all day class was a discussion of how to fill out administration and personnel paperwork. There was also a question and answer session on the prob-

lems members may be having with completing various forms. Also included were areas of finance and emergency services that members had questions about.

The class was open to all that had any interest in the topics that were covered. Fifteen people participated, with some attending from as far away as Miami. All agree that the program was very helpful and a complete success at accomplishing the goals for which it was created.

The seminar was video taped and will be available to any-

one interested after it is edited.

Future classes are being planned by Skyline Senior Squadron. This squadron was formed to assist any group or squadron of the Florida Wing that is need of our help. For more information please contact the squadron commander:

LTC Herman Slapo  
6190 80th St. No. #411  
St. Petersburg, FL 33709

Phone: (813)544-3008 -Home  
(813)822-7811- Work

E-Mail: Hslapo@aol.com

**CADET  
ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARDS**

December 1996-February 1997

Billy Mitchell	
Matthew Booker	08021
Schuyler Boulware	08293
Christopher Brown	08423
Mayling Ganuza	08319
Glenn Interman	08378
J. Fernando Marrero	08360
Roxana Mirabal	08319
Andros Nicuesa	08355
Daniel Trado	08274
Ted West	08423
Amelia Earhart	
Adam Goodpasture	08335
Charles McMullen	08311
Ira C. Eaker	
Doris Raimundi	08311

# CONGRESSIONAL SQUADRON

by

Skip Munger, Major, CAP  
Florida Wing Administrator

All members of Congress are eligible to join CAP's Congressional Squadron which is based in Washington, DC. The Squadron is made up of Congresspersons and Senators and other CAP regular members who are present to support the Congressional Squadron. Membership is bi-partisan and there are no dues or fees for the member to pay.

There are no activities required by the member, however, the member may partake in flying or other CAP activities as a regular member. The Congressional Squadron has a relatively new hangar at Andrews AFB and has two C-182 aircraft for the

member's use.

The induction into the Congressional Squadron is normally conducted in the member's district or state with appropriate ceremony and media. The members receive a free copy of Civil Air Patrol News each month after induction. After the ceremony, commanders should send pictures and a story to the Civil Air Patrol News.

CAP commanders should contact the Congressional member and/or local staff and invite the member to join. Time, date and location should be set by the Congressional member, and coordinated with the Corporate Legal Counsel office particularly if the Congressional member is on the Armed Services or Defense Appropria-

tions Committees.

After the member has agreed to join the CAP, the commander should contact Becky Lee or Tom Handley at NHQ Corporate Legal Counsel office to obtain a framed certificate, flight suits, caps, and other items for the induction ceremony - Phone (334) 264-7152, fax (334) 265-4352 DSN 493-4352.

For information, I have obtained a list from NHQ of the Florida Congressional folks who are or are not CAP members:

**ARE MEMBERS:** U.S. Representatives C.W. "Bill" Young and E. Clay Shaw, Jr.

**ARE NOT MEMBERS:** U. S. Senators: Bob Graham and Connie Mack.

**U. S. Representatives:** Joe Scarborough; Allen Boyd, Jr., Corrine Brown; Tillie Fowler; Karen Thurman; Cliff Stearns; John Mica; Bill McCollum; Michael Bilirakis; Jim Davis;

Charles Canady; Dan Miller; Porter Goss; David Weldon; Mark Foley; Carrie Meek; Ileana Ros-Lehtinen; Robert Wexler; Peter Deutsch; Lincoln Diaz-Balart; and Alcee Hastings.

As you can see, there is MUCH to do to get these people signed on. We need all of them and Group Commanders should make this a priority for the Congressional members in their areas of jurisdiction.

Remember, Congress votes on our budget EVERY year. If we want to stay alive, and with the Air Force, we need the votes of these people. It will be really hard for them to vote against an organization that they belong to.

So, please, jump on this with both your feet! Let me know, please, who you've signed up - I'm keeping a list.

# MARCO ISLAND SQUADRON IS "EYE IN THE SKY"



The Marco Island Senior Squadron has had lots of interesting experiences while conducting their Sundown Patrols. Following is an account of where they actually had a chance to save the lives

of some boaters who had a mishap.

by

Buddy Harris, PAO  
Marco Island Senior Squad.

The Sundown Patrol crew saved the life of a severely injured boater on 7 January when his boat, traveling at full throttle, slammed 200 feet onto a sand shoal in McIlvane Bay.

Just two minutes after 1/Lt. Donn May and Major Buddy Harris reported to Ground

Radio Operator Major James Love that they were airborne for their nightly Sundown Patrol, the crew heard an impassioned plea

for help that was simultaneously monitored by the Ft. Myers Beach Coast Guard on marine radio Channel 16. The man was nearly incoherent and pleading for someone to help, saying he was in "unbearable pain". When asked for the vessel's location, "All I got back was an appeal for help. Please help me, I'm under the bridge," recalls Harris. The Coast Guard was notified that CAP Flight 832 was proceeding to check the

north and south ends and under the span of the Jolley Bridge, with no sighting. The injured boater advised that he was at a bridge north of Jolley and he was passing out.

Lt. May did a 180 turn and the air crew checked the McIlvane Bridge north of the Rt. 951 Boat Ramp and again there was no sighting.

Then Lt. May spotted a vessel at ten o'clock close to a mangrove covered shoreline. Harris asked the skipper if he could see CAP-RESCUE. He responded "Yes". He was asked if the aircraft was on his port or starboard side and he replied, "port". The CAP crew knew then that they had

—Continued on Page 17

—Continued from Page 16 located the distressed vessel. The skipper was asked what the emergency need was and he cried for help and passed out as the aircraft flew overhead. The CAP aircraft dropped down to 400 feet altitude and saw the skipper sprawled on the deck and a second passenger holding his head while sitting on the deck of the 25 foot boat.

Major Harris immediately notified the Coast Guard of the situation and called for the Isles of Capri Rescue to provide marine medical assistance. A similar radio message was dispatched for any other marine medical assistance and responses were logged by the CAP air crew from the EMS helicopter, Sheriff's Marine Patrol, Florida Marine Patrol and Marco Fire Department. The Coast Guard requested progress reports but told the crew to continue to direct the activities.

The drama then took a turn of fortune when Sheriff Deputy Dave Alcom, who was out on his private boat, monitored the distress radio calls and hastened up the 951 channel to the accident scene. He arrived at the McIlvane Bridge simultaneously with Deputy William Pschigoda, who had heard the radio reports in his squad car enroute from the Marco Island Sheriff's Substation. Pschigoda jumped from the bridge into Alcom's boat and they were only able to be guided to within 150 feet of the distressed vessel due to inadequate water depth near the shoal. Deputy Pschigoda, in

into the water and swam, waded and boarded the grounded boat. He did a head-to-toe examination of the injured skipper and advised that he was in critical need of medical assistance.

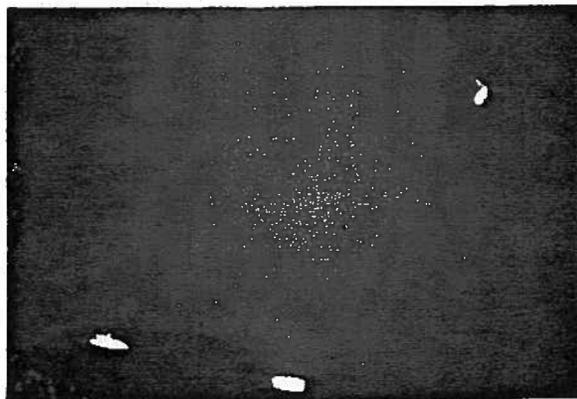
Lt. May informed all general aviation traffic to clear the area and the EMS chopper was brought in. With no place to land, the chopper dropped to a 15 foot hover above the water and an EMS paramedic jumped out and swam to the vessel. He examined the skipper and immediately applied an oxygen mask and an intravenous tube. The skipper was then strapped onto a backboard. It appeared that Richard Polly, 38, of Naples had been traveling at full throttle and had run aground. Polly was smashed into the center console and windshield and had a ruptured spleen, broken ribs and a collapsed lung. The passenger had gashes in his arm and deep abrasions on his head and face.

The Isles of Capri Rescue then arrived with four EMS and four firefighters aboard. The Captain was Chris Middlebrook, who jumped overboard and swam to the scene to provide additional assistance. Officer Paul Alber of the Florida Marine Patrol arrived, followed by the Marco Island fire apparatus and Sheriff Supervisor Terry Shea, who began to control the huge traffic backup on Rt. 951 in both north and south directions.

As the emergency personnel initiated the transfer of Polly by floating him to the Isles of Capri Rescue boat, shorted wires in Polly's damaged con-

sole ignited and a fire had to be brought under control. The transfer of Polly was then completed and the injured passenger, 39 year old Oscar David Willison, also of Naples, was assisted to the rescue vessel.

The injured boaters were ferried to the 951 Boat Ramp. The Civil Air Patrol crew requested that the Sheriff's offi-



EMS helicopter arrives at accident scene as Deputy Pschigoda jumps from Deputy Dave Alcorn's boat and boards the distressed vessel

cers clear the parking area for the EMS chopper landing. Polly was transferred to the chopper and was whisked away to the Naples Community Hospital. Willison was transported by ambulance to the same hospital.

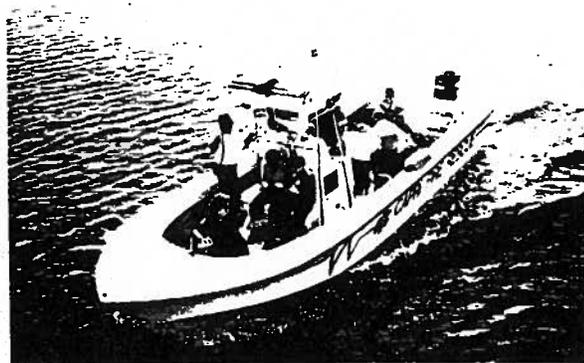
Prior to landing at Marco Island Executive Airport at the completion of the Sundown Patrol flight, Harris closed out the mission with the Ft. Myers Beach Coast Guard, and the officer of the day ex-

tended appreciation to all the emergency response agencies and to our squadron for "outstanding coordination of and response to a difficult emergency situation."

Squadron Commander Monte Lazarus stated, "Our members are all unpaid professional volunteers and spend many hours practicing search and rescue operations just for this type situation. Their diligence and devotion to duty were rewarded in this very successful coordinated rescue. This was a textbook mission which resulted in saving a life. Together with

other outstanding personnel from various Collier County rescue services, including EMS, Isles of Capri Rescue, Sheriff's Department and the Florida Marine Patrol they moved swiftly to rescue a boater who would probably not have survived a delayed response."

**GOOD JOB MARCO ISLAND SQUADRON!!!**



Isle of Capri Fire/Rescue vessel races to the boat ramp with wounded boat passenger David Wilson receiving medical attention in the bow of boat and injured skipper Richard Polly is strapped to a backboard in the stern of the boat.

**HOW TO HAVE A BIG SIGNAL ON THE FL WING HF NET - PART 11**

By

Frank N. Haas, 1Lt  
CAP/FL CAP 47/KB4TDaytona Beach Comp.  
Squad. Coordinator - Central  
Florida Communications Response Team

In the first installment of this series, I described all the materials you need to build a high performance antenna that will give you a big signal on the Wing HF Net. This article assumes you have assembled all the parts and are ready to build your antenna.

The antenna is assembled in a few basic steps. First, you will measure the antenna wire so that you have two pieces of equal length. Then you will attach one end of each piece of antenna wire to the center insulator. Next, the coax cable will be soldered to the two pieces of antenna wire attached to the center insulator. Finally, the remaining two insulators will be attached to the free ends of each piece of antenna wire.

The antenna must then be hung in place and the coax cable routed inside to the HF radio. Once there, the coax cable must be terminated with the appropriate connector to mate the coax to the radio. So let's begin.

The two pieces of antenna wire should be measured out to about 53 feet. Yes, I mean ABOUT. You do not need to be scientifically precise. Both pieces should be the same length. The overall length of the final antenna wire assembly will need to be 104 feet. The extra length is needed for attaching each

end of the antenna wires to the insulators at each end and the middle.

Without special tools measuring antenna wire can be difficult. It's most easily done if you stretch the wire out in an area where it can be stretched out fully for its full length. Using a tape measure or any convenient measuring device, measure out a single length of antenna wire that's 53 feet long. Then use the first 53 foot piece to measure out a second piece of antenna wire of equal length.

If you are using insulated wire for your antenna, now is the time to remove a foot or so of the insulation from each end of each piece of antenna wire.

No matter what kind of center insulator you choose to use, the procedure for attaching the two 53 foot antenna wires is basically the same. Take one end of one antenna wire and put a right angle bend in it 6 inches from the end. Push the bent end through one hole on one end of the center insulator and wrap it neatly and tightly around the same wire leaving a big enough loop to allow the antenna wire to move freely in all directions while attached to the center insulator.

Repeat the process for the second 53 foot antenna wire attaching it to the other hole in the center insulator. (There should be a third hole in the center of the center insulator which may be used for the rope that supports the center insulator should you decide to do that.)

Next, locate your coax cable. We need to trim back the outer layer of insulation from

the coax carefully. The amount of outer jacket to be removed is determined by the width of your center insulator. I usually trim back the outer jacket 3 inches or so longer than the distance between the two end holes in the center insulator.

A sharp knife used carefully aids in this process. It may be necessary to run the knife edge from the 12 inch point back to the end of the coax in order to peel back the outer jacket. With the outer jacket removed, carefully push the copper braid of the coax away from the end so that it balloons gently against the edge of the remaining outer jacket. Using an awl or similar pointed tool, separate the strands of braid so the center conductor can be carefully pulled through and separated from the braid. Gently bending the braid and center conductor helps to expose the center conductor so the awl can be used to carefully "walk" it out from within the braid.

You can use the awl to "unknit" the braid from the end but that can take a long time. Pulling the center conductor out from the intact braid allows the braid to remain strong and makes it easier to work with.

With the center conductor separated from the braid, we next need to attach the braid and center conductor to the antenna wires. Trim off at least several inches of insulation from around the center conductor so that it can be pushed through one of the end holes in the center insulator and wrapped around the antenna wire securely. The braid gets pushed through the other hole and wrapped securely around the other antenna wire.

Be creative and find a way to secure the coax cable to the center insulator in order to remove any strain from the center conductor and braid and their mechanical connections to the antenna wires. Make sure that there is enough loose coax center conductor and braid to allow the antenna wire to move freely. You need to be sure that no matter what angle the antenna wire ends up in, it doesn't tug on either the coax center conductor or the braid. Any strain on any of the wires means certain trouble with the antenna eventually.

Once you have mechanically attached and arranged the antenna wires and coax, the next step is to solder the coax wires to the antenna wires. If you've never soldered before, get a friend to help you or find another way to make sure the coax wires remain firmly attached to the antenna wires. Soldering insures there is a good electrical connection between the coax and the antenna wires but clamping will work if you have small enough and strong enough clamps to do the job. If you do solder, remember to use 60/40 rosin core solder. The solder should flow over the entire wrap of the antenna wire as well as the coax center conductor or braid. Use plenty of solder allowing it to gather up well to fill in gaps in the wires.

Now we can attach the small end insulators to the ends of each antenna wire. Here again, you can bend the end of the antenna wire 6 inches from the end and push it through one hole in the insulator and wrap it around itself tightly and securely. Do the same with the other insulator at the end of the

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—Continued From Page 18  
other piece of antenna wire. Solder or clamp the wire carefully and completely at the ends of the antenna wires.

With the coax cable attached to the antenna wires, the only remaining assembly step is the installation of the UHF male connector on the radio end of the coax. Prior to doing that, however, let's do some simple testing to make sure we don't have any problems to this point.

Testing involves making sure the antenna and the coax aren't shorted and there are no "opens" in the assembly either. Testing is most easily done with a simple continuity tester or multimeter that measures ohms.

The first test is to measure for continuity at the radio end of the coax cable (the end opposite to the antenna!) Strip back a few inches of the coax outer jacket and the braid and strip a few inches of insulation from the center conductor. Make sure the braid wires don't touch the center

conductor.

With the leads of the tester on the center wire and braid of the coax, NO continuity should be seen. If continuity is seen, either the coax cable is shorted internally or a short exists at the center insulator. Fix such problems immediately.

If no continuity is found, the next test is to take a piece of wire and wrap it around one antenna wire at the center insulator and then to the other antenna wire at the center insulator. Then go back to the far end of the coax and make your continuity measurement again. This time you

SHOULD see continuity. If you don't then there's an open in the coax or at the center insulator. Fix such problems immediately.

By now you should have determined how you are going to erect the antenna system. Remember that it need not be very high. Mine works very well at only 30 feet above the ground in the center and 15 feet up at the ends. If possible, try to situate the center of the antenna so the coax cable can be run into the house conve-

niently. Remember that the overall length of the antenna is 105 feet more or less. If you need to get around trees and things, be creative. Ideally, the antenna shouldn't touch any metal objects or trees. Be careful around power lines and the utility drops to your house!!! Carelessness here can cost you your life! Generally, I never run an antenna over or near power lines of any sort.

Once the antenna is up in the air, route the coax cable into the house and up to the radio.

The next step is to install a proper connector on the coax so it can be connected to the radio. In most cases this will be a PL-259 UHF male connector. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to make sure this connector is installed properly. I generally don't recommend the simpler "screw-on" connectors because they almost always fail especially if you live close to the ocean. Find a friend who knows how to do this or invite me to visit you and I'll show you how it's done. Make sure it's done right or you will have NOTHING BUT TROUBLE with the antenna system.

In the next article of this series, I'll discuss methods for testing the antenna on the air and troubleshooting typical problems when the antenna doesn't seem to work well.

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**ACCIDENT**

While on the way to Wing HQ for his regularly scheduled work-at-Wing-for-free, our Supply Officer, 2LT Darwin Culbertson, was first to roll up on a serious automobile accident on the Howard Frankland Bridge (also known as the "Frankenstein" Bridge) from St. Petersburg to Tampa.

The accident occurred right in front of 2LT Culbertson. A female Highway Patrol officer was stopped on the shoulder of the highway assisting a

stranded motorist. At this point another driver (about 19M, I'm told) traveling at about 100 MPH, lost control of his vehicle, crossed 4 lanes of traffic, and struck the stopped Highway Patrol cruiser. The cruiser went airborne from the impact, and when the car came back down it pinned the officer between the cruiser and the retaining wall of the bridge. Blood everywhere, the officer suffered 4 fractures in BOTH legs (that's four separate com-

pound fractures in EACH leg). 2LT Culbertson was in uniform at the time he stopped to render assistance to the officer and called for help on her car radio. Officers from the Highway Patrol, the City of Tampa, Hillsborough County Sheriff, and Pinellas County Sheriff responded immediately and in great force.

The accident was covered by Channel 13, Channel 8, Channel 28, and Channel 10, and Darwin WAS in the news. The Highway Patrol put crime

scene tape around the area, and Darwin was the only non-law enforcement officer allowed to remain within the perimeter of the tape.

The actions of 2LT Culbertson saved the life of a FHP officer who was airlifted from the accident scene to the hospital. Darwin kept her from bleeding to death, talked to her, and kept her calm and stable until all of the help arrived. When an FHP officer needed help - CAP was there!

Skip Munger, Major, CAP